

**State Board of Agricultural Research
Minutes - February 9, 1998
Fargo, North Dakota**

The State Board of Agricultural Research met February 9, 1998 in the Northern Crop Science Laboratory Conference Room at 9 a.m. Members present were: Sharon Anderson, Tom Archbold, Shannon Bornsen (for Roger Johnson), Ryan Brooks, Jerry Doan, Jody Hauge, George Heller, Pat Jensen, Burdell Johnson, Shirley Meyer, Bob Nowatzki, Tom Plough, Dale Reimers, and Robert Todd.

Dr. Donald Zimmerman, director of the NCSL, was introduced and he welcomed the group to the facility. He offered building tours following the meeting to those interested.

Minutes of the December meeting were approved with the following changes to the proposed ag research fund guidelines on page 2,

number 1:

—Jody Hauge moved to include the director of the ND Agricultural Experiment Station or the director's designee and an individual who has a background in agricultural research and experience in contemplated area in all committees (including major crops). George Heller seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

number 3:

—Tom Plough moved that a one-to-one match will be required for proposals out of North Dakota. Sharon Anderson seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

—Pat Jensen moved that the match must be made concurrent or subsequent to the specific project as it is approved. Tom Archbold seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

In Tim Bryan's absence, Jerry Doan spoke of communication from Tim strongly suggesting that in granting ag research funds, durum wheat should be given status separate from spring wheat in the category of funding allocated for wheat.

Tom Plough stated the importance of determining the source and date of data used to determine distribution of the ag research funds and being consistent every year (i.e., North Dakota Ag Statistics Service annual publication).

The board discussed issuing a news release that would encourage producers to apply for a gas tax refund. It was agreed that the NDSU Ag Communications Department (Stan Ernst) would prepare a release that will be distributed to newspapers in March and again in May.

The SBAR discussed the process for administration of grants with the anticipation that the first awards will be made July 1, 1998. Jerry Doan indicated this will be a learning process refinement will be necessary.

Robert Todd made a motion to ask commodity groups to submit names of individuals to serve on the various committees prior to April 1. Burdell Johnson seconded the motion.

Todd shared north central experiment station state funding comparisons with the board—North Dakota showing a downward trend. He stated that at the federal level there will be a decrease in formula funds with more dollars being moved into the competitive grants pool. This proves to be an enhancement for larger land-grant schools, but provides struggles for smaller schools. Todd stated that NDSU needs to maintain a strong scientist image to compete for federal money through grant process.

Mark Osman provided an update on the budget process leading into the 1997 legislative session. He reviewed the procedure and stressed the importance of packaging and presentation with out-state support being very important.

Pat Jensen and Tom Plough updated the SBAR on the animal care facility and talked about a technical interpretation of the law relating to NDSU raising one million dollars in private funds before proceeding with the project. Jerry Doan said it is imperative to move forward with the project and added that there is support from State Board of Agricultural Research, the State Board of Higher Education and the Legislative Council.

The SBAR discussed the initiatives and how to proceed with prioritization of the initiatives, which were submitted by department chairs and research extension center directors. The board decided that each SBAR member would rank the initiatives. The result follows:

1. Livestock Production - Co-product utilization
2. Range Research
3. Crop Protection
4. *Farm Management - Economic opportunities for traditional, mid-sized ND farms
*Livestock Production - Livestock production systems
5. *Research Extension Center Enhancement - Equipment and operating for centers
*Value-added - Enhancing opportunities for success in value-added agriculture

6. *Crop Production - Irrigated high value crops
*Variety Development - Increasing the efficiency of development and genetic resistance of varieties developed by NDSU plant scientists
7. *Agricultural Communication - Enhancing computer-connectivity at research extension centers
*Farm Management - Strategies for agri-production cost management
8. *Livestock Production - Feedlot research facilities enhancement
*Precision Farming
9. Crop Protection - Technical support for pathology and plant protection
10. Food Safety - Develop multi-disciplinary food safety training, assessment, and research model using beef produced, processed, prepared, and consumed in ND
(Note: the * indicates same ranking for both initiatives.)

The board recommended that NDSU ag administrators take the ranked list, review amount requested for each initiative and work with the department chairs and research extension center directors to revise, consolidate and streamline, putting together a \$3 million package (including extension). NDSU will be expected to provide 10% of the funds internally - through redirection of people and programs.

The next meeting will be scheduled following the presentation of the budget recommendations to the State Board of Higher Education.

Recorded by Margaret Olson