Minutes

New Mexico Academy for the Media Arts 4401
Central Ave NE, Alb., NM 87108
Governing Council Hybrid and In Person Meeting via the Zoom Platform
July 8, 2025 @ 12pm (Noon)

1. Quorum Call Governing Council President Carolyn Carlson called the meeting to order at 12pm noon, with Governing Council Members Channing Concho, Malinda Menke, Eddie Tafoya and Kendra Toth joined at 12:10pm. Also present were Business Manager Ashley Wolfel, Media Coordinator Anthony Conforti, Executive Director Chris Jones, Gerald Langraf and Student representative Taihg McCabe.
2. Approval or Amending of Agenda – GCM Tafoya made a motion to add discussion of a lobbying contract for the upcoming session. GCM Menke seconded. The motion passed unanimously in a roll call vote with all present board members voting in the affirmative.
3. Public Input – Mr. Landgraf spoked later in the meeting under 6d.
4. Approval of Minutes of the June 9, Regular Meeting – GCM Menke motioned to approve the minutes of the June 9, 2025 regular meeting. GCM Concho seconded. The motion passed unanimously in a roll call vote with all present board members voting in the affirmative.
5. Business Managers Report (Ashley Wolfel)- Ms. Wolfel presented the revenue report for the fiscal year ending June 30, noting that all reimbursements and special capital outlay had been submitted to the state. She reported a projected operational surplus of $300,000 and carryover of $250,000, with specific balances carried over for HB 33 and SB 9. Ms. Wolfel explained that federal funds, such as Title I and IDEA B, are subject to maintenance of effort requirements, meaning the school must pay a certain amount from the general fund before using these funds. She clarified that the large available amounts in the account summary reflect late-year carryover awards and new allocations for the next fiscal year.
   A. Approval of Financial Bars: GCM Toth made a motion to approve the following 14 BARs submitted by Business Manager Wolfel. Seconded by GCM Tafoya. The motion passed unanimously in a roll call vote with all present board members voting in the affirmative.
      1. 501-000-2425-0010D Flowthrough Decrease ($30,548.000)
      2. 501-000-2425-0023-D General fund/Capital Outlay/Debt Service Decrease ($30,548.14)
      3. 501-000-2425-0022 I Flowthrough Increase $39,548.00.

4. 501-000-2425-0024-I Flowthrough Increase $4,446.00

5.501-000-2425-0025-I Flowthrough Increase $47,900.00

6.501-000-2425-0026 I Flowthrough Increase $8,690.43

7. 501-000-2425-0027-D Flowthrough Decrease ($41,443.55)

8. 501-000-2425-0028- D Decrease General Fund/Capital Outlay/Debt Service ($4,000)

9. 501-000-2425-0029 - I Increase General Fund/Capital Outlay/Debt Service $2,827.00

10. 501-000-2425-0030 - M Maintenance General Fund/Capital Outlay/Debt Service $0

11. 501-000-2425-0031 - T Transfer General Fund/Capital Outlay/Debt Service $0

12. 501-000-2425-0032 - M Maintenance General Fund/Capital Outlay/Debt Service $0

13. 501-000-2425- 0033- I Flowthrough Increase $38,344.00

14. 501-000-2425-0034-T Transfer General Fund/Capital Outlay/Debt Service $0

6. Action Items

a. Approval of Student Handbook - GCM Concho motioned approval of the school's Student Handbook with a second by GCM Menke. The motion passed unanimously in a roll call vote with all present board members voting in the affirmative.

b. Approval of Employee Handbook - GCM Menke motioned approval of the school's Employee Handbook with a second by GCM Concho. The motion passed unanimously in a roll call vote with all present board members voting in the affirmative.

c. Approval of Purchasing/Contracts - GCM Tafoya motioned approval of the following purchasing and or Contracts with a second by GCM Menke. The motion passed unanimously in a roll call vote with all present board members voting in the affirmative.

3a. Fencing- Albuquerque Fence Company - $85,943.75 for 6-foot welded wire fencing to enclose the entire perimeter, including the bank building, with an additional $14,271.20 for an automatic gate.

