

6-12-1920

University of New Mexico Board of Regents Minutes for June 12, 1920

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MEETING OF BOARD OF REGENTS
Saturday, June 12, 1920.

Present:- President Nathan Jaffa, Sec-Treas. Dr. J.A. Reidy
Mr. A. A. Sedillo, Mr. Nestor Montoya, Mr. W.E. Gortner
of Las Vegas sent a letter explaining his unavoidable
absence.

Resolution
of
Ratification
The minutes of the various meetings of the Executive
Committee held on March 3, 1920; Feb. 3, 1920; April 1,
1920; April 10, 1920; April 24, 1920; May 5, 1920; May 28, 1920.
were approved. All bills and contracts which have been made
since the last general meeting were also approved unanimously.

Finance
A memorandum from the Financial Secretary, Miss Parsons,
indicated the following:
Appropriations received for Fiscal Year, beginning Dec. 1,
1919 -- \$48,165.61
From Lands since Dec. 1, 1920
\$15,127.61
Cash Balances on June 12, 1920 (A.M.)

G.Mtc.Fd.-----	\$34,562.11
Depr. Hygn.-----	9,931.71
Apptn-Bldgs.-----	1.00
Home Ec. Fd.-----	10,638.10
	<u>\$55,177.92</u>
P.S.B. Fd.-----	914.97
S.S.R. Fd.-----	50.00

Matter of
Paving
Central
Avenue
This communication from Dr. Van Atta enclosing attached
contract in blank form was considered:

Dr. David S. Hill,
U.N.M.

You can see from the enclosed that we are making some
progress toward the paving of East Central. There seems to be
no doubt that we will get this with Federal aid. The cost per
front foot will be \$4.73 with the same specifications that are
used in the city which costs the property owner \$7.90.

Please send this back to H. O. Duer when ready.

Sincerely,
Van Atta.

The matter while favorably viewed, was referred to the
Executive Committee for investigation and action.

Sale and
Purchase
of University
Land
The following papers were presented by Mr. Sedillo, with a
motion (a) to approve the initial payment of \$37.73, and (b) to
provide for legislation to relieve the University of this
obligation, the proposals for legislature to be submitted to
the Governor before the meeting of the Legislature and at the
time of submitting the Budget and Annual Report.

Approved:

Applicant _____

Held at Albuquerque, New Mexico

On May 20, 1920

Description of land NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of section 17; N $\frac{1}{2}$ of section 18;
of Section TWP ION Rg. 4E containing 479.50 acres

Sold to University of New Mexico of Albuquerque,

State of New Mexico, he being highest bidder.

Price sold per acre \$3.00 total price offered \$1438.50.

FINANCIAL REPORT

	Due	Received
5 per cent of purchase price	\$ 71.92	on Deposit \$143.85 at sale
Expense of sale	50.00	
Value of Improvements		
1st yr. int. on \$1366.58 at 4%	54.66	amount due 32.73
	<u>\$176.58</u>	<u>\$176.58</u>

STATE LAND OFFICE

Hon. A. A. Sedillo,
 Secretary, Board of Regents,
 University of New Mexico.

Dear Sir:

Enclosed you will find a statement showing the sum of \$32.73 due this office for lands purchased by you on behalf of the University at the sale of state lands held at Albuquerque on May 20, 1920. On receipt of this amount a contract will be prepared and forwarded for proper signature.

Respectfully,
 N.A. Field,
 Commissioner.

After consideration of a request from Professor Weese the budget for Biology was increased \$100.00.

Biology
 Budget

Occupancy of
University
Lodging
during
Summer.

The following petition from three students was read:

Dr. David S. Hill, President,
State University of New Mexico.

We the undersigned students of the State University of New Mexico, being bona fide residents and citizens of the State of New Mexico, and owing to the lack of funds we cannot return to our homes to spend the summer vacation, and as we expect to return to this university next fall, do respectfully request that we be permitted to remain in the University cottages, that we now occupy during the summer vacation. For securing this privilege, we agree to abide by the rules and regulations that are now binding upon us and further agree to be directly under the supervision of the Superintendent of Grounds or any other person you might designate.

