

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 November 15, 2024.

Members present: Mark Beyer, Dee Jensen, Hugh Veit, Daric Pfingsten (Zoom, left at 10:20), Megan Kummer, Paige Kjesbo, Josh Dozak, Chad Wehri (President), Jeff Leinen (VP), Beth Dohman, Pam Erlandson, Tom Steinolfson, Kendra Klosterman, Vicky Schafer, Rich Slagle (left 9:14). **Absent:** Julie Vculek, Roger Worner, Heather Miller, Andrew Mauch, Steve Farden, and Korey Skovholt.

Ex-officio members present: Kim Nelson, Michelle Nelson, Denise Laymon, Rod Flanigan, and Yoney Fobb. **Guests:** Reggie Jackson

The meeting was called to order at 8:31 a.m. by Chad Wehri, President.

A motion was made by Pam Erlandson and seconded by Dee Jensen to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

Josh Dozak made a motion to approve the minutes from August 23, 2024, and Jeff Leinen seconded, motion carried.

Yoney introduced Bryan Poyzer, Concert Choir Director, Karen Hendrickson, accompanist, and Tanner Garrigan, Performing Arts soloist and UAS student, who performed a song to the board in recognition of National Philanthropy and Giving Day. This year the Alumni Foundation is focused on raising awareness and donations for Performing Arts equipment, specifically backdrops for performances. Tabitha videotaped with the performance going Facebook live.

Denise shared Kim Nelson received an Association of Fundraising award for 2024 Respected Fundraising Professional, Art Grochow received the 2024 Volunteer Award, and Linda Patterson received Philanthropist of the Year award.

Paige Kjesbo provided the financial report. Balance of the Endowment is \$36,096,634.68. The 12-month return was 23.07%.

Yoney reported that annual and club letters were mailed. To date we are at 1% of our annual goal and 14% of the club goal.

Denise reported on the in-kind gifts is at 61% of goal, SkillsUSA Endowment project is in progress with a deadline of December 31st to complete the goal, and the Performing Arts project is the selected program to raise funds for Giving Day.

Kim and Dr. Flanigan reported the turf fundraising is nearing completion. Next steps of accepting bids and hiring an architect is in progress. The turf should be completed by next fall.

Kim did an overview of the operating budget. At this time of the year numbers look off budget, but it is a timing issue and some of our incoming funds come later in the year. Kim touched on the challenge grant that we have all the funds committed, the Foundation staff is completing the transactions with the total raised/committed of \$3.4 million and receiving a state match of \$1.7 million.

Michelle Nelson shared that the 990 and Audit was completed and there were no audit findings. They can be found on the website.

Vicky Schafer reported that the Director's liability insurance was raised from \$3 million to \$5 million. The insurance premium has increased due to the liability increase and inflation. It was accepted as Bremer bank presented and paid.

Reggie Jackson provided an update on athletics. Bismarck State College is leaving the Mon-Dak Conference. They are paying a \$50,000 fine for their departure. Volleyball is done for the season. It is possible that the football team still has an opportunity to play in the National Championship. The women's basketball team is ranked 13th in the nation. A women's soccer coach has hired.

The board entered the closed session at 9:17. The board returned to the regular board meeting at 9:47. **An action item from the closed session with Hugh Veit making the recommendation and Kendra Klosterman seconding was to request an updated appraisal be done on the 19th Avenue property that the Alumni Foundation owns. Motion passed.**

Chad W. extended an invitation to the new board members to meet with Kim Nelson if they have any additional questions about the Foundation owned buildings.

Hugh reported that the bids for FFE came in lower than expected. Dr. Flanigan reminded the board that additional buildings and ground equipment is needed to maintain the building and the grounds.

Chad shared that the Executive Committee was ready to make a recommendation to the full board to hire Matthew Hallaway as the new Executive Director. **A motion to hire Matthew was made by Hugh Veit and seconded by Josh Dozak. Motion carried.** The board also recommended creating an agreement between Matthew and the Foundation. It is expected the starting date will be in January 2025.

Kim and Dr. Flanigan shared that they worked out an agreement to purchase a house that the college could use for facilities in the future. Intent is that the Foundation will purchase the house. Dr. Flanigan will make an ask to the state for permission to have the College purchase the property from the Foundation for future expansion of Facilities. The Foundation will track all costs of the project and the Foundation will be reimbursed when the state approves, buy the college. Funds to purchase will be taken from reserve for the time being. **Josh Dozak made a motion to officially enter into a purchase agreement with the sellers and Paige Kjesbo seconded. Motion carried.**

Jeff Leinen provided a Kosel Land Lab update. This spring twenty-five acres of soybeans were planted with an average of thirty-three bushel per acre. Preventive Planting program was utilized. Eight scholarships will be awarded to ag students. Tillage was not done in the fall but was slated to be done in the spring.

KRB approached the foundation that they have an interest in entering into an agreement to take gravel off about 50-60 acres. KRB will attend the executive meeting in December to discuss their proposal. Kim will follow up on mineral rights and making sure there are no underlying issues with the plan to have aggregate mined on that land.

Yoney covered the upcoming 2025 Homecoming nominations and asked the board to consider candidates by mid-January with a vote taking place in February. Homecoming will be October 3-4, 2025.

Kim reminded everyone that the DREAMS Auction will be on April 11, 2025. This is the 30th anniversary. This year there will be a slight increase in prices as food and rental costs have increased.

Dr. Flanigan provided a college update. These are busy times as HLC will be visiting April 14-15th. Jerry Migler is assisting with the HLC accreditation process. The strategic plan is being worked on. The college signed a contract with NDSU and Valley City regarding dual credit. The North Dakota Legislative session will begin soon with the college preparing for support of renovating the library as the major project.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:05

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Laymon

Approved February 7, 2025