

**North Dakota State University
Presidential Search Committee Meeting Minutes
Friday, December 5, 2025**

The NDSU Presidential Search Committee met Friday, December 5, 2025 at 1:30 p.m. at NDSU in Ballroom B, Memorial Union.

Call to Order and Committee Introductions

The meeting was called to order by Co-Chair Black at 1:30p.m. Members present:

- Mr. Kevin Black, Co-Chair
- Mr. Jace Beehler, Co-Chair
- Dr. Kathryn Birkeland
- Mr. Michael Chambers
- Dr. Lynette Flage
- Mr. John Glover
- Ms. Jenny Hopkins - Zoom
- Ms. Sarah Kruse
- Ms. Tiffany Lawrence
- Dr. Lisa Montplaisir
- Mr. Ron Ness
- Mr. Keith Peltier
- Ms. Kaley Quam
- Mr. Shiloh Susag
- Dr. Chad Ulven
- Ms. Lori Witt

Others Present

- Ms. LaDonna DeGeldere, NDSU Executive Assistant to the President
- Ms. Jane Grinde, NDUS Chief Human Resources Office – Zoom
- Ms. Bethany Kadrmas, NDUS Executive Assistant to the Commissioner & COO – Zoom
- Mr. Matt Larsen (ex-officio), NDSU Director of Athletics
- Ms. Meredith Larson, NDSU Chief Operating Officer - Zoom
- Mr. Shaun McNamara, Assistant Attorney General - Zoom
- NDUS Commissioner Brent Sanford - Zoom
- Ms. Stephanie Wawers, NDSU Executive Assistant to the President

Co-Chairs Black and Beehler welcomed committee members and guests. Committee members introduced themselves.

Applicable State Law & Policy Overview: Review SBHE Policy 601.1 and NDUS Procedure 601.1 – Presidential Searches

Grinde reviewed SBHE policy 601.1 and NDUS Procedure 601.1 Presidential Searches and explained how it is pertinent to the search committee and the search process. The policy and procedure are linked to the agenda to review in full.

Review North Dakota Open Records/Open Meetings Law

McNamara provided an overview of the North Dakota Open Records/Open Meetings Law. He shared his presentation via slides. Any open records requests should be sent to Billie Jo Lorus at NDUS.

Charge to the NDSU Presidential Search Committee and Commissioner's expectations for the position

Commissioner Sanford provided the charge to the NDSU Presidential Search Committee and his expectations for the committee.

Search Firm Utilization

Black shared reasons why a search firm should be utilized for this presidential search. Academic Search, AGB, and Greenwood are all state-approved vendors. He then opened it up to the committee for discussion and questions. Ness motioned that we utilize Academic Search, Montplaisir seconded. Motion carried 15-0.

Review Proposed Search Timeline

Beehler reviewed the proposed timeline. He then opened it up to the committee for discussion and questions. The committee suggested moving the January 21st search committee meeting to January 20th, the application closing up one week to January 30th at 5pm, the February 18th search committee meeting to February 10th, and the February 23rd & 24th search committee meeting to February 16th & 17th. Glover motioned to move forward with the new proposed timeline and authorize co-chairs to work with the search firm to finalize it, Birkeland seconded. Motion carried 15-0.

Campus Survey Results

Beehler shared that a survey was developed to receive input on the next president. The survey was sent to campus and the NDSU Foundation & trustees. The preliminary results were shared with the committee. The survey will close on December 12th so committee members are encouraged to share it with others. Final results could be shared and discussed at the tentative December 18th virtual meeting.

Position Description and Next Steps

Black asked the committee to review the draft position description and provide feedback to the co-chairs by December 10th.

Committee Questions

Black opened the floor for committee questions and comments. Beehler shared that expenses will be reimbursed for committee members. Those who are not part of the university system will need to complete a W-9 form which can be provided.

Closing Comments

Black and Beehler provided closing comments.

The meeting adjourned at 3:30p.m.