

## State Board of Agricultural Research and Education

May 5, 2015

### MINUTES

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*The State Board of Agricultural Research and Education met via conference call, originating in Morrill Hall Room 313, NDSU campus. Board members participating were Leland (Judge) Barth, Mike Beltz, Mark Birdsall, Tracy Boe, Chris Boerboom, Dean Bresciani, Doug Goehring, Ken Grafton, Lance Gulleson, Rodney Howe, Jerry Klein, Brian Leier, Keith Peltier, JoAnn Rodenbiker, Dick Roland, and Lyle Warner.*

Chairman Beltz called meeting to order at 4:00 pm. He welcomed members after roll call, and proceeded with the 2015 North Dakota legislative session update.

On behalf of SBARE, Chairman Beltz expressed gratitude and appreciation for the efforts and support given by Governor Dalrymple, Representative Boe and Senator Klein, as well as the various North Dakota commodity groups, Drs. Grafton and Boerboom, and the SBARE members.

Dr. Boerboom provided a synopsis of new Extension funding approved by the legislature in HB 1020. NDSU Extension received funding for an area livestock specialist position at Hettinger REC and an increase for the soil conservation grants program. One-time funds were provided for the Junior Master Gardener interns in Burleigh County. Authority to adjust the number of Extension FTEs was added back into the bill along with language in the Century Code. Extension job positions will remain separate from NDSU position numbers.

North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station (NDAES) – Some highlights of the Final Authorization of HB1020 include two bioinformatics positions, \$600,000 for precision ag operating, and \$1.1M to change the ‘revolving’ equipment fund to a yearly, permanent fund. Each REC will now have \$150,000 per biennium for equipment needs. The Hettinger Research Extension Center will receive an animal science technician, and the Williston Research Extension Center will receive a plant pathologist and technician.

One-time and capital improvement funding includes the Veterinary Diagnostic Lab. Chairman Beltz expressed many thanks to legislators Klein, Wardner, Monson, Boe, Schmidt, and all the conference committee members that helped restore it to the budget.

\$1.5M was approved for seed cleaning equipment with the authorization to raise additional funds as needed to develop the facilities for them. The Central Grasslands Research Extension Center received authorization for \$400,000 from last session, plus another \$150,000 to build a slightly smaller forage agronomy lab than originally planned. The land purchase at the Langdon Research Extension Center will have \$175,000 in general and \$175,000 in other funds allowed. The Dickinson Research Extension Center will receive \$100,000 in one-time funds for operating costs related to dust research. \$72,500 was received to continue the research for mitigation of flooding of the Souris River and surrounding lands. Also, \$150,000 for the Leadership program was put in this part of the budget.

As with Extension, NDAES also has language to maintain separate job position numbers, different from NDSU position numbers.

The requested one-time oil patch salary differential funds were moved to a state agency pool.

The Ag Research Fund (ARF) was approved for \$500,000 for each year of the biennium; doubling its current output.

The next Board meeting will tentatively take place in July; Dean Wehri from Mott will become a new member in place of Rodney Howe, who completes his second term on June 30. Howe will complete his nominating committee work prior to July 1, and mail a letter to Doug Goehring informing him of the nomination for new officers. Commissioner Goehring will carry the information to the July meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 4:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Lori Herbel