

North Dakota State Board of Higher Education

November 20, 2019, Governance Committee Meeting Minutes

The State Board of Higher Education Governance Committee met on Wednesday, November 20, 2019, at 3:30, via conference call, originating from the Capitol, 10th floor NDUSO Conference room, 600 E. Blvd. Ave., Bismarck, ND, 58505.

Chair Traynor called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. CT.

Members Present:

Mr. Dan Traynor (Chair)
Mr. Nick Hacker
Ms. Jill Louters

Others Present:

Chancellor Hagerott
President Shirley, MiSU
President Bresciani, NDSU
President LaFave, VCSU
Ms. Vivian Bernotas, NDSCS
Ms. Karol Riedman, NDUS
Ms. Kristie Hetzler, NDUS
Mr. Darin King, CTS
Ms. Laura Schrott, NDUS
Dr. Kenneth Hellevang, CCF
Mr. Eric Olson, Asst. A.G. and General Counsel

1. **Agenda**

Louters moved, Hacker seconded, to approve the agenda.

Hacker, Louters, and Traynor voted yes.

2. **Policy 308.3, Political Activities**

Mr. Eric Olson reviewed proposed amendments to [policy 308.3](#). Mr. Olson and Ms. Johnson met with the North Dakota Association shortly after the last committee meeting. The recommendation is to separate policy regarding political activities for faculty, staff, and SBHE, the other component to this policy would address political activities for students. Mr. Olson explained the policy clarifies state law and helps to understand boundaries regarding endorsements, including the appearance of endorsement.

Hacker moved, Louters seconded, to recommend approval for policy 308.3.

Hacker and Louters voted yes. Traynor abstained.

Motion passed.

3. **Discussion regarding Renewal Contracts for President**

Mr. Dan Traynor explained that the board recently passed a new initial presidential contract and the need to consider amending renewal contracts for presidents, so they should align. The committee discussed the need to determine what components to preserve from the initial hire contract and which are not applicable and should be removed. The SBHE Academic and Student Affairs Committee will be discussing the tenure component and the Budget and Finance Committee will discuss any component with financial implications.

The committee requested that Mr. Olson research what exists throughout the country for comparison to the NDUS contract. They also discussed the need for a robust timeline to put in place due to upcoming consideration for presidential contract renewals in June. Any additional components can be considered as additions at a future meeting.

4. **SBHE Committees**

Mr. Traynor requested the subject of SBHE Committees be delayed to a future agenda, the committee members agreed.

The meeting adjourned at 4:05 at p.m. CT.

Approved February 21, 2020.