

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
BOARD OF REGENTS
Ad Hoc Committee on the Stadium
March 8, 2006

A meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Stadium of the Board of Regents was held on Wednesday, March 8, 2006 at 1:05 p.m. in the West Committee Room, 600 McNamara Alumni Center.

Regents present: David Metzen, presiding; Clyde Allen, and John Frobenius. Regent Lakeesha Ransom participated via phone.

Staff present: Vice President Kathleen O'Brien; and Executive Director Ann Cieslak.

Student Representatives: Tom Zearley.

**RESOLUTION RELATED TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT
FOR THE PROPOSED INTERCOLLEGIATE FOOTBALL STADIUM
ON THE TWIN CITIES CAMPUS**

Vice President O'Brien explained that the committee's task was to provide a recommendation to the Board of Regents as to whether the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed on-campus football stadium on the Twin Cities campus has met all legal requirements. She reminded the committee of the role of the Board as the Responsible Governmental Unit and the importance of the committee making an objective determination of the adequacy of the EIS. O'Brien introduced University Budget Officer Brian Swanson and Chris Hiniker of Short, Elliot, Hendricksen, Inc. to give the presentation to the committee relative to the proposed resolution.

Swanson and Hiniker provided an overview of the project, described the process of developing the final EIS, and summarized the public comments received on the final EIS. The presenters highlighted the following:

- The final EIS was published for public comment on February 13, 2006;
- The 10-day public comment period resulted in a total of seven written comments received from citizens, neighborhood groups, agencies, and public entities;
- Issues raised included a concern for the historic Station 19 Building and requests that greater consideration be given to staying in the Metrodome as an alternative.

Swanson stated that the committee is being asked to recommend approval of the resolution contained in the docket materials,

In response to a question from Regent Frobenius, consulting attorney Tom Johnson of Gray, Plant, Mooty explained that there is a 30-day period in which to file a legal challenge to the final EIS. He clarified that the approved EIS does not become a University regulation, but instead will serve to guide stadium construction and management by the University and permitting authorities.

In response to a question from Frobenius, Swanson expressed confidence in the University's traffic management plan, as contained in the final EIS. O'Brien added that the University has considerable experience in managing large campus events.

The committee voted unanimously to recommend approval of the resolution related to the environmental impact statement for the proposed intercollegiate football stadium on the Twin Cities campus.

The meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

ANN D. CIESLAK
Executive Director and
Corporate Secretary