Our funds are limited and the additional expense, in case we are compelled to move, will work a great hardship on each of us.

It is a recognized fact that the depreciation on unoccupied property is greater than on occupied property and as the university will bear no additional expense whatever by showing us this consideration, we hope to receive a favorable reply.

As we are three of the oldest students at the university and anxious to complete our school work as soon as possible, we expect to spend a great deal of our time in study and would like to take advantage of the use of the library, which we understand will remain open, consequently it will put us to greater expense and much inconvenience if we are forced to move.

We appeal to you as head of this school for your earnest help, as we are sure you are interested in the individual welfare of each student and that you desire to continue the democratic spirit shown to students in the past.

Kindly favor us with a prompt reply,

Respectfully yours,

E.C. Robertson,

J.E. Seyfried

Wm.B. Orange.

The board agreed to the request of these students under these four conditions:

1. The students are to be under the immediate supervision of Mr. Frank, Superintendent of Grounds.
2. They are to pay the Financial Secretary, \$4.00 per month, each, and to pay a deposit of \$10.00 to Miss Parsons to be regarded as a deposit against breakage or damage.
3. It is to be agreed that they will do no cooking in University property, will observe reasonable hours, conduct themselves always as gentlemen, and that they will be amenable to all existing or new regulations of the Board. The University will not be bound to keep open any laboratory or library for their use.

4. This permission is not to be regarded as a precedent. It is a special concession granted to help the students and as an experiment.

A request brought by Mr. Williams was transmitted to the Board, that Mr. Darrell (Janitor) and family be allowed for prudential reasons to occupy Rose Cottage during the summer. The matter was left in the hands of President Hill.

The following communication was made a matter of record at the request of President Hill:

Engineering at the State University

At the request of students having in mind the good of the State University, and who have been annoyed by rumors alleging that engineering courses are not wanted and have not been supported by the authorities of the University the undersigned offers the following memorandum. Any contrary statements concerning the attitude of the University administration are wholly unauthorized.

During a low ebb in the tide of the University affairs in the summer of 1919, the University had under service one professor in engineering -- Professor Leupold, and with no provision for the teaching of that fundamental subject physics. The new administration rapidly enlarged the faculty, as well as could be done in the few weeks remaining before the opening on October first. Two new professors were employed in engineering, an associate professor of physics, and there were added two capable assistants -- one in engineering and one in physics. An excellent modern building begun during the previous year was completed and occupied. The expenditures of the University for engineering during the past year have been the highest in its history notwithstanding the urgent necessity for economy.

The responses to the efforts of the administration have, with a few exceptions, been highly gratifying. Students of goodly number and quality enrolled, and citizens throughout the state frequently indicated the conviction that Albuquerque, the largest city in the state, is the location for a good college of engineering.

However, higher education in New Mexico staggers under the burden of attempting to conduct at public expense three separate engineering schools -- each striving to operate efficiently. Until a way can be found by the legislature to secure a better articulation of activities, less handicapping duplication of work, and a sensible allotment of functions among the higher institutions, a harmful competition is likely to continue. The lamentable fact is that there is not one worthy institution of higher learning in the state which is receiving a sufficient appropriation for the best conduct of its present activities.

In the meantime, it the policy of the undersigned to continue the excellent beginning already made in the reorganized college of engineering at the State University.

We shall endeavor to secure money for the enlargement of its equipment, and for the payment of salaries adequate to attract instructors as it becomes necessary from time to time to fill vacancies.

