2015 HOUSE AGRICULTURE

HB 1431

2015 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Agriculture Committee
Peace Garden Room, State Capitol

HB 1431
1/29/2015
Job #22793

☐ Subcommittee
☐ Conference Committee

Committee Clerk Signature

Explanation or reason for introduction of bill/resolution:

To authorize the Langdon research extension center to purchase certain land in Cavalier County; to provide an appropriation; and to declare an emergency

Minutes: Attachment #1, 2a & 2b

Representative Monson: (Attachment #1)

(4:18)

Vice Chair Wayne Trottier: How do the local farmers feel about the competition?

Representative Monson: Every meeting they are supportive of it. They feel the research station is vital to the farmers.

Vice Chair Wayne Trottier: If this bill is passed, and they do put it up for bidding, the minimum bid will be $450,000.

Representative Monson: That is right. They would be at a huge disadvantage.

Representative Dwight Kiefert: When the Department of Transportation has a road project, they are spending up to $17,000/acre for wet lands. Do they have to have it appraised?

Representative Monson: I don't know that there is a wet land on here. The director is working on getting an appraisal.

Representative Dwight Kiefert: The DOT is buying land for that price so I'm wondering if they are following the same requirements.

Representative Monson: Every piece of land the state buys is supposed to be no more than appraised value. Sometimes the federal regulations causing wetlands to be kept as wetlands increases the cost.

Chairman Dennis Johnson: This bill asks for a general fund appropriation of $450,000. If we can keep the bill moving forward, are there any other sources of revenue?

Representative Monson: There may be some special funds that we can find.
I could have attached it as an amendment on their budget bill. I wanted to be up front.
Minot Research Station went through a similar situation. The source of funds they used is no longer available.

By buying it they save money because they don't have to pay rent.

Vice Chair Wayne Trottier: What is the cash rent?

Representative Monson: $70-80/acre

Vice Chair Wayne Trottier: If the word got out the committee thought it was too much money, maybe that would help the purchase price.

Representative Monson: I ask for a do pass.

Representative Jessica Haak: Line 11 & 12 says "or so much of the sum as may be necessary." Does that mean $450,000 is not the ceiling? That it could be higher?

Representative Monson: That means that if it took less than $450,000, then that is the number. It can't go higher.

Tom Borgen, Chair of the Advisory Board for the Langdon Research Extension Center:

Referenced the map (Attachment #2a) The area marked in red is the land for sale.

I don't think a farmer would bid against it because the research center is needed and respected. The 160 acres is so vital to the research center. I was told it has been rented for 30 years.

Uses for the land & summary. (Attachment #2b)

In answer to the question about if other funds are available. All of the land owned now has been purchased or donated by local people. Even the tiling for $90,000 is from local farmers. You can't have research without land

Representative Cynthia Schreiber-Beck: Is there any opportunity at this time for the locals to provide funds.

Tom Borgen: It is so time sensitive that we couldn't come up with the money.

Representative Cynthia Schreiber-Beck: I mean if there was an additional cost to the land, would there be opportunity for local funding?

Tom Borgen: We support it and would try.

Representative Alan Fehr: In the upper right hand corner of the map it looks like a building site. Are their permanent buildings there? Is that part of the purchase?

Tom Borgen: It is a privately owned farmstead. So it isn't a full quarter.

Ken Grafton, Vice President for Agricultural Affairs at NDSU, Director of the ND Ag. Experiment Station and Dean of the College of Agriculture: We are also in support. The Langdon Research Extension Center is the smallest one in the state. It only has 388.9 acres of land owned by the state. The remaining amount of the 720 acres is rented. This 160 acre parcel is critical and adjacent to the center. The land base has been used in conjunction with research at the main station for agronomic and plant pathological disease issues. The land for sale is very close to the center.

Randy Mehlhoff, Director of the Langdon Research Center indicated there may be some funds in his budget if the price is higher.

Current land rent is $100/acre for this land.

Representative Alan Fehr: This would take it off the tax role. What is the economic impact? What are the number of employees?

Ken Grafton: The center if highly regarded by the citizens. They have about 15 employees. The two focal areas in research are developing new varieties and plant pathology.

All of the potato research takes place at the Langdon Center because it is out of the potato production area. All of the varieties released by NDSU originated in Langdon.

Representative Cynthia Schreiber-Beck: Is this the only quarter the family has for sale?

Ken Grafton: I am not aware of other land. Just the one quarter.

Our Research Center land holdings range from the small of 388.9 acres at Langdon to about 5,200 acres at the Central Grasslands Research Center.

