

**Minutes of the Board of Directors
Fargo-Moorhead Convention & Visitors Bureau
Wednesday April 3, 2024**

Members Present: Doug Peters, Clare Hughes, Tanner Tweten, Kember Anderson, Emily Nielsen, Nicole Steen Dutton, James Stinsman, Casey Sanders-Berglund, Holly Heitkamp,

Members Absent: Ramon Sosa, Kimberly Busch

Others Present: Charley Johnson, Pres/CEO, Margie Bailly, Culinary School Backer; Rod Flanigan, Lisa Karch, B.J. Whitmore, NDSCS

- Chair Doug Peters called the meeting to order.
- A motion was made (Holly), seconded (Kember), and passed approving the February 21 Minutes.
- A motion was made (Nicole), seconded (Holly), and passed approving the February financials.
- Representatives of an ongoing effort to establish a culinary education program in FMWF presented their plan, including changes to the NDSCS curriculum that would allow students to take specific courses (for credit) without having to commit to a full, two-year degree program. Specifically, the group asked the Board to consider contributing \$100,000 to get the program started by Fall of 2025. After the discussion, the Board asked the CEO to do some further research into the viability of the program and bring a recommendation back to the Board at one of the next two meetings.
- In an "Other Investment" discussion, the CEO advised the Board that the city of Fargo had inquired as to whether Visit FM could help cover a one-time shortfall of \$30,000 in program funding for Broadway Square this year. Management of the square is transitioning from the Park District to the DCP and Kilbourne Group. After some discussion, a motion was made (Holly), seconded (Clare), and passed approving the payment.
- In a brief discussion the CEO advised the group that he would like them to consider some sort of financial assistance for the Downtown Engagement Center, and that he would have a presentation on the subject for them sometime in the next few months.
- Finally, the CEO advised the Board that the second attempt to get voter approval for a quarter-cent sales tax to renovate the Fargo Dome would not happen until November, and that there may or may not be a second question on the ballot relating to convention space. The extended timing will give a couple of other convention space ideas time to gain some traction.
- The meeting was adjourned.

The Board is advised to avoid hitting "Reply All" on emails, as doing so could trigger an open meeting requirement.

The next regular Board Meeting is scheduled for 7:30 am on Wednesday, May 1, 2024 in the FMCVB Boardroom.