

**North Dakota State University
Presidential Search Committee Meeting Minutes
Monday, March 2, 2026 and Tuesday, March 3, 2026**

The NDSU Presidential Search Committee met Monday, March 2, 2026, at 8:00 a.m. CT and Tuesday, March 2, 2026 at 8:00 a.m. CT virtually via Zoom.

Monday, March 2, 2026

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Co-Chair Black at 8:00 a.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
- ☒ 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
- ☐ Ms. Bethany Kadrmas, NDUS Executive Assistant to the Commissioner & COO
- ☒ Ms. Jennifer Kookan, Academic Search, Consultant
- ☒ Mr. Matt Larsen (ex-officio), NDSU Director of Athletics
- ☐ Ms. Meredith Larson, NDSU Chief Operating Officer
- ☒ Mr. Jay Lemons, Academic Search, President & Senior Consultant
- ☐ Mr. Shaun McNamara, Assistant Attorney General
- ☒ Ms. Lisa Ryan, Academic Search, Senior Consultant

- ☐ NDUS Commissioner Brent Sanford
- ☒ Ms. Stephanie Wawers, NDSU Executive Assistant to the President

Welcome & Attendance

Black welcomed everyone to the meeting and attendance was taken.

Approval of Agenda (Co-Chair Black)

Ness moved to approve the agenda, Birkeland seconded. Motion carried

Approval of Minutes February 23, 2026(Co-Chair Black)

Glover moved to approve the minutes, Susag seconded. Motion carried 15-0.

Move into Executive Session

Lawrence moved to enter executive session, Glover seconded. Motion carried 15-0.

Executive Session began at 8:09 a.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
- ☒ 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
- ☐ Ms. Bethany Kadrmas, NDUS Executive Assistant to the Commissioner & COO
- ☒ Ms. Jennifer Kookan, Academic Search, Consultant
- ☒ Mr. Matt Larsen (ex-officio), NDSU Director of Athletics
- ☐ Ms. Meredith Larson, NDSU Chief Operating Officer
- ☒ Mr. Jay Lemons, Academic Search, President & Senior Consultant

- ☐ Mr. Shaun McNamara, Assistant Attorney General
- ☒ Ms. Lisa Ryan, Academic Search, Senior Consultant
- ☒ NDUS Commissioner Brent Sanford
- ☒ Ms. Stephanie Wawers, NDSU Executive Assistant to the President

Executive Session adjourned at 4:43 p.m.

Open Session reconvened at 4:45 p.m.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Tuesday, March 3, 2026

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Co-Chair Black at 8:02 a.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
- ☒ 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
- ☐ Ms. Bethany Kadrmas, NDUS Executive Assistant to the Commissioner & COO
- ☒ Ms. Jennifer Kookan, Academic Search, Consultant
- ☒ Mr. Matt Larsen (ex-officio), NDSU Director of Athletics
- ☐ Ms. Meredith Larsen, NDSU Chief Operating Officer

- ☒ Mr. Jay Lemons, Academic Search, President & Senior Consultant
- ☐ Mr. Shaun McNamara, Assistant Attorney General
- ☒ Ms. Lisa Ryan, Academic Search, Senior Consultant
- ☐ NDUS Commissioner Brent Sanford
- ☒ Ms. Stephanie Wawers, NDSU Executive Assistant to the President

Welcome & Attendance

Black welcomed everyone to the meeting and attendance was taken.

Move into Executive Session

Glover moved to enter executive session, Kruse seconded. Motion carried 14-0.

Executive Session began at 8:15 a.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
- ☒ 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
- ☐ Ms. Bethany Kadrmas, NDUS Executive Assistant to the Commissioner & COO
- ☒ Ms. Jennifer Kookan, Academic Search, Consultant
- ☒ Mr. Matt Larsen (ex-officio), NDSU Director of Athletics
- ☐ Ms. Meredith Larson, NDSU Chief Operating Officer
- ☒ Mr. Jay Lemons, Academic Search, President & Senior Consultant
- ☐ Mr. Shaun McNamara, Assistant Attorney General
- ☒ Ms. Lisa Ryan, Academic Search, Senior Consultant

- ☒ NDUS Commissioner Brent Sanford
- ☒ Ms. Stephanie Wawers, NDSU Executive Assistant to the President

Executive Session adjourned at 4:31 p.m.

Open Session reconvened at 4:32p.m. Ness moved to advance the candidates selected in Executive Session to the next round, Birkeland seconded. Motion carried 16-0

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 4:34 p.m.