

SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS

Full Board

AGENDA ITEM: 14

DATE: June 10-11, 2015

SUBJECT: The USD Discovery District (Research Park)

By way of background, the 2012 Legislature passed legislation authorizing research parks on lands controlled by the South Dakota Board of Regents. Later that year, the University of South Dakota Research Park Corporation was formed, of which the Board is the sole member. USDRP, Inc. was formed exclusively for the purpose of constructing, financing, developing, maintaining and operating a research park in accordance with SDCL chapter 5-29. During the 2014 Legislative Session \$1,000,000 was appropriated to the Board to contract for the expansion of the Graduate Education and Applied Research (GEAR) Center and the University of South Dakota Research Park located in Sioux Falls. As part of that process, the USDRP, Inc. Board contracted with a consultant (Architecture Incorporated and Perkins & Will) to prepare a master plan for the research park. The completed master plan for the USD Discover District can be accessed [here](#).

Rich Naser, President of USDRP, Inc., will provide a brief update for the Board on the current status of operations at the USD Discovery District. Additionally, the Board’s June meeting will be the time and place for USDRP, Inc.’s annual meeting, at which time the Board will appoint three Directors of the USDRP, Inc. Board from the slate of nominees submitted by the current Board of Directors. The three individuals nominated by the Board of Directors to serve for three year terms following the expiration of their current one year terms are as follows: (1) James Abbott; (2) Christine Hamilton; and (3) Darrin Smith. The Resolution of the USDRP, Inc. Board of Directors setting forth the nominees for selection is included as Attachment I. The current membership of USDRP, Inc. Board of Directors is set forth in Attachment II.

RECOMMENDED ACTION OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Appoint James Abbott, Christine Hamilton and Darrin Smith to serve three year terms as Directors of USDRP, Inc.

**RESOLUTION OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH DAKOTA RESEARCH PARK, INC.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

WHEREAS, The, three Directors have been elected to a one (1) year term; and shall be thereafter elected to a three (3) year term, so that there are staggered terms.

WHEREAS, the Bylaws further state that all appointed Directors shall be selected by the Member at the annual meeting of the Member from a slate of nominees submitted by the current Board of Directors directly or through a nominating committee under Article VI, Section 1, which may be supplemented by the Member.

WHEREAS, no nominating committee has been appointed, but the Board RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors believes it is in the best interests of the Company to submit to the Member at its annual meeting the following nominees to serve for a three year term following the expiration of their one year terms:

James Abbott
Christine Hamilton
Darrin Smith

WHEREAS, the Bylaws further state that the Member or the Board of Directors may also designate other ex officio members without vote as needed, the Board RESOLVED to designate the following as ex officio members of the Board of Directors:

Dean of the Beacom School of Business, - Currently Dr. Venky Venkatachalam
Executive Dean of University Center - Currently Craig Johnson

The foregoing resolution was adopted by the Board of Directors on December 17th, 2014, by a vote of 7-0.

DATE:

Dec 17, 2014

ATTEST:



UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH DAKOTA RESEARCH PARK, INC, Secretary

USD Research Park Board of Directors

1 Year Term – Expires 2015

James Abbott, Chairman
Christine Hamilton
Darrin Smith

2 Year Term – Expires 2016

Kathryn Johnson
Russell Olson
Jack Warner

3 Year Term – Expires 2017

Bob Sutton, Vice President
Dave Kapaska
Eddie Sullivan, Secretary/Treasurer

Ex-Officio, Non-Voting

USD Vice President for Research, currently Mary Berry
USD Dean of Beacom School of Business, currently Venky Venkatachalam
USD GEAR Center Director, currently Dan Engebretson
University Center Executive Dean, currently Craig Johnson
Board of Regents Vice Present for Research, currently Paul Turman
Governor’s Office of Economic Development Director of Commercialization, currently
Mel Ustad