When we survey the difficulties confronting us last summer in the matter of engineering, and the relative progress made since then, we are not appalled at the task of building even a better organization for the coming year when we shall probably be perplexed in our efforts to care for an enlarged student body. During the coming summer Professor Leupold - who I regret, is leaving us to try his fortune in the industrial world, held the fort practically alone, with an unfinished building on his hands. Today the Board of Regents has under consideration the expenditure of not less but rather of more money in behalf of engineering for the coming year, and where vacancies appear in our personnel every effort will be made to secure the right type of instructors from reputable universities in order constantly to strengthen and not to weaken the opportunities to be offered to our young men.

Today is an opportune time for our men students of loyal hearts and fair judgment to manifest their faith in the new State University by turning a deaf ear to foolish reports from unauthorized sources. Closing the best year in her history, Alma Mater now calls upon all graduates, all students, and upon all good citizens, for a continuance of that sturdy support which has made possible her marked advances in usefulness and esteem during the past eight months. The slogan for all students about to leave us temporarily for the summer vacation is growing in volume -- "return and bring one good one."

David Spence Hill,
President of the State University
of New Mexico,

----- June 7, 1920. -----

The following letters by Professor Howard were called to the attention of the Board by President Hill:

President D. S. Hill:

This is to notify you that I have decided not to accept a position with the University for the year beginning September 1, 1920. I have given very careful consideration to your kind offer but, having received a much more attractive proposition from the University of Arizona, have accepted a position there.

you

I wish to assure that the University will continue to receive my very best services during the time that I am here and that it will always have my best wishes in the future. Also, I wish to thank you personally for your very kind assistance in enabling me to secure the position at the University of Arizona.

If there is anything I can do to assist in enabling my successor to take up the work of the Department, I hope you will feel free to call upon me.

Respectfully yours, Russell M. Howard.

Request
of Mr.
Howard
for
Advance
Payment

Dr. David Spence Hill, President.

In accordance with our conversation at the time I informed you of my decision to accept a position with the University of Arizona, at the expiration of my contract with the University of New Mexico, I wish to ask your kind assistance in obtaining for me my salary from the University for the months of June, July, and August at the time of the completion of my duties to the University June 11th.

I can assure you that this will be a very great favor to me and one which I shall appreciate as it will enable me to take care of certain financial obligations which are pressing me at this time and also make it possible for me to attend the summer session at the University of California.

Respectfully,
Russell M. Howard.

With reference to the last letter, Miss Parsons, Financial Secretary, presented this memorandum:

Mr. Howard's contract dated September 1, 1919 -- one year -- was for \$1,800.00. This contract was changed on October 1, 1919 -- one year less September -- \$1,900.00. He has received the following checks:

Sept. 1919-----	\$150.00
Oct. 1919-May 1920- 8 mos. 2/3 of \$1,900 ---	\$1,266.67
Total -----	\$1,416.67
Leaving 3 months to be paid ---	\$475.00
There are claims against this balance of	
Dining Hall-----	\$35.40
First Nat. Bank-	30.00
	<u>\$65.40</u>
To him-----	\$409.60

Home Economics Plans were examined by Mr. Jaffa. It was the sense of the Board that the project should be carried to completion.

Complaints of Faculty Members Messrs. Sedillo, Reidy, and Montoya, reported informally concerning various conferences held at the request of Faculty members and President Hill. The Board finally drew up the following report and ordered the same to be published immediately:

Albuquerque Morning Journal, Sunday, June 13, 1920.

"Regents Report on Inquiry at the University".

Board finds that State University has gained better rank than ever before, under President Hill.

The result of the investigation of the board of regents into the administration of the State University has been drawn up after a series of meetings extending over several days, and the conclusions of the board made public in the following memorandum:

The question of the administration of the University of New Mexico under the presidency of Dr. David S. Hill, during the last scholastic year has been under consideration by the executive committee of the board of regents and by the board of regents of the State University. The members of the faculty of the university were given an opportunity to express themselves fully and frankly, and the executive committee took pains to investigate all phases of the question.

