State Board of Agricultural Research and Education Minutes - September 11, 2008 NDSU Alumni Center - Fargo, ND

The State Board of Agricultural Research and Education met at the NDSU Alumni Center in Fargo, North Dakota, beginning at 1:00 p.m. on September 11, 2008. Members present were Bob Bahm, John Bollingberg, D.C. Coston, Jerry Effertz, Carol Goodman, Ken Grafton, Duane Hauck, Rodney Howe, Jim Kerzman, Paul Langseth, and Larry Lee.

Chairman Jerry Effertz called the meeting to order, welcomed visitors and asked everyone to introduce themselves.

President Joseph Chapman joined SBARE to provide an update on university affairs, including enrollment growth – both undergraduate and graduate, building/campus growth, increase in global activities, and work on faculty recruitment and retention. Chapman invited SBARE members to participate in the Harvest Bowl weekend activities October 31 and November 1.

Jerry Effertz reviewed important legislative dates and timelines, indicating the budgeting process is a critical time for all. He stressed the need to convey to the Governor's office and the Office of Management and Budget exactly what the priorities are, adding he still hopes to move forward with three capital projects.

Larry Lee made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 27 SBARE meeting as distributed. Paul Langseth seconded the motion, which passed.

Duane Hauck introduced Gary Smith, Dean of the College of Engineering at NDSU, to report on the new Extension engineering program. Smith informed the board that two non-tenure track faculty will be hired and located in Minot and Dickinson areas. He indicated that more engineering capabilities are needed across the state and the program will provide collaboration with current Extension ag engineers.

Hauck reported that in late July he had accompanied President Chapman on visits to several tribal colleges in North Dakota with the purpose being to talk about how NDSU could reach out and partner with those schools.

D.C. Coston distributed copies of updated information related to the 2007 funded initiatives.

Ken Grafton reported:

- Dwain Meyer has been appointed interim chair in the Plant Sciences Department and has agreed to serve until a new chair is in place or until December of 2009.
- The search process for the agricultural and biosystems engineering position funded in 2007 is still in process. The committee continues to search for a qualified individual to fill the position.
- Kevin McPhee has been hired to fill the pulse breeder position on campus and will begin work in October.
- Shana Peterson has been hired as an assistant pulse breeder at the North Central Research Extension Center in Minot.
- Work on the Beef Research Facility is basically on schedule and phase I is expected to be completed by the end of September.

• Work on the new Greenhouse Complex is a little behind schedule as unexpected issues related to water tile fields were discovered.

Jay Fisher told SBARE that construction is underway with the machine storage shed at the North Central Research Extension Center.

Blaine Schatz thanked the board for approval of the funding revisions allowing the work to proceed at the Carrington Research Extension Center, adding that building progress is good.

Chris Schauer also thanked SBARE and indicated work at the Hettinger Research Extension Center is fairly close to on schedule and will likely be finished in December.

Jerry Effertz shared information about the Agricultural Research Fund 2008-09 granting committees and reviewed available funds. He asked board members to look over committee memberships and be ready to discuss and/or approve later in the day.

Larry Leistritz and Won Koo, professors in the NDSU Agribusiness and Applied Economics Department gave presentations on "Agriculture in the North Dakota Economy" and "North Dakota Agricultural Economy for the Next Ten Years" respectively.

Neal Fisher, administrator of the North Dakota Wheat Commission and former member of SBARE, shared his philosophy on the economic impacts of agriculture in North Dakota. He reminded the board that agricultural research pays big dividends and encouraged SBARE to be very robust in going before the Legislature this coming session.

Jerry Effertz stated that agriculture is still the number one industry in the state and it is a huge contributor to North Dakota's economy. Effertz asked Leistritz and Koo to follow up their presentation by providing ag workforce numbers and their impacts to the economy.

Following a brief discussion regarding the Agricultural Research Fund granting committees, Larry Lee made a motion to approve as presented. Carol Goodman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Jerry Effertz distributed copies of the SBARE priority lists and noted the change in the Extension list relative to the Family Nutrition Program. With that noted, John Bollingberg made a motion to approve the list with the change. Paul Langseth seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Effertz reported that he, Rodney Howe and NDSU ag administrators met with Lt. Governor Jack Dalrymple September 5 to discuss research and Extension needs. All agreed that the meeting was very positive and the Lt. Governor indicated support for the SBARE process and the recommended priorities.

Wade Moser, executive vice president of the North Dakota Stockmen's Association, encouraged SBARE to continue work to acquire more funding for the Beef Research Facility, stressing the need to have a complete research facility. He added that there is good support from both the Governor's office and the Chancellor's office and he said he would also anticipate legislative support for the important project.

Jim Kerzman reminded board members that it is important to follow recommendations and use the legislative funding for the purposes for which it was provided. Effertz agreed, noting accountability is key.

Jerry Effertz announced that the next SBARE meeting will be held Saturday, November 1 in conjunction with Harvest Bowl. He encouraged board members to attend the Harvest Bowl events and the meeting where legislative strategy will be discussed.

The meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

Recorded by Margaret Olson