Minutes

New Mexico Academy for the Media Arts
4401Central Ave NE, Alb., NM 87108
Governing Council Hybrid Regular Meeting via the Zoom Platform
June 9, 2025 @ 10am

1. Quorum Call - - Governing Council President Carolyn Carlson called the meeting to order at 10:01 am, with Governing Council Members Channing Concho, Malinda Menke, Eddie Tafoya present and Kendra Toth excused. Also present were Business Manager Ashley Wolfel, Media Coordinator Anthony Conforti, Executive Director Chris Jones, Interim Special Ed Director Meagan Reyes.

2. Approval of Agenda - GCM Concho made a motion and seconded by GCM Menke to approve the agenda. The motion passed unanimously in a roll call vote with all present board members voting in the affirmative.

3. Public Input - None

4. Approval of Minutes GCM Menke motioned to approve the minutes of the May 13, 2025 regular meeting and May 19, 2025 special meeting, seconded by GCM Tafoya. The motion passed unanimously in a roll call vote with all present board members voting in the affirmative.

5. Reports
    A. Business Manager's Report - Ashley Wolfel
    Ms. Wolfel presented the monthly financial reports showing a $653,660.85 general fund balance. Ms.Wolfel highlighted that reimbursements are up to date and some funds will carry over to the next fiscal year. She explained that food service is over budget, so expenses will be moved to operational funds.
    Action Items - None
    B. Executive Director's Report – Chris Jones
    ED Jones shared a dashboard for tracking enrollment and staffing numbers. He reported that 60 students have finalized enrollment, with 90 potentials in progress, and discussed plans to review contracts, hire new staff, and manage ancillary personnel. ED Jones reported on enrollment projections,

facility improvements, and operational planning. He discussed the need for campus security improvements, including fencing. The board was informed about upcoming contract renewals for assessment platforms, as well as the need to sign a contract with SWREC for Medicaid billing. ED Jones also requested purchasing authority from the board to streamline operational decisions and mentioned plans to conduct a book room inventory before making curriculum purchases. He went through the new dashboard for tracking operational and academic metrics, including attendance, enrollment, staffing, and academic performance.

C. Intern Coordinator's Report – Tom Richardson (Excused)

D. Media Coordinator's Report - Anthony Conforti

Mr Conforti discussed the allocation of funds for the school's wellness room and social-emotional learning staff. Representative Herndon, a strong supporter of the school, helped secure $1 million for 12 schools through House Bill 58, which will provide operational funding for staffing the wellness room. He plans to meet with Representative Herndon to discuss the timely disbursement of funds from the PED and to explore options for obtaining a school bus, which requires initial funding from the school before PED subsidies can begin. He shared insights from the New Mexico Film Office Annual Media Conference, highlighting the presence of major sponsors like Netflix and the Media Arts Collective, which received $70 million in funding from the governor. He noted a production slowdown due to factors like the pandemic, technological changes, and foreign productions, and emphasized the need for relevant curriculum changes in media education.

6. Action Items

A. GCM Tafoya motioned approval of the school's Idea B application 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. GCM Menke motioned to approve Executive Director Chris Jones' extended contract from June 3 to June 30, 2025 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. GCM Concho motioned to approve the annual contract with Charter Law Office/Susan Fox, with a second by GCM Menke. The motion passed unanimously in a roll call vote, with all present board members voting in the affirmative.

D. GCM Tafoya motioned to approve with a second by GCM Concho to approve Governing Council Bylaw changes to address action to be taken, if: a. board membership falls below the quorum and b. all board members resign. The motion passed unanimously in a roll call vote with all present board members voting in the affirmative.

E. GCM Menke motioned to approve with a second by GCM Concho to move forward with Charter amendments to add: Transportation and Online Learning to the charter to allow for the development of policy, plan and implementation. The motion passed unanimously in a roll call vote with all present board members voting in the affirmative.

7. New/Old Business – GCM received a building acquisition update from GCM Carlson along with a facility master plan update from ED Jones; plans and support for recruitment initiatives, open house/meet and greet; internship as a requirement w/support; unused equipment inventory. No decisions are made during this discussion.

8. Adjourn 11 :26am

__p_Carolyn Carlson
_p__Malinda Menke
__pChanning Concho
__e_ 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.