



NDSCS Foundation Executive Board Meeting Minutes

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, as a regular meeting of the Foundation Executive Board of NDSCS, Wahpeton North Dakota, was duly called and held in the Red River Valley Room, on Thursday, August 6, 2020, at 8:00 a.m.

The following members were present: Josh Dozak, Robert Gette, Linda Hopkins, Chris Johnson, Joel Kaczynski, Roger Richels, Hugh Veit and Margaret Wall and Megan Kummer were on conference phone. Ex-officio members present were Dr. John Richman, Kim Nelson, Michelle Nelson, Perry Miller, and Melissa Wynn. Absent - Kelly Hubrig.

President Kaczynski called the meeting to order. **Chris Johnson made a motion to approve the minutes from the June 4, 2020 meeting. Hugh Veit seconded the motion and the motion carried.**

Roger Richels shared an update on the Foundation's investments. The amount as of 6.30.20 in the Foundation's portion is \$19,339,669. The M. Vertin Fund has a balance of \$3,345,015. The Investment Committee met on July 22, 2020 and is recommending an Investment Policy Statement change. There is an opportunity to invest the reserve fund in a short-term fixed income product that will preserve the principle and stay liquid. Bell Wealth Management provided recommended updates to the policy wording. **Bob Gette made a motion to approve the suggested changes, Josh Dozak seconded, the motion carried.**

Kim Nelson gave the Operations Report. It is early in the fiscal year with little activity. Kim continued with a Challenge Grant IV (July 2019- December 2020) update. The Foundation has submitted \$620,000 and we have documents to submit another \$259,765. Perry and Kim are aggressively working on commitments for an additional \$805,000 which include some land gift options.

Kim shared the progress of the Alumni Foundation Office staffing. The Director of Gift Planning position has been posted for two weeks with little response. She is currently working on the position description for an Office Manager/ Event Coordinator that would combine two roles.

Chris Johnson reported the NDSCS Kosel Agriculture Land Lab lease agreement with the Kosel family is up this fall. Kim and Craig plan to meet with Linda Patterson and discuss future opportunities. Surface drainage options are being investigated. The Hope land rental agreements were also recently renegotiated. **Roger Richels made a motion to continue to rent the land to the same entities at the suggested rates/ parcel for another 3 years, Bob Gette seconded the motion and it was approved.** Kim will update the contacts and get them sent out.

Kim reported on the progress of the Madge Vertin Loan repayment. Letters have been sent to students with outstanding debt and the follow-up has started. A few have responded to the offer of a lower interest and no fees.

Kim discussed the status of Alumni events. The Bismarck Meet-n-Greet scheduled for July 30 was cancelled. Craig Irwin is hosting GR Memorial Golf Tournament today at the Dakota Winds Golf Course. NDSCS Homecoming is still on for September 25-26 with some schedule changes. The 2021 DREAMS will take place at a new location, the Travel Lodge Event Center, and be a combination of a live and virtual auction event.

President Richman shared a Career Workforce Academy update. On July 20, 2002, a grant was submitted to the EDA. We should hear in late September if our application was accepted. Kim and Tony have been working with vendors on in-kind donations for construction materials. Kim shared a rendering by EAPC of the 125,00 square foot building. The interior is being designed for versatility and program clusters. She outlined how the funding would work and the Foundation's role in the project. If the workforce center follows the projected timeline, it could open Fall of 2022.

President Richman's Report:

- Re-entry of students and faculty on campus started with the 2nd Summer School session in late June and will continue with a Technical Skills session the first 3 weeks of August.
- Graduation is slated for August 21, 2020 at the football stadium with limited attendance and will follow CDC protocol. Approximately 160 students will go through commencement at 4 p.m. It will also be live streamed.
- Campus guidelines have been put in place for facial coverings and physical distancing for Fall Semester. We will follow the ND Smart Restart guidelines with the color-coded health guidance system set by Governor Burgum.
- All NDSCS Varsity sports have been moved to the spring with competition to begin in January, except for Football that will resume Fall of 2021.
- The College is recommending all students get a COVID-19 test prior to school starting. There are several free testing sites around the state.

Other business included discussion of using the 5th street lot owned by the Foundation for a Culinary garden. It was recommended that the interested parties check with the City of Wahpeton and the neighbors to the lot before proceeding.

Motion to adjourn was made by Hugh Veit and seconded by Linda Hopkins.

Respectfully submitted by Melissa Wynn

Approved 9.3.20