

## University Facility Fee Advisory Board

### Meeting Minutes

Thursday, December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016

303 GSB

<b>Members Present:</b>	Clayton King	Chair
	Tristan Syron	Vice-Chair
	Rachel Largay	Warner College of Natural Resources
	Jeff Cook	Graduate College
	Kalyn Blach	College of Agriculture
	Miriam Wagoner	College of Business
	Lamia Dawahre	College of Engineering
	Amanda Evans	CVMBS
<b>Members at Large Present:</b>	Nick Bohn	ASCSU
	Tyler Siri	ASCSU
<b>Associate Members Present:</b>	Alex Stately	CVMBS
	Natalie Dicherry	College of Liberal Arts
	Raleigh Heekin	College of Health & Human Sciences
	Shannon McNulty	Warner College of Natural Resources
<b>Other Members Present:</b>	Becca Wren	Staff Support
	Tom Satterly	Advisor
	Pat Burns	Ex-Officio
	Tamla Blunt	Ex-Officio
	Savanna Bunnell	Facilities Management
	Dan Kozlowski	Facilities Management

#### 1. Call to Order

- a. Meeting was called to order at 5:00.

#### 2. Approval of minutes from Thursday, November 10<sup>th</sup>, 2016

- a. Nick moved to approve the minutes from November 10<sup>th</sup>.
- b. Jeff seconded
  - i. All in favor: 10
  - ii. All opposed: 0
  - iii. Abstained: 0
  - iv. Motion passed, minutes approved.

#### 3. Discussion with Provost Rick Miranda and Vice President of University Operations Lynn Johnson

- a. Every year, Provost Rick Miranda and Vice President for University Operations Lynn Johnson come to UFFAB to have a conversation about campus priorities, answer questions, and have general dialogue about the impact of UFFAB on the university as a whole.
- b. Provost Miranda has been talking with leadership, and there is general excitement that UFFAB has been exploring the potential funding of maintenance projects. As a campus, we are coming to the end of a massive construction season. We have been committed to building new buildings to address growing enrollment and now the needs are shifting from new additions to maintaining existing buildings.
- c. Some of the buildings Provost Miranda considers of high priority include the Clark building, the Visual Arts building, University Greenhouse, and Shepardson. These buildings see a lot of student use and need a significant amount of maintenance.

- d. Regarding the Visual Arts building, the new Stadium is right next to the building and as such, there will be increased visibility and traffic of the building. It is a goal to have the student's art on display for this increased traffic, including possible galleries in the new stadium.
- e. Centennial Hall is another building that is need of some maintenance work. While it is not strictly an academic building, it does house many student services, such as student financial services.
- f. The new Richardson Design Center is slated to be built just south of Visual Arts building. There is a funding plan from the College of Health and Human Sciences to complete that project, but they may come to UFFAB for additional support.
- g. Traditionally, UFFAB has focused on remodels or new construction projects, but the leadership for the university sees value in expanding that focus to address the current maintenance needs across campus. Buildings will always need maintenance but funding isn't always readily available to address those needs.
- h. Lynn asked the Board to consider using part of the bonded budget towards maintenance projects, because the current bonds in debt services will be paid off in 2021.
  - i. After the current bonds are paid off, there will be much more capacity to bond maintenance project, if the Board chooses to do so. The bonding capacity is only \$1.8 million but with the use of a bonding mechanism, that figure translates to about \$25 million of projects.

**Questions:**

- a. Clayton asked if the impact of UFFAB funding maintenance projects would have a bigger impact on the facilities budget or the general fund.
  - i. Ultimately, the Facilities' budget would be positively impacted by UFFAB's funding of maintenance projects. An additional \$25 million in a base budget increase is needed, just to catch up with the deferred maintenance backlog. In the past, the state allocated funding for these maintenance projects but recently, state funding has dwindled. While UFFAB's contribution would help in the short term, the university needs to address a plan for a long-term solution.
- b. Jeff asked if the original language that students voted on for the creation of the facility fee allows for this type of spending. Will these projects satisfy the academic component needed for UFFAB projects?
  - i. Tamla explained that this interpretation it is up to the discretion of the Board. At the time of the initial vote from students to create the facility fee, the state was providing maintenance funding and UFFAB focused on large capital projects like BSB, Computer Science, etc.
  - ii. Pat Burns said he did not see any conflict with funding maintenance projects under the current bylaws. Maintenance projects would provide direct benefits for students and the learning environment, which will fit within the bylaws.
  - ii. Tom agreed and noted that maintenance projects will satisfy conditions defined by the bylaws so long as the work is contained to a single building. Utility infrastructure project, which might serve academic or auxiliary buildings. The benefit to students will be more difficult to prove in these types of infrastructure projects.
  - iii. Tyler added that he feels UFFAB is an appropriate mechanism to help bridge the current gap.
  - iv. Lynn emphasized that part of the plan for progress in the future will involve collaboration from people all across the university. She recommended that the Board work with Sandy to develop a prioritized list of maintenance projects to explore if UFFAB is interested in funding maintenance project, either in cash projects or bonded projects.
- c. Jeff asked if UFFAB maximized the \$1.8 million in bonds (which would translate to about \$25 million) would there opportunity for energy savings to come back to UFFAB?
  - i. The savings would be through the lessening of debt services or the cost of any proposals in the future through utility savings.
- d. Clayton asked if there was any opportunity to ask donors for funding for maintenance.
  - i. Tom explained that moving forward, the university will ask donors to contribute an additional 2% of the cost of the building for an endowment for maintenance projects, which will arise in year 10, 15 or 20 of the operation of the building.

- ii. Lynn Johnson explained philanthropy will become a major source of funding for new buildings. This funding mechanism will help alleviate the debt services and free up funding for other projects.
- e. Clayton asked if the university would consider split funding the geothermal project at Moby, if there was a laboratory attached to the project. Perhaps UFFAB and the university could match funding for this project.
  - i. Lynn said the university would consider this but more conversations about the feasibility of the project will need to take place.

#### **4. New Vice Chair Election**

- a. Tristan gave a brief description of the role and responsibilities as Vice Chair.
- b. Nick nominated Miriam for Vice Chair.
  - i. Jeff seconded.
  - ii. Mariam declined the nomination.
- c. Jacob, who was not able to attend today's meeting, wrote a letter to the board expressing interest in being Vice Chair.
- d. Jeff nominated Jacob for Vice Chair.
  - i. Raleigh second.
- e. Jeff nominated Nick for Vice Chair.
  - i. Mariam seconded.
  - ii. Nick accepted the nomination.
- f. The board discussed the strengths of both Jacob and Nick for Vice Chair and then voted.
  - i. All in favor of Nick for Vice Chair: 4
  - ii. All in favor of Jacob for Vice Chair: 4
  - iii. All abstentions: 2
  - iv. Clayton, as Chair, cast the tie breaking vote.
  - v. Nick was voted the new Vice Chair.
- g. UFFAB meetings will resume in January and proposals will be uploaded in a Dropbox for all members to access.

**Meeting adjourned.**