NC State Natural Resources Foundation, Inc.
Board Meeting Open Session Minutes
Centennial Authority Conference Room, PNC Arena
January 17, 2020

Members Present: Lewis Ledford, Jim Buzzard, Jim Bowen, Charles Meeker, Sam Cook, Ron Terry, Genie Ussery, Harry Sideris, Dick Ludington, Lara Brown de Fuenmayor, Myron Floyd, Lou Boos, Blas Arroyo, Gary Allred, Mary Peloquin-Dodd, Barbara McCutchan, Elizabeth Biser

Members Absent: Chris Davidson, Tom Hines, Jackson Naftel

Others Present: Jennifer Piercy, Bob Bardon, Shane Jarvis, Melissa Pasquinelli, Megan Switick, Whitney Knollenberg, Kyle Bunds, Mike Caules, Michael Kahlers, Rich Venditti, Stacy Nelson, Robin Banker, Dave Olsen, Ashleigh Eason

Chair Ledford called the meeting to order at 8:33 a.m. at the Centennial Authority Conference Room at PNC Arena.

A motion was made by Charles Meeker and seconded by Barbara McCutchan to approve the minutes of the September 19-20, 2019 meeting. The motion carried.

Lara Brown de Fuenmayor presented the Advancement Committee report. University Advancement is undergoing a roadmap process and one of the innovation workgroups is focused on best practices for affiliated foundations. Lara Brown de Fuenmayor asked for volunteers to serve on an ad hoc committee to review the Natural Resources Foundation bylaws, mission and purpose. Additionally, a review of the last revision of the Natural Resources Foundation bylaws indicted that the specific purposes and powers outlined in Article VIII, General Provisions, Section 1 Purposes and Powers focuses largely on responsibilities related to forest management activities and don’t reflect the broader nature of activities currently ongoing in the College of Natural Resources. A request for volunteers was made to review practices and bylaws to be shared at the April board meeting. Tom Hines, Charles Meeker and Lou Boos volunteered.

Chair Ledford shared an update from the Executive Committee meeting. A new agenda format was reviewed and approved for use at the April Board meeting, as well as the use of iPads for board materials. No strong objection was voiced. He informed the group that they would have the choice of receiving a binder if they would prefer.

Jim Bowen delivered the Audit and Finance Committee report. The 2019 audit was included in the board binder. The Foundation received an unmodified opinion from Williams Overman Pierce, LLP. The Audit and Finance Committee heard an update from Erin Delehanty, Foundations Controller, about University IT security. The Committee was also given a market value update from Libby George, FAL Director of Investments. The market value of the Foundation’s investment in the NC State Investment Fund was $33.6 million as of September 30, 2019. The Natural Resources Foundation now has a voting seat on the NC State
Investment Fund Members Board. Blas Arroyo will be representing the Natural Resources Foundation at the next meeting which will be March 4, 2020.

Barbara McCutchan provided the Forest Management report in the absence of Committee Chair, Hunter Jenkins. She stated that the Communication Plan for the harvest and management projects at Schenck Forest worked. Options for living and office space at Hofmann are being reviewed and will be presented at the April meeting. There is an easement issue with a new owner of property adjacent to Batchelor’s Delight that is being worked on. The Duke Energy project is on track. Renovation of Slocum Camp is in progress. The committee heard from speakers at their meeting regarding the Pocosin Wetland and Restoration project. This is a 19,000 acre open area of Hofmann Forest that was not part of the Timber Deed.

Chair Ledford introduced Michael Kanters who then introduced Davin Olsen, Executive Vice President and General Manager of PNC Arena. Davin Olsen provided an overview of the PNC Arena and the partnership with NC State.

Michael Kanters provided an overview of the Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism Management. Several new areas being explored include sports analytics. Another new trend is to offer Graduate Certificates; PRTM already offers several.

Kyle Bunds and Mike Caules gave a presentation on “Improving Curriculum and Research through Virtual Reality and Industry Partnerships.” The program was developed in partnership with PNC Arena and serves as a real world tool for staff training.

Whitney Knollenberg presented some of her research on the Role of Tourism in Community Resiliency. She highlighted her work, and that of colleagues, on sustainable tourism development looking in particular at coastal communities and developing tools for community resilience to climate impacts.

The board was given a tour of a Loge Box in PNC Arena by Davin Olsen, who also shared more background on the building.

Carla Barbieri then gave a presentation on “Agritourism: From Farm Experiences to Societal Wellbeing”, discussing her research in agritourism and societal wellbeing, women in agritourism and agritourism as a promoter of conservation.

Chair Ledford shared a short video on America’s State Parks.

Chair Ledford updated the board on the search for a new Dean. The Search Committee, chaired by Dean Lunn from the College of Veterinary Medicine, is continuing to work. The applications are strong.

The April Meeting will be April 16-17, 2020 in Asheville. The Department of Forestry and Environmental Resources will be the focus. Additional details will be forthcoming. The dates for September are confirmed and will be September 17-18, 2020 in Raleigh.
With no further business a motion was made by Jim Bowen and seconded by Barbara McCutchan to adjourn at 11:44 a.m.

Respectfully submitted:

[Signature]

Lara Brown de Fuenmayor, President