

**ITEM 153-1601-R1111**

**Ratification of UM-Western Use Agreement For Lease of A Facility for the UMW Natural Horsemanship Program and Rodeo Team**

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**THAT**

The Board of Regents of Higher Education hereby ratifies the use agreement which has been entered into for lease of a facility for the use of the UM-Western Natural Horsemanship Program, in accordance with an informational item provided to the Board on September 22, 2010 and tuition authorization for the Horsemanship Program provided in May of 2011.

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**EXPLANATION**

The Board of Regents approved a natural horsemanship program at UM-Western via Item 126-1601-R0105 (January, 2005) and approved its continuation via Item 130-1601-R0106 (January, 2006). The Board of Regents was made aware of the opportunity for the program to access the Southwestern Montana Horsemanship Center (now the Montana Center for Horsemanship), a more convenient and efficient facility than otherwise available to the program, in September 2010. In May of 2011, the regents approved a tuition increase for the program to allow for the use of the Center.

UMW has entered into a five-year lease for the use of the facility. Through an oversight, the item was not presented to the Board of Regents for approval. This item seeks ratification of the lease agreement, which has been reviewed by campus counsel.

The lease is a 5-year commitment to the use of the Horsemanship Center. The cost is \$126,000 per year. Western has concluded, based on current and emerging enrollment in the program, the value the new center brings to the program and with continued BOR approval of the program tuition, it can meet these obligations for the lease period.

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**ATTACHMENTS**

Lease for the use of the Montana Center for Horsemanship.