

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 May 3, 2024.

Members present: Mark Beyer, Dee Jensen (Zoom), Joel Kaczynski (Zoom), Hugh Veit, James Kapitan, Daric Pfingsten, Korey Skovholt, Megan Kummer (President), Art Grochow, Paige Kjesbo, Josh Dozak (Zoom), Rich Slagle (Zoom), Trudy Tischer, Pam Erlandson, Chad Wehri, and Roger Worner. **Absent:** Julie Vculek, Andrew Mauch, Heather Miller, and Adam Wahler

Ex-officio members present: Kim Nelson, Michelle Nelson, Denise Laymon, and Yoney Fobb. **Ex-officio members absent:** Dr. Rod Flanigan **Guest:** **Melissa Johnson, Asst. VP Student Affairs, NDSCS.**

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Megan Kummer, President. Kim Nelson recognized the four board members who have served three, 3-year terms, and thanked them for their service, dedication, and for being wonderful board members during her time as Executive Director. The members are Art, Joel, Jim, and Trudy. The outgoing members were presented with a gift of appreciation.

The agenda was reviewed. The closed session was removed from the agenda and the College Update was placed before the Foundation Financial Reports. **Trudy made a motion to approve the agenda with the changes and Pam seconded. Motion carried.**

Pam Erlandson made a motion to approve the February 2, 2024, full board minutes with one noted change- James Kaptain seconded a motion to approve awarding 4.5% scholarship distribution instead of approved motion. Roger seconded the motion, motion carried.

Melissa Johnson provided a college update in the absence of Dr. Rod Flanigan. Melissa explained her role to the board and how her position has evolved over her 17 years at NDSCS. She shared the departments she oversees and highlighted areas within her responsibility such as enrollment and the growth of enrollment. Overseeing the software platforms that will provide impactful marketing, outreach, and evaluation of the admission process.

- Fall '24 enrollment is looking strong and FAFSA awarding should take place mid-May. Just a little behind past years.
- Melissa shared the college's guiding statements are ready for the State Board of Higher Education's approval. The proposed mission statement is: The Science of Learning by Doing.

- Areas that the college strategic plan is focusing on are: Academic Experience, Student Experience, Wild Cat Culture, and Operational Efficiency.
- The Legislative main request is the reimaging of the library.
- The Ag project is moving forward. The expectation is the Precision Ag Tech space will be completed by December 2024.

Cboys, a group of young men from Cormorant, will be on campus today. Students will have the opportunity to meet them.

Paige provided the board with the total account balance of \$32,450,849.21. The accounts saw a 5.22% three-month return and a 16.32% twelve-month return. The tech sector has been the driving force for the performance returns. Bonds have been on the downside. Interest rates are expected to be cut sometime in 2024. The investment committee will meet at the end of July and Bell Investments will present at the August Board of Directors meeting.

Yoney Fobb presented the Club and Annual giving goals are being worked on. Three mailings have been sent and phone calls continue. June 30th is the end of the fiscal year and the deadline to make goals.

Kim provided further information on the project planner. The flow through dollars that the foundation administers on behalf of the college is over 1.7 million dollars. The foundation continues to fundraise for the nursing, turf, and cadaver lab projects. The Bremer Bank Theatre upgrades of new seats and carpet should be completed before school is in session in August. In-kind gifts continue to grow as equipment is donated by companies and individuals to be used in the labs for student learning.

The Operating Budget was presented by Kim. The yellow highlighted items are revenue still coming in or expenses that are projected. Kim will review the printing expenses and look at making a reduction in 2025. Salary and wages were addressed as the board works with Kim in a succession plan for her future retirement, specific date is yet to be determined. **Pam made a motion to accept the budget as presented and Paige seconded. Motion carried.**

Kim gave an update on the Challenge Grant. There is only \$290,924 left to distribute out of 1.7 million dollars. Although the grant ends at the end of December, it is expected the funds will run out before the end of the fiscal year. The Challenge Grant is a great tool for the foundation, college, and donors.

The Alumni Foundation Board Slate of Office was presented. Three, 3-year terms served by Art, Joel, James, and Trudy were recognized and each will be going off the board. Proposed new board members are Tom Steinolfson, Kenda Klosterman, Steve Farden, and Vicki Schafer. Paige and Vicki will join the Executive Committee. Chad Wehri will serve as President, and Jeff Leinen as Vice President. Terms to renew are: Rich Slagle, Paige Kjesbo, Megan Kummer, Jeff Leinen, and Andrew Mauch. **Trudy made a motion to accept the slate of officers and Art seconded. Motion carried.**

Homecoming Recognition are as follows: Alumnus of the Year-Bill Rothwell, Parade Grand Marshal-Arlen Booth, Family Tradition-Lorentz "Swede and Ione Johnson (Muralt) Family, Friend of the College-ComDel Innovation, Young Alumni- Preston Page, Performing Arts- Laurie Lekang, and Wildcat of the Year- Pam Broderick.

Kim presented the 2024 Dreams recap. Income was down from the previous year, but comparable to 2017 and 2018. Factors in the decrease are the economy and the technology issues experienced. 2025 will be the 30th Anniversary and a large event is being planned.

A summer schedule of upcoming Meet and Greets were presented to the members.

Jeff gave an update on the Kosel Land Lab. The fertilizer, seed, and equipment have been donated. There will be a corn/bean rotation, and no wheat this year. The storage unit is in place, signage has been approved, just waiting for the signage to be placed on the shed. Field days will take place on June 13th. There is a need for a corn header. Daric may have one that can be used. If not, one will need to be located. The income received from harvest is reinvested with eight-\$1000 scholarships to be awarded out of a portion of the funds

Stu Engen gave a shout out to Jordan Christensen and the athletes that came over to help with DREAMS. Stu highlighted the members on the men and women's teams. June 6th is the Wildcat Golf Open.

Hugh provided an update on the CIC. The bids went well, 57,000 sq. ft. is slated to be completed. Additional funding is needed to complete the remaining 30,000 sq. ft. August 2025, has been identified to open the doors of the completed portion.

The board members were asked to review the spreadsheet with the board member's contact information.

Megan adjourned the meeting at 10:42.

Respectfully submitted by Denise Laymon

Approved 8.23.24