The board finds that during the scholastic year 1919-20, the university embarked in strictly college and university work. Early in the year it was determined by the board of regents to adopt a managerial system of administration, which consisted in making the president of the university the sole manager of the administrative affairs of the university, the faculty to be directly under his supervision, and through it the student-body to be under the president's direction. The president of the university is directly answerable to the board of regents, and through him and through the executive committee, the board of regents keeps in immediate touch with the administration of the university.

It appears from the investigation that the board has conducted, that the managerial system which was established by the board was not fully understood by some persons. It appears also that there were at times differences of opinion on the part of members of the faculty concerning certain decisions and actions upon the part of the administration which were not fully understood by said members of the faculty, possibly because of the fact, in the opinion of the board, that they did not perceive fully the meaning of a managerial system of administration. Some members appeared to have a belief that it was a purely faculty management, or that there should be a purely faculty management. There were also objections upon the part of certain members of the faculty as to what appeared to them to be a lack of responsibility and confidence accorded to them. The board has found that in some instances there were no communications to the president by such members of the faculty when in doubt, and therefore the disagreement was often apparent and not real. The board likewise found as one source of dissatisfaction, the fact that the requirements of the university as to academic qualifications of the members of the faculty ran counter to the personal preparation of certain members. President Hill has insisted upon improving the educational standard of the faculty, and in making operative those features of the teacher's contract which require the members of the faculty to spend the summer vacation in recuperation, or in improvement of their educational standard so as to be more efficient in the discharge of his or her duties as instructor, or in the employment endorsed by the board and himself. It appears that the University of New Mexico, as all other colleges of

good standing must ask, in addition to other qualifications, that the members of the faculty have adequate credentials of post-graduate courses in order that the standard of the University may compare favorably with that of other colleges and institutions of learning, and that young men and women of New Mexico may be given the best advantages possible for the money expended.

The board finds defects and ambiguities in the present form of contracts which probably represent an accumulation of practice and additions from time to time. The board will undertake to improve the statement of all new contracts for the future, with all regard to clearness of expression and equity. The salaries, as a rule, are lamentably low, and we await legislative relief. This fact of inadequate pay is a legitimate source of sore complaint upon the part of the well-trained instructor. However, the board has increased salaries during the year as well as could be done with the means available.

The board finds that Dr. Hill has been a very efficient and energetic president; that he has tried in every possible way to better conditions at the university. The board finds that the system has improved many of the departments, both as affecting the student body and the faculty, and also the business management of the institution. The board has come to the conclusion that notwithstanding the changes which have been made in the faculty, and there are estimable members of the faculty whom we lose with regret, the University of New Mexico has gained a better rank than ever before in its history. A better understanding now exists with the remaining members of the faculty, and the controversy which has of late been given publicity has dwindled. The board and the president will spare no effort to employ excellent instructors as vacancies appear.

It is therefore resolved by the board of regents that the administration of Dr. Hill as president of the University of New Mexico is to the satisfaction of the board and in accord with the plan of action which this board has adopted, that is, the managerial form of administration. We believe we are improving the educational standard of the University of New Mexico as the chief educational institution of the state of New Mexico. It is further resolved that it is the purpose of this board to continue the managerial system of administration.

Signed:

Nathan Jaffa, President
 J. A. Reidy, Secretary
 Nestor Montoya
 A. A. Sedillo

Informally appreciation was expressed of the address of Professor James W. Garner of the University of Illinois at the exercises on Commencement Day of our State University of Friday, June 11, 1920.

Professor, Garner's Address

President Hill reported informally upon his trip to the University of Arizona where he delivered the Commencement Address. He suggested that the Board of Regents should, next Fall make a journey to study this excellent institution.

President Hill's Journeys to Tucson and to Las Cruces

He also reported that he had been invited to deliver the Commencement Address at the New Mexico College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts and would leave on Sunday night for Las Cruces.

Date 6/12/20

Signed:

(copy) J. A. Reidy....
SECRETARY, BOARD OF REGENTS.