

North Dakota State Board of Higher Education
Governance Committee Meeting Minutes
April 22, 2020

The State Board of Higher Education Governance Committee met on Wednesday, April 22, 2020, at 3:30 p.m. CT, via conference call, originated from the Capitol, Fort Union room, 600 E. Blvd. Ave., Bismarck, ND, 58505.

Chair Morton called the meeting to order at 3:35 p.m. CT.

Members Present:

Mr. Don Morton (Chair)
Mr. Nick Hacker
Ms. Jill Louters

Others Present:

Chancellor Hagerott
Interim President Wynne, UND
Incoming President Armacost, UND
Dr. Debora Dragseth, SBHE Faculty Advisor
President Shirley, MiSU
Ms. Tammy Dolan, NDUS
Ms. Kristie Hetzler, NDUS
Ms. Billie Jo Lorus, NDUS
Ms. Laura Schratt, NDUS
Ms. Terry Meyer, NDUS
Dr. Kenneth Hellevang, CCF
Ms. Karol Riedman, NDUS
Mr. Eric Olson, Asst. A.G. and General Counsel

1. **Agenda**

Louters moved, Hacker seconded, to approve the agenda.

Hacker, Louters, and Morton voted yes.

2. **Meeting Minutes**

Louters moved, Hacker seconded, to approve the March 18, 2020, Meeting Minutes.

Hacker, Louters, and Morton voted yes.

3. **Chancellor's Performance Evaluation**

Ms. Karol Riedman reviewed the past few years process/procedures and timeline for the [Chancellor's performance evaluation](#). Chancellor Hagerott and Ms. Riedman opened discussion to amend the process and timeline due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The committee discussed and agreed to continue to utilize what has been for the past couple years, without adjustments to either the process or the timeline.

Hacker moved, Louters seconded to recommend approval of the Chancellor's evaluation process and timeline as presented.

Louters, Hacker, and Morton voted yes.

4. Amend SBHE 2020 Meeting Schedule

Committee member Hacker proposed amendments to the remaining [SBHE 2020 meeting schedule](#); including the Board retreat that typically occurs in June. The retreat will move to September, in Bismarck. He noted the importance of addressing student behavioral health and other significant topics that were scheduled to be discussed at the June retreat; however, having those types of topics at a face-to-face meeting allows for robust discussions and more effective presentations to take place.

Louters moved, Hacker seconded, to recommend approval of the amended SBHE 2020 schedule, as presented.

Hacker, Louters, and Morton voted yes.

5. SBHE Committees

As the Chair of the Board, Mr. Hacker stated that during his tenure on the Board, two new committees have been formed and under the framework of open records laws its very challenging to assign eight Board members to [five different committees](#) without potentially violating the law. In addition to those committees, some Board members also serve on the Challenge Grant Fund Committee, NDUS Foundation, EPSCOR, WICHE, MHEC, and other bodies. The strengths and interests of each Board member are an important factor when they are asked to serve on specific committees. The committee discussed the excessive workload and time of the system office staff, campus representatives and others involved in the committee meetings. He recommended the duties and scopes of all the committees be reviewed for possible consolidation or elimination of at least one committee. The members agreed and noted that some of the duties of the Governance Committee have been completed and the remaining could possibly be moved to another committee. Legal Counsel expressed concerns of eliminating the Governance Committee, as governance principles would counsel in favor of a strong governance committee that is separate from the subject matter committees. Committee members indicated governance is key in all committee work, and they are confident that if an issue arises that does not fall under the scope of one of the Board committees that the issue be placed on a Board agenda. They directed the system office staff to propose options to streamline and improve processes by realigning and/or reducing the number of SBHE committees. The committee will review the proposals at their next meeting.

6. Presidential Evaluation, Modified Process

Chancellor Hagerott informed the committee that he has been in conversation with Board leadership on a modified presidential evaluation process. Due to presidents having to shift their time to address the pandemic, presidents will be asked to submit the two-page summary that has been utilized the past couple years, prior to the June meeting when Presidential contracts are reviewed. The SPOL metrics/goals data will be completed later and presented to the SBHE in September.

7. Envision/Strategic Planning Timeline

Chancellor Hagerott indicated the Strategic Engagement team and others are still working on updates to the five-year strategic plan. A draft will be reviewed at the May SBHE meeting, and action will be taken at a future meeting, if necessary.

8. **Post COVID-19 Implications/Planning**

Chancellor Hagerott stated he is working with Board leadership and representatives from each campus tier on next steps to re-establish on-campus operations for fall. Variables, such as, demographics are being discussed and more information will be presented at the full Board meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 4:20 p.m. CT.

Approved May 20, 2020.