



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 President Richman's office, on Thursday, March 5, 2020, at 8:00 a.m.

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

Vice President Kaczynski called the meeting to order and welcomed all attending. Roger Richels made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 23, 2020 meeting. Josh Dozak seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Annette Loken shared an update on the Foundation's investments. The current amount in the Foundation's portion is \$18,347,657, which is slightly down as the markets begin to shift. Bell Bank Wealth advisors shared earlier to anticipate changes.

Kim Nelson gave an overview of the Operating Budget. The income is close to projections. We have the land rent, receipt fees and the DREAMS Auction all coming in soon. Our legal fees are a little higher and include services to set up a contract agreement with Perry Miller and advise on a few other matters.

Kim shared we have \$154,000 for the next round of the Challenge Grant on March 24, 2020 and have raised \$509,000 to date. She also provided a report showing the Executive Committee what funds the NDSCS Departments have received from the Lunday and Challenge Grant Matching funds for FY20 and FY21.

Kim gave an update on the Search Committee progress to fill the Alumni Foundation's Donor Development Manager position. Six applicants have applied for the position and the committee has chosen four candidates to interview on March 12. The planned process is to do second interviews of the top two candidates if necessary.

Chris Johnson reported on the NDSCS Kosel Agriculture Land Lab. A six-row planter was purchased for \$3,600 and needs some reconditioning. Students can earn a credit by assisting with this process. He communicated with Farm Service Agency and Linda Paterson would have to apply to be the producer as the Alumni Foundation does not qualify. We are entering the final year in the three-year lease agreement with the Kosel family. Kim Nelson and Perry Miller visited with Linda and she verbally committed to an extended five-year lease agreement. The Ag Land Lab Advisory Committee is scheduled to meet March 11 and will discuss water management and the time frame for the next round of RFPs. Kim provided a financial summary from inception for the Ag Land Lab which includes over \$100,000 of in-kind contributions.

Melissa Wynn shared an update on the Foundation Annual Fundraising Campaign. The Alumni Foundation Campaign is at 76% of the \$122,000 goal. A second ask letter was mailed to just over 250 former donors February 28, 2020.

Kim announced the Alumni Foundation Homecoming Recognition Award recipients. They are: Alumnus of the Year – Michael Worner; Parade Grand Marshal – Larry Merbach; Family Tradition – Anton & Em Krebs Family; Friend of the College – Great Plains Hospitality, Dan Hurder; Commitment to Excellence – Michelle Nelson; Wildcat of the Year – Tom Shorma.

Kim reviewed the Foundation Board terms. Josh Dozak agreed to serve a 2nd term and Linda Hopkins and Roger Richels agreed to a 3rd term. She will contact Jeff Hilgemann also up for a 3rd term. She thanked Annette Loken as she completes her 3rd three-year term of dedicated service to NDSCS and the Foundation. Kim asked the group to submit suggestions for new board members to her by March 30. She would like to add two-three new members.

The DREAMS Auction is quickly approaching. Kim thanked everyone for their generous donations, purchased tables and promotion of the event. The staff has been working hard to put everything in place.

President Richman shared a Career Academy update. The Cass County Commissioners appointed two members to serve on an Executive Planning Group for the Career Academy which will meet on March 11, 2020. They are also asking for more information on the details of the \$15 M ask. Revitalizing the RFPs for the architect, governance structure and ownership are all items still being discussed. Governor Burgum is supportive of the career academy concept and developing policies with workforce emphasis.

President Richman's Report:

- President Richman welcomed Kim Nelson back from her extended medical leave.
- Enrollment is down about 100 students – consistent with national trends.
- The marketing group, Stamats, has given the College a summary report with recommendations on how to improve student recruitment.
- The Arizona Meet-n-Greet went well with 50+ in attendance. President Richman and Becky Walen, a representative from Bell Wealth Management, hosted and spoke to the group.

For other business, board members asked about the outcome of the Giving Hearts Day campaign. It was reported that over \$8,000 was raised for the Wildcats Care Fund and we will receive a final amount when DMF has accounted for all the corporate and business matches.

Annette Loken made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Linda Hopkins seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Melissa Wynn

Approved April 9, 2020