# BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE NEBRASKA STATE COLLEGES

## ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND ACTION/FISCAL, FACILITIES AND AUDIT

## ACTION:

Approve Resolution Authorizing Facilities Corporation to Issue Facilities Program Bonds to Provide Funding for the WSC Athletic and Recreation Project and the PSC Indoor/Outdoor Recreation Complex, or other Renewal, Replacement, Renovation and Repair Projects and to Refund Series 2016 Corporation Bonds and Related Matters

LB384 passed during the 2021 legislative session and was signed into law by the Governor on April 26, 2021. This legislation extended State capital funding appropriations for the State College Facilities Program out to 2040. This added a total of \$22,230,000 of additional state support, to be matched by \$14,400,000 from NSCS Capital Improvement Fees. When leveraged with a restructuring of existing debt, the future funding stream can be converted to near-term funding capacity. At the November 2021 meeting, the Board's Financial Advisor provided options for refinancing the Series 2016 (LB957) bonds and extending the maturity from 2030 to 2040, which provides for additional debt capacity in the near term, taking advantage of the extended funding provided by the State in LB384.

In order to issue tax-exempt bonds and meet spend down provisions, and for the Board to make decisions on which projects to fund, the Colleges needed to complete program statements for their proposed projects. PSC received approval to move forward with their program statement for their Indoor/Outdoor Recreation Complex at the September 2021 meeting. WSC proposed an alternative project to the Brandenburg project, and presented the Athletic and Recreation Project to the Board in November. In addition to needing program statements for the proposed projects before issuing bonds, an amendment to the original legislation was submitted this session to confirm that the projects meet the intent of the legislation.

At the January 2021 meeting, the Board decided to allocate the proceeds to two projects: 1) the Wayne State College Athletic & Recreation Project and, 2( the Peru State College Indoor/Outdoor Athletic Complex. The total cost of the WSC project is estimated to be \$25.5 million, with \$14 million requested from bond proceeds. The Program Statement for the Peru State College Indoor/Outdoor Athletic Complex will be presented to the Board at the April 2022 meeting. The cost of that project is currently estimated at \$15 million, with \$10.4 million requested from bond proceeds. Not knowing what the bond market rates will be and the amount of proceeds available, the Board approved 57% of the proceeds from the refinancing be allocated to the WSC Athletic and Recreation Project and 43% toward the PSC Indoor/Outdoor Athletic Complex project. The funding for the PSC project will be contingent on the Board of Trustees approving the Program Statement for this project

during the April 2022 meeting.

The plan at this time is to move forward with bonding given uncertainties with the markets, and to fund the approved projects or other renewal, repair, renovation, or replacement projects. Action is necessary by the Board of Trustees to allow the Facilities Corporation to issue the bonds. The Resolution will authorize the Facilities Corporation to refinance the 2016 series bonds and issue new bonds up to \$25,000,000 in aggregate principle and such additional principal as may be necessary to refinance the 2016 refunded bonds. The President, Secretary or Treasurer are authorized to approve the final terms of the issuance and sale of the bonds.

Mary Jane Darby and Rob Kanzer from Janney (financial advisor) and Colleen Duncan from Gilmore and Bell (bond counsel) will be available at the Board meeting to respond to any questions.

The System Office recommends approval of the Resolution Authorizing Facilities Corporation to Issue Facilities Program Bonds.

### ATTACHMENTS:

• 2022 Program Bonds Resolution (PDF)

### THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE NEBRASKA STATE COLLEGES

#### RESOLUTION

**FEBRUARY 28, 2022** 

#### AUTHORIZING

FACILITIES PROGRAM BONDS OF THE NEBRASKA STATE COLLEGES FACILITIES CORPORATION

# BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE NEBRASKA STATE COLLEGES, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Findings and Determinations. The Board of Trustees of the Nebraska State Colleges (the "Board"), hereby finds and determines as follows:

(a) It is necessary, desirable, advisable and in the best interests of the Board that the Board finance a portion of the facilities improvement projects of the Board (collectively, the **"Project"**) under and pursuant to Legislative Bill 384, One Hundred Seventh Legislature, First Session (codified in Section 85-419 et seq. R.R.S. Neb. 2012, as amended, and as the same may be amended from time to time, the **"Act"**).

