

January 11, 2018

**ITEM 178-1601-R0118**

**Ratification of UM-Western Use Agreement For Lease of a Facility for the UMW Natural Horsemanship Program**

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**THAT**

The Board of Regents of Higher Education hereby ratifies a 7 year renewal of the use agreement which has been entered into for lease of a facility for the use of the UM Western Natural Horsemanship Program with the Montana Center for Horsemanship. The use agreement provides for the boarding of 80 horses which includes feeding and cleaning, indoor and outdoor arena use, trailer parking, and a home for the Natural Horsemanship Program.

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**EXPLANATION**

The Board of Regents approved a natural horsemanship program at UW 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, and in November 2011 approved the Use Agreement, Item 153-1601-R1111.

The lease is a 7-year commitment to the use of the Montana Center for Horsemanship. The cost is \$232,000 per year. Western has concluded, based on current and emerging enrollment in the program, the value the center brings to the program and with continued BOR approval of The Natural Horsemanship Program tuition, it can meet these obligations for the lease period.

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**ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment #1: Lease for the use of the Montana Center for Horsemanship