3b. Reporting- JNP for $30,335.00

3c. Window Coverings- Powel LLC/Blinds by Bud 3d. Lighting- TLC - a $15,323.13 for upgraded lighting, and a $25,017.43 for roller shades

d. Action items

1. Approval of payment of past due CAM charges of $6,074.05 - GCM Tafoya motioned approval of the past due CAM charges of $6,074.05 with a second by GCM Menke. The motion passed unanimously in a roll call vote with all present board members voting in the affirmative.

7. Reports

    1. Executive Director's Report – Dir. Chris Jones provided an update on enrollment, staffing, and campus improvements. The school is currently at 117 enrolled students, aiming for 150, and has hired new staff including a STEM teacher, a humanities teacher, a special education coordinator, and a school social worker. Dir. Jones also discussed a lease-purchase arrangement for a new facility, which is in progress.

       The report focused on facility improvements at a school campus, with Dir. Jones presenting plans for signage, window coverings, fencing, lighting, and asphalt repairs. A security breach involving stolen laptops and damage to property prompted the fencing proposal, which was quoted at $85,943.75 for 6-foot welded wire fencing to enclose the entire perimeter, including the bank building, with an additional $14,271.20 for an automatic gate.

       Dir. Jones presented three estimates for school improvements, including a $30,335 contract for essential special education services, a $15,323.13 proposal for upgraded lighting, and a $25,017.43 estimate for roller shades to improve building aesthetics and lighting. The board approved all three estimates, with Dir. Jones noting that these improvements would enhance facility pride and help attract families during tours

    2. Intern Coordinator Report – Tom Richardson was excused
    3. Media Coordinator Report - Anthony Conforti said that a $70 million project funded by the State to build a new film school post-secondary entity aligned with CNN would be a good collaboration. The project is still about a year away. Mr. Conforti highlighted the importance of realigning and reconfiguring career pathways for CTE to qualify for grants, as they faced issues last year due to non-compliance. The group attended a Charter School Conference and planned meetings with Representative Herndon and the State Tourism Department to explore grants for beautifying Central Avenue, with a focus on involving young people through paid internships and artwork projects. Anthony also mentioned a call with Senator Antoinette Sedillo Lopez's office regarding potential support for fencing, which he believes should be supported by the city.
    4. Student Representative - Taihg McCabe was introduced to the board by Pres. Carlson. McCabe talked about some of his ideas and proposed creating a student survey to gather feedback on school concerns, which the GC members and Dir. Jones supported.

    6. Governing Council informal discussion included several key items, including Sen. Sedillo Lopez's involvement in hearings and preliminary meetings, and the need for emergency funding. The board also discussed a Dia de los Muertos celebration and potential volunteer opportunities. Pres. Carlson said they had success in obtaining a tax exemption for the bank building portion

the school owns. This will save approximately $15,000 annually. GCM Menke and Pres. Carlson plan to revise the governing council bylaws to update provisions for virtual meetings and other changes, with a draft to be presented at the next meeting. The board agreed to have Dr. Tafoya perform for students at a future event. There was Discussion only, no action was taken and any relevant items were referred to a future meeting for approval.

7. Executive Session according to New Mexico Statutes Section 10-15-1(H)(1)(3) and (7) of the Open Meetings Act (OMA) to discuss limited personnel issues. NONE
8. Adjourned at 1:37pm

P___Carolyn Carlson
P___Malinda Menke
P___Channing Concho
P____Kendra Toth
P_____Eddie Tayofa

The New Mexico Academy for the Media Arts (f.k.a. Media Arts Collaborative Charter School) offers secondary students a comprehensive, project-based, cross-curricular education

centered in the media arts. We prepare our graduates for positions in the media industries and for the rigor of
post-secondary education.

This meeting will be held per the New Mexico Open Meeting Act. The Council reserves the right to take agenda items out of order, items may be removed or delayed from the agenda at any time, and two or more items may be combined for consideration. The Council is happy to make reasonable accommodations for any member of the public with a disability and wishes to attend the meeting. If special arrangements are necessary, please notify Carolyn via email at ccarlson@nmmediaarts.org at least 24 hours prior to the meeting.