(b) It is necessary, desirable, advisable and in the best interests of the Board that the Board refund certain outstanding obligations of the Nebraska State Colleges Facilities Corporation, a nonprofit corporation and instrumentality of the Board (the "Corporation") as determined pursuant to Section 4 below, the "Refunded Bonds"), which Refunded Bonds were issued to finance the costs of Board facilities (collectively, the "Refunded Facilities"; and, together with the Project, the "Facilities") to provide the Board with additional flexibility in managing its financing structure.

Section 2. Authorization of Bonds; Financing Agreement. The Board hereby authorizes the issuance of Facilities Program Bonds in one or more series (the "Bonds") to be issued by the Corporation. The Bonds shall be issued under a Bond Resolution (the "Bond Resolution"), of the Corporation. The Bonds shall be secured by the Board's obligations to make certain payments under a Financing Agreement by and between the Board and the Corporation (the "Financing Agreement"). Pursuant to the Financing Agreement, the Corporation will act as the Board's agent for the financing or refinancing, as applicable, the Facilities, and will hold the Facilities in trust for the Board. The Corporation will assign its rights under the Financing Agreement to a trustee (as determined pursuant to Section 3 below, the "Trustee") for the benefit of the holders of the Bonds.

Section 3. Determination of Final Terms. In connection with the issuance and sale of the Bonds by the Corporation, the Chair, Vice-Chair, or Secretary of the Board, or the Chancellor or the Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration of the Board, or such officer authorized to perform the duties of such role (each, an "Authorized Officer"), is hereby authorized to specify, determine, designate, establish and appoint, as the case may be (a) the price at which the Bonds may be sold to the underwriter or underwriters thereof (the "Underwriter"), (b) the title (including series designation) of the Bonds, dated date and aggregate principal amount, which aggregate stated principal amount shall not exceed \$25,000,000 for the financing of the Project (which amount may be increased to the extent of any original issue discount as determined appropriate by such Authorized Officer) and such additional principal amount as may be necessary to refinance the Refunded Bonds and to pay costs of issuance, (c) the principal maturities and dates, including the final maturity not beyond December 31, 2041, (d) the rate or rates of interest to be borne by each principal maturity and the dates on which interest shall be due, (e) whether the Bonds will be subject to redemption prior to their stated maturity, and if subject to such optional redemption or mandatory sinking fund redemption, the provisions governing such redemption, including redemption prices, (f) the amount and due date of each sinking fund installment for any of the Bonds issued as term Bonds, (g) the identity of the Underwriter and the Trustee and any separate paying agent and registrar and escrow agent, or credit enhancement and related documentation as may be determined appropriate, (h) whether to refinance any or all of the Refunded Bonds, and to call any of the Refunded Bonds for early redemption, (i) whether Bonds shall bear interest on a tax-exempt or taxable basis, (j) the identity of the Facilities financed with proceeds of the Bonds, and (k) all other terms and

provisions of the Bond Resolution, the Financing Agreement and the Bonds not otherwise specified or fixed by this Resolution.

Section 4. Refunding; Project. (a) Each Authorized Officer is hereby authorized to determine whether to refinance the outstanding principal amount of Deferred Maintenance and Refunding Bonds, Series 2016 of the Corporation (the "Refunded Bonds") to achieve savings or other strategic purpose, and apply a portion of the proceeds of the Bonds to such refinancing; and

(b) The Board is hereby authorized to apply a portion of the net proceeds of the Bonds to finance the Project, as determined by an Authorized Officer pursuant to **Section 3** above.

