

NDSCS Foundation Full Board Meeting Minutes

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, as a regular meeting of the Foundation Full Board of NDSCS, Wahpeton, North Dakota, was duly called and held in the Red River Valley room in the Hektner Student Center on Friday, August 21, 2020, at 8:30 a.m.

The following members in attendance included: Mark Beyer, Laurie Christensen, Josh Dozak, Art Grochow, Kelly Hubrig, Chris Johnson, Joel Kaczynski, James Kapitan, , Jeff Leinen, Andrew Mauch, Mike Neppl, , Perry Miller, Kim Nelson, Michelle Nelson, Roger Richels, Dr. John Richman, Trudy Tischer, Hugh Veit, Adam Wahler, Chad Wehri and Melissa Wynn and Becky Walen from Bell Wealth Management. Joining via phone were Jeff Hilgemann, Linda Hopkins, Margaret Wall and Mike Worner and Shannon Gephart from Bell. Absent: Bob Gette, Megan Kummer, Justin Neppl, and Harvey Link. A quick Foundation Board and Staff photo was taken with face coverings.

Joel Kaczynski opened the meeting and welcomed the new board members. ***A motion to approve the minutes was made by Hugh Veit and was seconded by Trudy Tischer, motion carried.***

Roger Richels shared the Investment Committee met on July 22, 2020. An Investment Policy Statement change was suggested and included investing the Foundation reserve fund in a short-term fixed income product that would preserve principle and stay liquid. The change was approved at the August 6, 2020 Executive Committee Meeting. Becky Walen shared the Bell Bank Investment Management Summary as of June 30, 2020. The Foundation Investment Fund ended the fiscal year 2020 at \$19,339,669 and the M. Vertin Fund had a balance of \$3,345,015. The total portfolio had a 6.9 % return. The NDSCS Investment Policy Statement was updated on 8.6.20.

Kim shared the approved 2020-2021 Foundation Budget and the operating budget with the July actuals. She reviewed the 2019-2020 Metrics Report. The Alumni office is learning the capabilities of the new Bloomerang software program and automated reporting. Mike Worner suggested footnoting the effects of Covid-19 and the reduced staff during this time.

The ND Challenge Grant IV status was presented. Kim and Perry are working to meet the goal of raising \$1.9 million by Dec. 31, 2020. They would appreciate assistance from the Board members with referral of potential donors.

Kim gave an update on the 26th Annual DREAMS Auction on April 9, 2021. The Alumni Foundation has secured a new location, the Wahpeton Event Center. The event will be a combination of in-person/online format that could accommodate about 400 guests. The Culinary Arts students will cater the event and we will only sell tables.

The Foundation has received 3 applications for the Director Planned Giving position. Interviews have been set up for Aug. 28, 2020.

Chris Johnson and Joel Kaczynski shared the current partners of the NDSCS Agricultural Kosel Land Lab will complete their 3-year commitments this fall. The wheat has been harvested and some surface ditch

drainage had been done. Kim met with a member of the Kosel/Patterson family and secured a new 5-year lease agreement. The plan is to bale rye on the Ag Land Lab plot and donate it to Chahinkapa Zoo. Chris reported that new 3-year lease agreements had been negotiated with the current renters of the Colgate/Hope – Curry land.

Kim updated the Board of the progress on the M. Vertin loans to students. The process has started, and a few have reached out to discuss different payback plans.

Homecoming is slated for Sept. 25 & 26. Everyone was encouraged to watch the ndscsalumni.com website for the most up-to-date information. The Tailgate Celebration will be in Chahinkapa Park where an NDSCS Baseball scrimmage will be played.

NDSCS Athletics reports that the Clay Target Club team and E-sports are moving forward this fall. Football will not play until the fall of 2021. The Volleyball and Men & Women's Basketball teams will begin their seasons in January. The Softball and Baseball teams will be scrimmaging this fall and play a regular spring season. Adam Jacobson has been hired as the Director of Fundraising/ Marketing and Head Women's Basketball Coach. The Athletic Raffle was held in conjunction with the Wildcat Open Golf Tournament.

President Richman shared information on the Career Academy. The EAPC architectural firm is working on the academic schematic drawings. A funding model and operating budget are also being developed. A gap loan may be necessary to cover construction costs until pledges come in. We hope to hear back on the EDA grant by the end of September or first part of October. Hugh Veit is the Foundation Board representative on the Career Academy project.

President Richman's Report:

- NDSCS will hold its 2020 Graduation Commencement today at the Earl "Skip" Bute Alumni Stadium. Each graduate was allowed 3 guests. Delayed from May.
- Move-In weekend has been orchestrated in 2 hr. blocks for dropping off and settling in.
- Current campus COVID policies require face covering while in class, labs, and clinics and in shared spaces like hallways and elevators when a physical distance of six feet cannot be maintained. Isolation areas are available for students who test positive.
- Improvements are being made to classroom technology and the HVAC systems.
- We predict enrollment will be down for the next 2-3 years and are unsure of how the pandemic will affect us. With all the changes, we have lost our comparable data.
- NDSCS is currently very fiscally sound. January of 2021 will begin a new legislative session.

The Board Members were all asked to sign the annual Conflict of Interest form.

Meeting Adjournment - ***A motion to adjourn was made by Hugh Veit and seconded by Jim Kapitan. The motion passed.***

Respectfully submitted by Melissa Wynn

Approved 11.20.2020