

**North Dakota State Board of Higher Education**

April 11, Special Meeting Minutes

The State Board of Higher Education met on Friday, April 11, 2025, at 2:00 p.m. via Teams.

Chair Mihalick called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. CT.

**Roll Call**

SBHE Members

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mr. Tim Mihalick, Chair | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ms. Danita Bye, Vice Chair            |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mr. Kevin Black         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dr. Casey Ryan                        |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mr. Jeffry Volk         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mr. Curtis Biller                     |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mr. Max Eriksrud        | <input type="checkbox"/> Mr. DJ Campbell                                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Michael Linnell, Staff Advisor | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dr. Lisa Montplaisir, Faculty Advisor |

**Institutions**

**BSC** Interim President Sanford, **DCB** Dean Simone, **DSU** Acting President Orton, **LRSC** President Darling, **MaSU** President Van Horn, **MISU** President Shirley, **NDSCS** President Flanigan, **NDSU** Mr. Jace Beehler, **UND** President Armacost, Dr. Eric Link, Ms. Karla Stewart, Mr. Matthew Kibbon, **VCSU** President LaFave.

**System Office/Guests**

**NDUS** Chancellor Hagerott, VC Lisa Johnson, VC Jerry Rostad, Mr. Mark Gorenflo, Dr. Jen Weber, Ms. Tammy Dolan, Ms. Jane Grinde, Mr. Chris Pieske, Ms. Bethany Kadrmas, Ms. Caitlin Magilke, Dr. Billie Jo Lorus, Ms. Jamie Wilke, Ms. Maryann Olson, Mr. Eric Jensen, Ms. Claire Gunwall, Ms. Dina Cashman, Ms. Fitzsimmons, **CTS** VC Tom Danford, Mr. Corey Quirk, **Others** Assistant Attorney General Meredith Larson.

**Call to Order**

1. [UND Sale of North University Property](#)

President Armacost and Ms. Stewart presented a proposal regarding the potential sale or lease of land in the northwest portion of UND's campus. This area includes vacant lots and graduate student housing slated for future demolition. They emphasized the potential for generating revenue and reducing land inventory. Member Volk raised concerns about the process and timing, noting that SBHE's approval should precede legislative action.

Ryan moved, Bye seconded, to authorize UND to seek approval of the legislature during any legislative session for the sale of land described as real property, as presented.

Eriksrud, Ryan, Black, Biller, Bye, and Chair Mihalick voted yes. Volk voted no. Campbell absent. Motion passed 6-1.

2. [UND Land Sale – West Property for 42nd Underpass](#)

Ms. Stewart introduced the request for the sale of a small portion of UND property needed for the North Dakota Department of Transportation's 42nd Street underpass construction project. The SBHE had not previously reviewed this request, which involves a minor land adjustment to accommodate the underpass slope.

Biller moved, Eriksrud seconded, to approve the sale of the land to the North Dakota Department of Transportation for the development of an underpass on 42nd St. in Grand Forks, as presented.

Black, Biller, Volk, Bye, Ryan, Eriksrud, and Chair Mihalick voted yes. Campbell absent. Motion passed 7-0.

3. Recap of Week's Activity

Ms. Dolan provided an update on the legislative activities, noting slow progress with most bills either in appropriations committees or awaiting final action. The NDUS appropriations bill (SB 2003) is still under review by the House Appropriations Education and Environment Division, with expected amendments to be presented soon. The Workforce Education Innovation Fund was highlighted, with ongoing discussions about its implementation and potential funding. The SBHE was updated on the late Representative Christy's AI bill, HB 1448, and its reduced scope and the importance of securing resources for AI initiatives.

4. Preview of Next Week's Legislative Hearings

The SBHE was briefed on the anticipated legislative hearings for the upcoming week. The focus will be on the amendments to SB 2003. The board was encouraged to stay engaged and monitor the developments closely.

5. Discussion of SBHE Legislative Priorities and Positions

Board members reviewed the SBHE stance on the specific bills that NDUS is tracking.

6. Chancellor Announcement

Chancellor Hagerott announced his decision to accelerate his retirement to focus on critical projects with the Navy, effective at the end of the month. He expressed gratitude for his 10-year tenure and the SBHE's support. The Chair Mihalick, Vice Chair Bye, and Members Black, Eriksrud, and Ryan thanked him for his service and leadership, acknowledging his contributions to the NDUS. Chair Mihalick plans to convene the SBHE in a Special Meeting next week to discuss the appointment of an Interim Chancellor.

The meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m. CT.

Approved April 30, 2025.