**Section 5. Bond Documentation.** In connection with the issuance and sale of the Bonds by the Corporation, each Authorized Officer is hereby authorized and directed to approve the form and content of, and to execute and deliver, one or more of any or all of the following documents (collectively, the **"Financing Documents"**):

- (a) The Financing Agreement;
- (b) The Bond Resolution;
- (c) A Purchase Agreement setting forth the terms of the sale of the Bonds to the Underwriter;
- (d) An Escrow Agreement providing for the defeasance and payment of the Refunded Bonds;
- (e) A Tax Compliance Agreement setting forth certain expectations and covenants of the Board with regards to any Bonds issued as tax-exempt Bonds;
- (f) A Continuing Disclosure Undertaking of the Board to assist the Underwriter with its regulatory obligations; and
- (g) Any other contract, agreement, instrument, certificate or other document that any Authorized Officer may deem necessary, appropriate, advisable or desirable to effectuate, in accordance with the terms of this Resolution, the delivery of and payment for the Bonds.

Section 6. Preliminary Official Statement; Official Statement. Each Authorized Officer is each hereby authorized to prepare, approve and finalize a Preliminary Official Statement related to each series of Bonds, with such disclosures as are necessary to conform to and describe the transaction, and the public distribution of the same by the Underwriter is hereby approved for use in connection with the sale of the Bonds. Each Authorized Officer is hereby authorized, if requested, to deem the information contained in each Preliminary Official Statement to be "final" as of its date, except for the omission of such information as is permitted by Rule 15c2-12 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Rule"), and to take such other actions or execute such other documents as the Underwriter shall reasonably request to comply with the Rule. Each Authorized Officer is further authorized to prepare, approve and finalize one or more final Official Statements related to the Bonds.

**Section 7. Limited Obligations**. The Board's obligations under the Financing Agreement shall not be secured by any revenues of the Board, but the Board may agree in a Financing Agreement to apply appropriations received pursuant to the Act to all or a portion of the Board's obligations under the Financing Agreement. The Bonds shall be secured solely by amounts deposited by the Board with the Trustee from time to time to pay debt service on the Bonds.

Section 8. Further Authority; Ratification. Without in any way limiting the power, authority or discretion elsewhere herein granted or delegated, the Board hereby (a) authorizes and directs each Authorized Officer and all other officers, officials, employees and agents of the Board to carry out or cause to be carried out, and to perform such obligations of the Board and such other actions as they, or any of them, in consultation with Bond Counsel, Disclosure Counsel, or the Board's Financial Advisor, as

appropriate, shall consider necessary, advisable, desirable or appropriate in connection with this Resolution, including, without limitation, the execution and delivery of all related documents, instruments, certifications and opinions, and (b) delegates, authorizes and directs to an Authorized Officer the right, power and authority to exercise his or her independent judgment and absolute discretion in (1) determining and finalizing the terms and provisions of the Bond Resolution or the Financing Agreement not specifically set forth in this Resolution, (2) the taking of all actions and the making of all arrangements necessary, proper, appropriate, advisable or desirable in order to effectuate the execution and delivery of the Financing Agreement and the issuance, sale and delivery of the Bonds and the application of proceeds thereof, and (3) the engagement of external professionals, advisors and agents. The execution and delivery by an Authorized Officer or by any such other officers, officials, employees or agents of the Board of any such agreements, documents, instruments, certifications and opinions, or the doing by them of any act in connection with any of the matters that are the subject of this Resolution, shall constitute conclusive evidence of both the Board's and their approval of the terms, provisions and contents thereof and of all changes, modifications, amendments, revisions and alterations made therein and shall conclusively establish their absolute, unconditional and irrevocable authority with respect thereto from the Board and the authorization, approval and ratification by the Board of the documents, instruments, certifications and opinions so executed and the actions so taken.

All actions heretofore taken by an Authorized Officer and all other officers, officials, employees and agents of the Board including, without limitation, the expenditure of funds and the selection, appointment and employment of bond counsel, disclosure counsel, the financial advisor and other advisors and agents in connection with the execution and delivery of the Financing Agreement and the issuance, sale and delivery of the Bonds, together with all other actions taken in connection with any of the matters that are the subject hereof, are in all respects hereby authorized, adopted, specified, accepted, ratified, approved and confirmed.

