

**NORTH DAKOTA**  
**STATE BOARD OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND EDUCATION**  
**April 3, 2020 MEETING MINUTES | Zoom Meeting**

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The State Board of Agricultural Research and Education met for a regular meeting on April 3, 2020 via Zoom platform. Present: Jim Bahm, Doug Bichler, Mark Birdsall, Dean Bresciani, Lance Gulleson, Larry Hoffmann, Jerry Klein, Greg Lardy, Brian Leier, Sarah Lovas, Richard Roland, Dean Wehri, Julie Zikmund. Tom Bodine attended on behalf of Doug Goehring. Absent: Tracy Boe

Chair Birdsall called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. He welcomed everyone in attendance, and asked those attending online to make introductions.

MOTION: Sarah Lovas moved to approve the March 13, 2020 meeting minutes as presented; seconded by Larry Hoffmann. Motion passed.

**Comments from Mark Birdsall, SBARE Chair**

Chair Birdsall stated that the March 25, 2020 meeting as part of the Governor's Strategic Review of agencies, North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station, was postponed and potentially cancelled. The April 9, 2020 meeting with the Agriculture and Transportation Committee was cancelled.

John Dhuyvetter, from Crosby ND was selected as Extension's 2020 SBARE nominee. His name has been forwarded to the State Board of Higher Education to serve a four-year term beginning July 1, 2020.

Chair Birdsall stated an interest in meeting with the directors of the Research Extension Centers (REC) prior to the legislative session.

**Initiative Bundles**

Dr. Lardy reviewed with the board members, the financial estimates added to each group as was ranked at the previous SBARE meeting. He worked with the Ag Budget Office in determining the amounts, and explained how they were determined.

Chair Birdsall asked the Board if they wish to rank again or keep as ranked at the previous meeting. He opened the floor to discussion.

MOTION: Dick Roland made a motion to approve the initiatives, as ranked at the March 13, 2020 meeting, to include the financial estimates, as presented at today's meeting; seconded by Larry Hoffman. Motion passed.

Chair Birdsall asked the Board if they wish to include a cutline for the initiatives. Discussion was held regarding past procedures; the raw scores were reviewed.

MOTION: Dick Roland made a motion to approve the Extension initiatives as presented without a cutline; seconded by Dean Wehri. Motion carried.

MOTION: Jim Bahm made a motion to approve the Agricultural Experiment Station initiatives as presented without a cutline; seconded by Sarah Lovas. Motion carried.

MOTION: Sarah Lovas made a motion to approve the Capital Projects initiatives as presented without a cutline; seconded by Larry Hoffmann.

A future SBARE meeting in June was discussed, to include a presentation from each REC Director.

**Resolution**

Copies of the revised Resolution were distributed for review. Sarah Lovas noted the wording change on item number four, as was suggested at the previous SBARE meeting.

MOTION: Sarah Lovas made a motion to adopt the Resolution as presented; seconded by Jerry Klein. Motion carried.

**Dean Bresciani, President, NDSU**

President Bresciani gave an update in regards to classes. NDSU will continue to offer instruction online for the summer classes. Discussion is still being held regarding summer camps. Freshman Orientation is to be held online.

Tom Bodine, Deputy Commissioner, provided an update from the ND Agricultural Department.

**Greg Lardy, Vice President for Agricultural Affairs**

Dr. Lardy provided an update on the key searches currently in progress. In response to COVID-19, Extension decided to suspend all face-to-face contact with the community through May 15, at which time it will be re-evaluated. He also provided an update on the pesticide training and certification.

MOTION: Jerry Klein made a motion to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Sara Lovas. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

*Respectfully submitted, Wendy Breitbach*



**NORTH DAKOTA  
STATE BOARD OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND EDUCATION**

**Resolution to Support a Compensation Package Enhancement**

**Whereas**, agricultural scientific research, communication and real-world implementation of science-based information is essential to the state of North Dakota's growth and economy;

**Whereas**, the North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station and NDSU Extension play a vital role in conducting agricultural research and communicating science-based information for the state of North Dakota;

**Whereas**, agricultural scientific research and the ability to communicate science-based information requires specialized and talented professionals;

**Whereas**, retention of employees has become a significant challenge. Scientists and extension employees undergo training, development and implementation of their program(s) while doing important work for the state of North Dakota only to have private industry or other institutions recruit them after gaining experience; and


**Whereas**, whenever talented people leave, the state of North Dakota loses significant intellectual property. Important programs are interrupted and must be re-built again, resulting in a detrimental loss for the state; now, therefore, be it

**Resolved**, that the State Board of Agricultural Research and Education (SBARE):

1. supports a compensation package enhancement for all state employees, including North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station and NDSU Extension employees.

I, Mark Birdsall, SBARE Chair, certify that this Resolution was adopted at the April 3, 2020 meeting, at which a quorum was present and motion to adopt was passed.

  
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Signature

  
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Date