

**South Dakota Science and Technology Authority Board of Directors**  
**Special Telephonic Meeting Minutes**  
**Monday, January 25, 2021**  
**Lead, South Dakota**

The Board of Directors of the South Dakota Science and Technology Authority (SDSTA) convened at 9:30 a.m. Mountain Time (MT) on Monday, January 25, 2021, via teleconference. The SDSTA office was operating with limited onsite personnel at the time of the board meeting due to the COVID-19 pandemic; a conference number was posted on the agenda with an invitation for members of the public to participate in the meeting by telephone.

**MEMBERS OF THE BOARD IN ATTENDANCE BY TELEPHONE**

Dr. Ani Aprahamian  
Secretary/Treasurer Patricia Lebrun  
Mr. Roger Musick  
Chairperson Casey Peterson  
Vice-Chairperson Ron Wheeler  
Dr. Robert Wilson

**MEMBERS OF THE BOARD ABSENT**

Vice-Chairperson Dana Dykhouse  
Dr. James Rankin, *ex-officio member*

**SDSTA STAFF IN ATTENDANCE**

Mr. Tim Engel, General Counsel (by phone)  
Ms. Nancy Geary, Chief Financial Officer  
Mr. Mike Headley, Executive Director  
Ms. Mandy Knight, Administrative Services Manager  
Mr. Will McElroy, Operations Program Manager  
Ms. Staci Miller, SURF Foundation Director (by phone)  
Ms. Natasha Wheeler, Administrative Assistant (by phone)

**ITEM 1. CALL TO ORDER**

**ITEM 1A. DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM**

Chairperson Casey Peterson called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. (MT). Chairperson Peterson declared a quorum was present, consisting of board members Dr. Ani Aprahamian, Ms. Pat Lebrun, Mr. Roger Musick, Chairperson Peterson, Mr. Ron Wheeler and Dr. Bob Wilson. Dr. James Rankin and Mr. Dana Dykhouse were absent.

*Dr. Bob Wilson joined the call at 9:31 a.m. while meeting guests were being introduced.*

**ITEM 1B. INTRODUCE GUESTS (LISTENING POST IN LEAD)**

The SDSTA office was operating with limited onsite personnel at the time of the board meeting due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Chairperson Peterson asked participants to identify themselves. Ms. Nancy Geary, Mr. Mike Headley, Ms. Mandy Knight and Mr. Will McElroy were present at the listening post in Lead. Ms. Staci Miller and Ms. Natasha Wheeler joined by phone.

## **ITEM 1C. PUBLIC COMMENT FORM**

Chairperson Peterson said no public comment forms were submitted before the meeting.

## **ITEM 2. APPROVE AGENDA**

Chairperson Peterson asked for a motion to approve the agenda.

*Motion by Ms. Lebrun and seconded by Mr. Musick to approve the agenda as presented. By roll call vote, the motion passed unanimously.*

## **ITEM 3. GENERAL CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURE**

Mr. Engel asked if any member of the board, who feels they have anything that might be construed to be a conflict of interest, to disclose it verbally.

No conflicts of interest were disclosed.

## **ITEM 4. APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT NO. 01 OF THE LAND LEASE BETWEEN SDSTA AND CATERPILLAR GLOBAL MINING, LLC**

Mr. Headley said there are two amendment items put forward for the land lease between SDSTA and Caterpillar. He said the first item concerns 15 stations on various levels of the Ross and Yates Shafts that SDSTA would like to have equipped with personnel and equipment tracking gear, but those stations are not of particular interest to Caterpillar. He said in consideration for the installation and commissioning of the gear at those stations, SDSTA would by virtue of the amendment agree to reduce the payment made by Caterpillar for the first year of the 10-year lease. Mr. Headley said the \$150,000.00 payment amount would be reduced by \$100,000.00 to total \$50,000.00 for the first year of the lease. Mr. Headley said he spoke with SDSTA's Cooperative Agreement representative at the Department of Energy and no concerns were raised.

Mr. Headley said the second amendment item is a naming change to allow for Caterpillar branding on the personnel and equipment tracking technology that will be installed on site. He said the current lease attributes the tracking devices, hardware and equipment to Minetec, but the devices will be branded as "Caterpillar personnel tracking devices" instead. Mr. Headley said he and general counsel Tim Engel reviewed the change and confirmed it is a name change only.

Chairperson Peterson said it will be a positive move to have the technology installed and that it will enhance safety, and Mr. Headley said SDSTA is excited to have the capability of real-time tracking of people and assets underground. Mr. Headley noted it will reduce the time to locate and evacuate underground personnel in case of emergency. Mr. Wheeler also expressed his appreciation for the partnership and project with CAT.

*Motion by Mr. Wheeler and seconded by Dr. Aprahamian to approve Amendment No. 01 of the Land Lease between the South Dakota Science and Technology Authority and Caterpillar Global Mining, LLC and authorize the executive director to sign the amendment. By roll call vote, motion passed unanimously.*

## **ITEM 5. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Chairperson Peterson said no requests were made for Public Comment.

## **ITEM 6. BOARD COMMENTS**

Chairperson Peterson asked if there were any questions or comments from the board. No board comments were made.

Chairperson Peterson said the next regularly scheduled board meeting is Thursday, March 25, 2021 at 8:00 a.m. (MT), at the E&O Building Conference Room and via Zoom.

**ITEM 7. ADJOURN**

*Motion by Mr. Musick and seconded by Dr. Aprahamian to adjourn. By roll call vote, the motion passed unanimously.*

Meeting adjourned at 9:41 a.m. (MT) on January 25, 2021.