

Board Meeting Minutes

April 7, 2025 Minutes
5:00 p.m.
Richland 44 High School



Richland #44 Foundation Minutes

Present: Megan Kummer, Katie Hegseth, Scott Johnson, Chad Ulven, Jenny Schmitt, Nicole Holdman, Dr. Britney Gandhi

Others Present: Janna Koble, Juli Mauch, Becky Bakke, Tamera Frankl

Agenda Items	Discussion/Motion
FOUNDATION BOARD NEW BUSINESS: Megan Kummer called for any additions to the agenda. Hearing none the agenda was approved.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Approval of the March 17, 2025 Meeting Minutes	DR. BRITNEY GANDHI MOVED TO APPROVE THE MARCH 17, 2025 MINUTES WITH A CORRECTION TO THE PROJECT BUDGET UPDATES. SCOTT JOHNSON SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">2025 Scholarship Application Review & Senior Night	<p>The group reviewed the 2025 Darrel Hendrickson Scholarships. There were 17 applications submitted. For future review applications will be numbered and will not include names of applicants.</p> <p>Nicole Holdman and Jenny Schmitt abstained from application review.</p> <p>SCOTT JOHNSON MOVED TO APPROVE THE 2025 DARREL HENDRICKSON SCHOLARSHIPS. KATIE HEGSETH SECONDED THE MOTION. NICOLE HOLDMAN AND JENNY SCHMITT ABSTAINED FROM VOTING. THE MOTION CARRIED.</p> <p>The Richland 44 High School Senior Night is May 5th. Nicole Holdman and Jenny Schmitt will present scholarships.</p>
THE 44 VENUE BUSINESS:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Construction Updates	<p>Dr. Gandhi provided the following construction updates.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Sanitary tie in to building was completed March 28thR&R is planning on starting to get water to the site by April 7th and are hoping to complete it by April 11th.Control panel has been ordered and is scheduled to be on site at the end of April. <p><u>Recent Activities Completed</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Sheetrock Finishing Area B + CVestibule Cloud with MEP FixturesPaint in Lobby, Office, VestibuleSink InstallationWire Pull Area CSpeaker Install

Agenda Items	Discussion/Motion
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All Counters, Sills, Aprons • Ceramic Tile Area A and B • Kitchen Equipment Plumbing • Fire Cabinet Installation <p>We will start the May 7th board meeting at 4:30 and will meet at The 44 Venue for a walk through.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financing Final payments for the 44 Venue 	<p>The board discussed financing the final payments for completion of the 44 Venue. Dr. Gandhi stated that an additional 1.5 million added to the Bank Forward line of credit will get the project to completion.</p> <p>SCOTT JOHNSON MOTIONED TO APPROVE ADDING AN ADDITIONAL 1.5 MILLION TO THE CURRENT LINE OF CREDIT. CHAD ULVEN SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 44 Venue General Manager Update 	<p>Current Projects and Initiatives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marketing: Two-page ad confirmed for Meet Fargo and Spotlights Wedding Guide (Fall 2025). • Social Media: Efforts continue to boost following and engagement. • Website: Blog post in progress to drive traffic. • Wedding Software: Planning Pod fully implemented. • Construction: Ongoing venue improvement meetings. • Vendors: Partnered with 3 hotels and 3 caterers. • Bridal Show: Planning underway for November 2025. • Operations: Creating job descriptions and refining processes. • Budget: Updating as new information comes in. <p>Booking Updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confirmed: 5 weddings (June 2026), 1 nonprofit event (<i>The Power of 100</i>). • Canceled: Red River Railroad Christmas Party. • Pending Proposals: None. • Active Inquiries: 10 ongoing conversations. <p>Concert Proposal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nathan Berseth proposes to host a Bellamy Brothers concert at The 44 Venue. • Request: Waive venue rental fee to allow event to proceed. Revenue would come from bar sales. • Sponsorship: Potential sponsor is Colfax Meadows. • Date: September 4, 2025. • Terms: Nathan Berseth manages all logistics; The 44 Venue to provide venue, staff, bar, promotion, and cleaning. <p>CHAD ULVEN MOVED TO APPROVE THE PROPOSAL FOR A CONCERT AT THE 44 VENUE FEATURING THE BELLAMY BROTHERS ON SEPTEMBER 4, 2025, AS PROPOSED BY NATHAN BERSETH.</p> <p>UNDER THE AGREEMENT, THE FOUNDATION WILL WAIVE THE VENUE RENTAL FEE. IN EXCHANGE, THE FOUNDATION WILL RECEIVE REVENUE FROM</p>

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	<p>ALCOHOL SALES. NATHAN BERSETH WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR BOOKING ENTERTAINMENT, MANAGING TICKET SALES, SECURITY, AND SECURING LIABILITY INSURANCE. THE FOUNDATION WILL PROVIDE STAFFING, BAR SERVICE, MARKETING, AND CLEANING SERVICES FOR THE EVENT. BRITNEY GANDHI SECONDED THE MOTION.</p> <p>A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN: KATIE HEGSETH YES, SCOTT JOHNSON YES, CHAD ULVEN YES, JENNY SCHMITT YES, NICOLE HOLDMAN YES, DR. BRITNEY GANDHI YES, MEGAN KUMMER YES.</p> <p>THE MOTION CARRIED.</p> <p>Grand Opening Planning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposed Date: July 24, 2025 (3:00–7:00 p.m.). • Schedule: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 3:00 p.m. – Ribbon Cutting ○ 3:00–5:00 p.m. – Donor Reception (Free drink ticket) ○ 5:00–7:00 p.m. – General Guest Reception • Features: Appetizers, drinks, live music (Matt Aakre), balloons, florals, and venue tours.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 44 Venue Fundraising Updates 	<p>Tamera Frankl provided a fundraising update. The group continues to meet bi-weekly. We have wrapped up all social events. No additional events are currently planned.</p> <p>Chad Ulven stated he is working on submitting an entry to the 2025 Live First Community Giving Campaign put on by First International Bank & Trust. Any organization benefiting the communities served by First International Bank & Trust is invited to apply. This includes non-profit organizations, community groups, classroom initiatives, etc.</p> <p>The Richland #44 School Foundation is eligible to receive any of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$20,000 Grand Prize Grant • \$3,000 Rising Star Grant • \$2,000 Category Winner Grant • \$1,000 Social Media Star Grant
Old Business	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Forum Wrap Up 	<p>The Richland #44 Foundation hosted a public forum at Richland 44 High School to share updates on the Foundation’s recent initiatives and progress on The 44 Venue.</p> <p>The event was well-received, with attendees engaging in thoughtful dialogue and asking insightful questions. The audience especially appreciated the chronological presentation of key milestones and accomplishments related to both the Foundation and The 44 Venue.</p>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gaming Update 	<p>The Foundation continues to explore potential gaming opportunities. However, Antelope Creek has chosen to pursue a different path, and the Colfax Bar opportunity may now align with the Colfax Fire Department.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bell Bank Investment Account 	<p>We have completed the process to have a Bell Bank Investment account in place to receive stock donations.</p>

The meeting was adjourned. Our next regularly scheduled meeting is May 7, 2025.

Respectfully Submitted, Becky Bakke & Juli Mauch