

**UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA**

**BOARD OF REGENTS**

**Facilities Committee**

**November 8, 2007**

A meeting of the Facilities Committee of the Board of Regents was held on Thursday, November 8, 2007 at 1:30 p.m. in the West Committee Room, 600 McNamara Alumni Center.

Regents present: David Metzen, presiding; Anthony Baraga, Dallas Bohnsack, Maureen Cisneros, David Larson, and Patricia Simmons.

Staff present: Chancellor Stephen Lehmkuhle; Senior Vice President Robert Jones; Vice President Kathleen O'Brien; General Counsel Mark Rotenberg; and Executive Director Ann Cieslak.

Student Representatives present: Nathan Olson and Jim Irrgang.

**REAL ESTATE TRANSACTION**

**A. Purchase of 2001 Plymouth Avenue N., Minneapolis for Northside Partnership Program**

A motion was made and seconded to recommend approval of the following action:

On the recommendation of the President and the Vice President for University Services, the appropriate administrative officers are authorized to execute the appropriate documents providing for the following real estate transaction:

Purchase of 2001 Plymouth Avenue N., Minneapolis.

Details of transaction: The University will pay Penn Plymouth Corporation, a subsidiary of the Northside Residents Redevelopment Council, \$1,125,000 in cash at closing for fee simple title to property.

Source of funds: University debt.

Vice President O'Brien noted that the transaction had been reviewed by the committee at the September 2007 meeting.

The committee voted unanimously to recommend approval of the purchase of 2001 Plymouth Avenue N., Minneapolis.

**ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT WORKSHEET  
FOR NOvA LABORATORY PROJECT**

Vice President O'Brien explained that the committee would be reviewing and acting on a resolution related to the Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) for the NOvA Laboratory Project, as contained in the docket materials. She reminded the committee that Professor Marvin Marshak had provided an overview of the project at the June 2007 committee meeting and that the Board of Regents had approved a resolution in July 2007 committing to serve as the Responsible Governmental Unit (RGU) for the environmental review of the project. O'Brien introduced General Counsel Rotenberg to explain the Board's responsibility as the RGU, the process of developing the EAW, and the details of the resolution. Highlights of the presentation included:

- The project is the result of a four-year, \$45 million cooperative agreement with the United States Department of Energy to construct and operate a physics laboratory on approximately ninety acres of undeveloped land in Ash River, Minnesota.
- The EAW was completed because of the project's proximity to Voyageurs National Park, the scope and nature of the excavation and construction of the facility, and the presence of a mineral oil-based liquid that will be necessary for the operation of the laboratory.
- The EAW considered the project's impact on such elements as fish and wildlife, ground cover, water quality, ecologically-sensitive resources, recreation opportunities, and the potential for facility-produced pollution.
- The EAW concludes that the project has no potential for significant environmental impacts, therefore it is recommended that a complete Environmental Impact Statement is not necessary.
- A separate federal environmental review is being completed, but will not require Board action.

Rotenberg informed the committee that the full EAW will remain on file in the Board Office. In response to a question from Regent Simmons, Rotenberg explained that the height of the building and mitigation measures such as building color and landscaping will result in the facility not being visible from Voyageurs National Park.

The committee voted unanimously to recommend approval of the resolution regarding the need for an environmental impact statement for the NOvA Laboratory Project.

**CONSENT REPORT**

There were no Consent Report items this month.

**INFORMATION ITEMS**

Vice President O'Brien referred committee members to the Information Items contained in the docket materials, including:

- Final project review for the Medical Bioscience Building, Utility Infrastructure, and Metropolitan Council Sewer Interceptor Project;
- Emergency approvals for items reviewed at the September 6, 2007 Facilities Committee meeting but not acted on by the Board of Regents due to the early adjournment of the Board meeting on September 7, 2007; and
- Use of the easement consideration of \$1,275,000 received from Metropolitan Council for permanent and temporary easements at UMore Park.

The meeting adjourned at 11:51 a.m.



**ANN D. CIESLAK**  
**Executive Director and**  
**Corporate Secretary**