Mike Beltz, Farmer from Hillsboro, Chairman of the State Board of Agriculture Research and Education: The Langdon station does good work and they need a place to do it.

In the SBARE budget, each REC has a line item. Typically when land deals are done, it is done through the REC and the state. It doesn't come through our board.

Vice Chair Wayne Trottier: (asking Representative Monson): If the situation comes up, how does the state address it if the research center is able to add to the amount? Is it advertised?

Representative Monson: Everything we appropriate is an upper limit. If they could find some special funds in their own budget, they could get authorization to increase special funds. What leaves this session for the state general fund--that is it.

Tom Borgen: The desire by the family is that NDSU have the land. As a commissioner, that quarter of land gives about $1,000 in tax to the county.

Opposition:

None

Chairman Dennis Johnson: Closed the hearing

2015 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Agriculture Committee
Peace Garden Room, State Capitol

HB 1431
1/29/2015
Job #22836
☐ Subcommittee
☐ Conference Committee

Committee Clerk Signature Re Mae Kruse

Explanation or reason for introduction of bill/resolution:

To authorize the Langdon research extension center to purchase certain land in Cavalier County; to provide an appropriation; and to declare an emergency
(Committee Work)

Minutes:

Chairman Dennis Johnson: I have concerns with the appropriation that we are setting a minimum bid. I would like to keep the bill alive. There may be a week before they get an appraisal on the land.

Representative Cynthia Schreiber-Beck: Moved Do Pass

Representative Alan Fehr: Seconded the motion

Representative Alan Fehr: The concerns were that it may not be enough money by setting a cap. The opposite that we should be aware of is that since it is public money we should offer a fair and reasonable price and hope it is accepted.

Representative Craig Headland: I think I will vote against a Do Pass because I would prefer we lowered the appropriation so we are not tied to that number.

A Roll Call vote was taken: Yes 8, No 5, Absent 0.

Do Pass carries. Rerefer to Appropriations

Representative Trottier will carry the bill.

Date: 1/29/2015

Roll Call Vote #: 1

2015 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE
ROLL CALL VOTES
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 1431

House **Agriculture** Committee

☐ Subcommittee

Amendment LC# or Description:

Recommendation:

☐ Adopt Amendment
☒ Do Pass ☐ Do Not Pass ☐ Without Committee Recommendation
☐ As Amended ☒ Rerefer to Appropriations
☐ Place on Consent Calendar

Other Actions: ☐ Reconsider ☐

Motion Made By Rep. Schreiber-Beck Seconded By Rep. Fehr

Representatives	Yes	No	Representatives	Yes	No
Chairman Dennis Johnson	X		Rep. Joshua Boschee	X	
Vice Chairman Wayne Trottier	X		Rep. Jessica Haak	X	
Rep. Bert Anderson	X		Rep. Alisa Mitskog	X	
Rep. Alan Fehr	X				
Rep. Craig Headland		X			
Rep. Tom Kading		X			
Rep. Dwight Kiefert		X			
Rep. Diane Larson		X			
Rep. Alex Looysen		X			
Rep. Cynthia Schreiber Beck	X				

Total (Yes) 8 No 5

Absent 0

Floor Assignment Rep. Trottier

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

HB 1431: Agriculture Committee (Rep. D. Johnson, Chairman) recommends **DO PASS** and **BE REREFERRED** to the **Appropriations Committee** (8 YEAS, 5 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). HB 1431 was rereferred to the **Appropriations Committee**.

2015 HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS

HB 1431

2015 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Appropriations Committee
Roughrider Room, State Capitol

HB 1431
2/11/2015
Job #23698

☐ Subcommittee
☐ Conference Committee

Committee Clerk Signature L. Mae Kuehn

Explanation or reason for introduction of bill/resolution:

A BILL for an Act to authorize the Langdon research extension center to purchase certain land in Cavalier County; to provide an appropriation; and to declare an emergency.

Minutes: Attachment #1

Representative Monson: Handed out an amendment. (Attachment #1) Involves the land purchase for the NDSU research center. They have been renting a quarter of land that borders their land. They have been doing research there for about 30 years. The lady that owns it always wanted them to have it but never made the transfer. We put in a bill for $450,000 general fund money to purchase that quarter of land. That is about $2800/acre. The appraisal would have to come in at that level or less. The family decided to put it up for auction. A local appraiser appraised it at about $350,000. The superintendent of the research station in Langdon said we'll try to raise the money from their budget and local donations.

The amendment to this bill takes all general funds out and allows them to use $350,000 of local funds to purchase that quarter of land.