**Section 9. Contract; Repeal.** The provisions of this Resolution, of any supplemental resolution, and of any resolutions or other proceedings providing for the execution and delivery of the Financing Documents and the sale of the Bonds and the terms and provisions thereof shall constitute a contract among the Board, the Corporation, the Trustee and the registered owners of the Bonds, and the provisions thereof shall be enforceable by any owner of a Bond for the equal benefit and protection of all such owners similarly situated, by mandamus, accounting, mandatory injunction or any other suit, action or proceeding at law or in equity that is presently or may hereafter be authorized under the laws of the State of Nebraska (the "State") in any court of competent jurisdiction. Such contract is made under and is to be construed in accordance with the laws of the State.

After the execution and delivery of the Financing Documents, and the issuance, sale and delivery of the Bonds, this Resolution and any supplemental resolution shall not be subject to repeal, but shall be subject to modification or amendment only to the extent and in the manner provided for in this Resolution or in the Financing Documents.

**Section 10. Rights Conferred.** With the exception of rights or benefits herein expressly conferred, nothing expressed or mentioned in or to be implied from this Resolution, the Financing Documents or the Bonds is intended or should be construed to confer upon or give to any person other than the Board, the Corporation, the Trustee and the registered owners of the Bonds, any legal or equitable right, remedy or claim under or by reason of or in respect to this Resolution or the Financing Documents or any covenant, condition, stipulation, promise, lease or provision herein or herein contained. The Resolution and the Financing Documents and all of the covenants, conditions, stipulations, promises, agreements and provisions hereof and thereof are intended to be and shall be for and inure to the sole and exclusive benefit of the Board, the Corporation, the Trustee and the registered owners from time to time of the Bonds as herein and therein provided.

**Section 11.** Liability of Officers. No officer or employee of the Board shall be individually or personally liable for the performance of any duties or obligations under the Financing Documents or the payment of the principal of or interest on any Bond. Nothing herein contained shall, however, relieve any such officer or employee from the performance of any duty provided or required by law.

**Section 12.** Severability; Effect. If any one or more of the covenants or agreements or portions thereof provided in this Resolution or the Financing Documents on the part of the Board to be performed should be determined by a court of competent jurisdiction to be contrary to law, then such covenant or covenants, or such lease or agreements, or such portions thereof, shall be deemed severable from the remaining covenants and agreements or portions thereof provided in this Resolution and the Financing Documents and the invalidity thereof shall in no way affect the validity of the other provisions of this Resolution or of the Financing Documents, but the Trustee and the registered owners of the Bonds shall retain all the rights and benefits afforded to them hereunder and under the Financing Documents or any applicable provisions of law.

If any provisions of this Resolution shall be held or deemed to be or shall, in fact, be inoperative or unenforceable or invalid as applied in any particular case in any jurisdiction or jurisdictions or in all jurisdictions, or in all cases because it conflicts with any constitution or statute or rule of public policy, or for any other reason, such circumstances shall not have the effect of rendering the provision in question inoperative or unenforceable or invalid in any other case or circumstance, or of rendering any other provision or provisions herein or therein contained inoperative or unenforceable or invalid to any extent whatsoever.

**Section 13.** Electronic Transactions. All documents, agreements, certificates, and instruments related to the Bonds shall be valid, binding, and enforceable against the Board when executed and delivered by means of (i) an original manual signature; (ii) a faxed, scanned, or photocopied manual signature, or (iii) any other electronic signature permitted by electronic signatures laws, including any relevant provisions of the Uniform Commercial Code, in each case to the extent applicable. Each faxed, scanned, or photocopied manual signature, or other electronic signature, shall for all purposes have the same validity, legal effect, and admissibility in evidence as an original manual signature. Each document, agreement, certificate, and instrument related to the Bonds may be executed in any number of counterparts, each of which shall be deemed to be an original, but such counterparts shall, together, constitute one and the same document, agreement, certificate, or instrument, as applicable.

Section 14. Applicable Law. This Resolution shall be construed and interpreted in accordance with the laws of the State.

**Section 15. Repeal of Inconsistent Resolutions.** Any resolution of the Board inconsistent with this Resolution is hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

Section 16. Force and Effect. This Resolution shall take effect and be in force from and after its adoption according to law.