



## 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 at Red River Valley Room of the Hektner Student Center on February 4, 2022.

**Present:** Mark Beyer, Josh Dozak (Board Pres.), Bob Gette, Art Grochow, Linda Hopkins, Kelly Hubrig, Chris Johnson, Joel Kaczynski, James Kapitan, Paige Kjesbo, Megan Kummer, Andrew Mauch, Mike Neppel, Roger Richels, Trudy Tischer, Hugh Veit, Margaret Wall, Chad Wehri,

**Ex Officio:** Interim President Harvey Link, Stu Engen, Dr. Vangsness Frisch, Kim Nelson, Michelle Nelson, Yoney Fobb, and Stephanie Curtis

**Absent:** Jeff Hilgemann, Jeff Leinen, Justin Neppel, Rich Slagle, Adam Wahler, Mike Worner

Josh Dozak opened the meeting. ***A motion to approve the November 19, 2021, minutes was made by Chris Johnson and was seconded by Trudy Tischer, motion carried. A motion to approve the December 10, 2021, special meeting minutes was made by Margaret Wall and seconded by Andrew Mauch, motion carried.***

Roger Richels gave an investment report including a summary of the Investment Committee meeting held January 26, where Bell Wealth Management presented an overview of the Foundation's portfolio. The balances are Agency: \$27,030,000, Madge Vertin Fund: \$4,278,000 and Straight Liquidity (reserve) \$261,339 for a total of \$31,570,000. The Agency and Vertin funds allocations are similar with 65% in equity, 31.5% fixed income and 3.5% in alternative markets (real estate). With the positive returns the last two years, the Agency fund is 36% above principal. The Executive Committee made a recommendation to award 4.25% in scholarships for FY23. ***Trudy Tischer made a motion to follow the Executive Committee's recommendation to award 4.25% in scholarships for FY23, Joel Kaczynski seconded the motion, motion carried.***

Kim went over the operating report. Income and expenses are within budget.

Kim presented the Annual Campaign report. While the overall campaign goal has been exceeded, the goal for Club member donations has not been met. A second letter was mailed, and phone calls were made to connect with those that have given in the past.

Challenge Grant V is underway. Kim presented last November to the Challenge Grant Committee; all requests approved and will present the next round of requests in March. She explained how the matching dollars will be used if approved. This cycle runs through December 2022.



The Large Gift Process: Originally adopted in in 2008, was reviewed and draft updates presented. Major edits include: all gifts of \$10,000 or more, whether restricted or unrestricted, will be reported monthly to the Executive Board. The use of unrestricted gifts under \$10,000 will be determined by the Executive Director, Foundation Staff, and Financial Manager. Unrestricted gifts will be held in the Agency fund for up to 12 months and brought to the Executive Board to determine their use. ***Jim Kapitan made a motion to approve the changes as presented to the Large Gift Process, Megan Kummer seconded the motion, motion carried.***

Kosel Land Lab Update: Chris Johnson shared that \$10,000 of the proceeds from last year's crop was used to establish a scholarship endowment for agriculture students. The Kosel family has pledged an additional \$25,000, and with the Challenge Grant V match, \$17,500 will be added. The next steering committee meeting is scheduled for March.

Stu Engen shared an update from Athletics. Both women's and men's basketball are having great seasons with 1 and 2 losses respectively. The BAC is very active right now with practices, including baseball and softball. The Catbacker/Lettwerwinners Club has been revitalized over the past few months and hold regular meetings. Catbacker Car Raffle tickets are for sale, at \$100 each, the drawing will be held at the Wildcat Golf Open on June 9.

***Chad Wehri made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:30 am to enter closed session, Jim Kapitan seconded the motion, motion carried.***

The meeting reconvened at 10:25 a.m.

Stephanie Curtis and Kim gave an update on the DREAMS Auction. The Foundation staff is working on gift procurement. The Wahpeton Event Center has secured a tent that will house auction items leaving more room for tables. Tables are sold out, there is a wait list.

Kim is hosting a Meet and Greet in Mesa, Arizona on February 18, at Supersticious Springs Golf Club. She is anticipating 65-75 guests with Dr. Vangsness Frisch assisting.

Dr. Vangsness Frisch shared that Giving Hearts Day is scheduled for February 10. The funds raised will go into the Wildcat Cares Grant to help students stay in school during an emergency or crisis. Funds are applied for and can be used for a variety of needs including car repairs, groceries, gas, or other basic needs. The NDSCS Ambassadors are leading the College campaign.

Dr. Vangsness Frisch and Kim shared that the Culinary Arts Department is planning scholarship dinner fundraiser for March 10. Guest alumni chefs will be serving a coursed dinner. Proceeds will go towards a Culinary Arts Scholarship Endowment.

Homecoming nominations were compiled and sent out to board members with a ballot. Ballots are due on February 11. Winners will be announced in the coming weeks.

Kim shared that Mike Worner has resigned from the Foundation Board due to health reasons. Kim and the board are thankful for the years of dedicated service he has given Foundation, NDSCS, and the Wahpeton community.

Kim asked for volunteers for a subcommittee to assist in the search for new board members. There will be approximately five seats to fill by August of 2022. Jim Kapitan and Megan Kummer agreed to serve on the subcommittee.

Kelly Hubrig gave an update on the Presidential search. Several meetings have been scheduled for the coming weeks. The search committee will put a minimum of three names forward to the State Board of Higher Ed.

Dr. Vangsness Frisch gave a College update:

- Spring semester enrollment exceeded the credit count from Spring 2021.
- COVID has been manageable. Testing continues to be offered twice a week.
- Many technology advances took place with COVID funding to allow students to access class remotely if needed.
- The Career fair is February 10, at the BAC. Approximately 200 employers have registered.
- Job placement remains strong at 97%.
- 74% of fall '21 students are attending tuition free through grants, scholarships, and sponsorships.
- The Science of Leadership program has started with 23 students participating. Upon completion of a participation agreement, students qualify for a \$3,000 scholarship. A retreat to include a day of service is being planned in Fargo.
- NDSCS is hosting a VEX Robotic Competition. Nine schools are expected to attend.
- The facilities master plan is near completion. This master plan is done every 6 years and is a collaborative effort between each department and Facilities Management.

Interim President Harvey Link gave an update:

- A new 6-year Master Plan for Facilities is being prepared and will be submitted in late February. It will align with the College's strategic plan. This may change as new leadership comes in.
- The Governor Burgum is kicking off the next budgeting process by hosting strategy sessions, NDSCS will have their session mid-March.
- Enrollment is encouraging as we look ahead to future funding. Funding from state appropriations is based on past enrollment and credits generated. When it decreased, the funding also decreased. As numbers increase, so will funding.
- Harvey stressed the importance of the Foundation to help fill the 'gaps' for program and student needs via scholarships and donations.



- As difficult as COVID was, and is, it has propelled the College ahead in some ways. The technology advances have been one of the positives to come from COVID and continues to benefit the students now and in the future.
- Harvey stressed the importance of the presidential search process and the need for Foundation Members to engage with it where possible. The President will set the direction for the institution for years to come, so this is a critical decision point in the life of NDSCS. He also thanked the Foundation Board for their involvement and dedication to NDSCS.

The next full board meeting will be held on May 6. The meeting may be in Fargo to include a tour of the CIC building and grounds.

***The meeting was adjourned by Joel Kaczynski and seconded by Hugh Veit.***

Respectfully submitted by Stephanie Curtis

**Approved 5.6.2022**