



**STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
April 28, 2022
Idaho State Board of Education
OSBE Conference Room
650 West State Street, Suite 307
Boise, ID 83720**

A special meeting of the Idaho State Board of Education was held via Zoom teleconference April 28, 2022, with the call originating from the Office of the State Board of Education in Boise. Board President Kurt Liebich called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. (MT).

Present

Kurt Liebich, President
Dr. Linda Clark, Vice-President
Dr. David Hill, Secretary
William G. Gilbert, Jr.

Cindy Siddoway
Cally J. Roach
Superintendent Ybarra

Absent

Shawn Keough

Thursday, April 28, 2022 – 2:00 p.m. (MT)

BUSINESS AFFAIRS AND HUMAN RESOURCES

1. Idaho State University Holt Arena – Action Item

Kevin Satterlee, President of Idaho State University reviewed the request with the Board members. He said in August 2021, Idaho State University received Board approval to move forward with bidding and construction for the Holt Arena renovation project.

In March 2022, based on engineering recommendations, the University initiated a seismic safety study of the Holt Arena to determine the facility's current seismic capacity. A team of consultants headed by HOK conducted a technical evaluation of the facility and identified a series of life-safety improvements necessary for the project to continue. The facility, in its current condition, does not meet current seismic life-safety requirements. The total additional cost of these life-safety improvements totals

\$7,000,000 over the approved project cost. This work will provide seismic bracing to bring the entire arena to modern seismic industry standards and also support the weight of the new seating.

In addition to the needed life-safety improvements, ISU requests Board approval to complete two needed facility renovations that were not included in the current project scope because donor funding did not cover the additional cost. However, now that unanticipated major structural work is needed on the facility and the contractor will be mobilized to address the structural life-safety issues, the University feels this is the time to address two other needed renovations. First, the installation of translucent panels on the north wall of the arena to bring in natural light. The design for this was part of the initial study completed in the Fall of 2020 outlining enhancements to the arena. Bringing natural light in over the top of the newly planned ADA seating on the North side of the arena is a significant improvement, especially for events in the daytime such as track and field meets and graduation ceremonies. Second, the ceiling of the dome is in need of repair as the original insulation has been damaged by years of roof leaks and facility use that, over time, degraded the insulation. Unfortunately, small portions of the insulation currently fall down into the arena on a regular basis. The University is repairing the roof leaks to prevent future degradation of the insulation. The most cost-effective solution is to seal the current insulation in place by installing a ceiling covering stretched across the arena rafters, giving the dome a smooth, clean appearance, concealing interior insulation, and preventing any pieces from falling into the arena. The estimated cost for these improvements is \$960,000 for the translucent panels and \$1,825,000 for the ceiling. Both of these improvements would be completed in 2023 during the second phase of the project.

To finance the renovations, the University will temporarily use one-time savings and institutional reserves. While the University's unrestricted reserves are sufficient to accommodate this, and these reserves are not committed or restricted to a specific use or project, it is University staff's intention to use them for strategic projects and initiatives. The University is currently working with bond underwriters and bond counsel to explore the issuance of a revenue bond to fund a series of academic space, research space, and campus infrastructure upgrades. The University has a bond payment that expires in the current fiscal year (FY 2022) with a final payment of \$152,000 and another bond payment that expires in FY 2023 with the final payment of \$3,600,000. The University is pursuing a new bond issuance following the final payments on these existing bonds to fund other campus improvements and will add the Arena renovations to the bond issuance. Rough preliminary estimates of the bond payment allocated to this Arena project would be approximately \$600,000 to \$650,000 annually. The proceeds of the bond will be used to reimburse any institutional reserves used in this project.

BOARD ACTION

M/S (Hill / Roach) I move to approve the request by Idaho State University to proceed with the seismic bracing and renovations to the Holt Arena for a total project cost not to exceed \$9,785,000. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried 7-0. Shawn Keough was absent from voting.

Dr. Clark asked for clarification. Since this project would not be a strategic project which typically would use college reserves what types of projects would fall into that strategic category for which the reserves would be more appropriate. President Satterlee said the one-time reserves are being used to help with retention efforts, improving graduation rates, upgrading spaces for students and upgrading student labs.

Mrs. Roach asked how far along the Holt Arena project was and when is it expected to be completed. President Satterlee said this project is being done in two phases. Phase one will be completed by this fall and phase two will be completed next year.

Board President Liebich asked if the seismic work was being done on both halves of the arena and does the cost being brought forward cover the full scope of the work. President Satterlee said that was correct.

There were no further comments or questions from the Board.

There being no further business a motion to adjourn was entertained.

M/S (Hill / Roach) I move to adjourn the meeting at 2:12 p.m. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried 7-0. Shawn Keough was absent from voting.