

North Dakota University System Foundation Minutes

May 8, 2025, at 11:00 a.m. CT.

1. Call to Order

President Tim Mihalick called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. CT.

Members Present:

Mr. Timothy Mihalick
Ms. Julie Traynor
Mr. Jon Backes
Ms. Danita Bye
Mr. Mike Warner
Rep. Cynthia Schreiber-Beck
Chancellor Brent Sanford (ex officio)

Members Absent:

Dr. Steven Shirley

Others present:

Mr. David Krebsbach, North Dakota University System
Ms. Mindy Sturn, North Dakota University System
Ms. Jamie Wilke, North Dakota University System
Mr. Mark Gorenflo, North Dakota University System
Ms. Bethany Kadrmaz, North Dakota University System

2. Approval of Agenda

It was moved by Ms. Bye and seconded by Mr. Warner to approve the agenda as presented.

The motion was unanimously approved. Dr. Shirley was absent. **Motion carried.**

3. Approval of October 17, 2024, Meeting Minutes

It was moved by Ms. Traynor and seconded by Ms. Bye to approve the October 17, 2024 meeting minutes as presented.

The motion was unanimously approved. Dr. Shirley was absent. **Motion carried.**

4. Election of Vice President

President Mihalick discussed the election of the Vice President, mentioning that Mr. Backes agreed to serve another year.

It was moved by Ms. Bye and seconded by Mr. Warner to approve the election of Mr. Backes as Vice President.

The motion was unanimously approved. Dr. Shirley was absent. **Motion carried.**

5. **Chancellor Update-Review of Foundation Priorities**

Chancellor Sanford led a discussion on foundation priorities, noting the defunding of the Dakota Digital Academy. The conversation centered on aligning funds with high-demand career fields and exploring possibilities for increased funding.

Chancellor Sanford will review these priorities with President Mihalick and present revised suggestions at the next foundation meeting.

6. **Financial Report**

Ms. Sturn provided an update on the financial status, noting that the balance is primarily designated funds for the Career Builders Program. The undesignated funds are at \$18,915.22.

Balance in accounts as of 5/8/2025 = \$131,471.09

Without Donor Restriction: \$18,915.22

With Donor Restriction: \$112,555.87

7. **Questions/Comments**

Ms. Bye and Mr. Warner discussed the underutilization of the foundation as a resource for various industries in North Dakota. The conversation included the importance of aligning with state workforce and economic development needs and the potential for future funding and initiatives.

The meeting adjourned at 11:29 a.m. CT.