Chairman Jeff Delzer: Is it still likely to go to auction? If they had the money in hand, this allows them to bid but it doesn't set the price so that somebody else knows exactly what they have.

Representative Monson: When you put in an amount like $450,000 and go to an auction everybody knows your top number. No local farmer would be interested in buying it because that land is very valuable to our local research station. But there are others from outside the area that might want to buy it.

This $350,000 is from local money. They might be able to make a deal with the family to purchase it outright.

Representative Glassheim: Won't it take them too much time to raise the money before the auction?

Chairman Jeff Delzer: It depends on how generous we are in the budget.

It says local funds. So they could use their budget. The way it is worded, the main stations could even help with money.

Representative Monson: That was the idea that we might get some donations and money out of their budget and wherever they can find it.

Chairman Jeff Delzer: Think about it and look at the proposed amendments.

2015 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Appropriations Committee
Roughrider Room, State Capitol

HB 1431
2/18/2015
Job Number 24077

☐ Subcommittee
☐ Conference Committee

Committee Clerk Signature Pe Mae Kuehn

Explanation or reason for introduction of bill/resolution:

To authorize the Langdon research extension center to purchase certain land in Cavalier County; to provide an appropriation

Minutes: Amendment #.01001

Chairman Jeff Delzer: This is for an appropriation of $450,000. We haven't adopted any amendments.

Representative Monson: This is for a piece of ground they have been renting for about 30 years. They use it for their research plots. They are the smallest of the research stations in the size of land. The lady that owned the land always wanted the research station to have it. The family now wants to sell the land. They had an appraisal done from Minnesota and are not happy with the appraisal. The research station had a local appraisal done. It came in at about $350,000.

We didn't find out about this in time to make the SBARE (State Board of Agricultural Research and Education) budget. I wanted to have it as a separate bill so we can have a discussion on it.

I have an amendment #.01001. That drops the amount from $450,000 down to $350,000. Instead of general fund money this would let them find other sources to purchase this land. They can find money out of the research and extension main office or from local donations to make this happen. They have to lease or rent to purchase.

Representative Monson: Moved amendment #.01001.

Representative Boe: Seconded the motion.

Voice vote taken. Motion carried.

Representative Monson: Moved Do Pass as amended.

Representative Vigesaa: Seconded the motion.

A Roll Call vote was taken: Yes 23, No 0, Absent 0.

Do Pass as amended carries.

Representative Boe will carry the bill.

15.0588.01001
Title.02000

Prepared by the Legislative Council staff for
Representative Monson
February 10, 2015

ATO
2-19-15

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL NO. 1431

Page 1, line 7, replace "$450,000" with "$350,000"

Page 1, line 10, remove "out of any moneys in the general"

Page 1, line 11, replace "fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated" with "from special funds derived from donations and other local funds raised by the state board of agricultural research and education"

Page 1, line 11, replace "$450,000" with "$350,000"

Renumber accordingly

Date: 2/18/15

Roll Call Vote #: 1

2015 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE
ROLL CALL VOTES
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 1431

House **Appropriations Committee**

☐ Subcommittee

Amendment LC# or Description:

Recommendation:	☒ Adopt Amendment		
	☐ Do Pass	☐ Do Not Pass	☐ Without Committee Recommendation
	☐ As Amended		☐ Rerefer to Appropriations
	☐ Place on Consent Calendar		
Other Actions:	☐ Reconsider	☐	

Motion Made By: Monson Seconded By: Boe

Representatives	Yes	No	Absent	Representatives	Yes	No	Absent	Representatives	Yes	No	Absent
Chairman Jeff Delzer				Representative Nelson				Representative Boe			
Vice Chairman Keith Kempenich				Representative Pollert				Representative Glassheim			
Representative Bellew				Representative Sanford				Representative Guggisberg			
Representative Brandenburg				Representative Schmidt				Representative Hogan			
Representative Boehning				Representative Silbernagel				Representative Holman			
Representative Dosch				Representative Skarphol							
Representative Kreidt				Representative Streyle							
Representative Martinson				Representative Thoreson							
Representative Monson				Representative Vigesaa							

Totals

(Yes)	
No	
Absent	
Grand Total	

Voice Vote
Motion carries

Floor Assignment:

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

Need

Pg. 1

Amendment 01001
Replace 450,000 w/ 350,000

Date: 2/18/15

Roll Call Vote #: 2

2015 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE
ROLL CALL VOTES
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 1431

House **Appropriations Committee**

☐ Subcommittee

Amendment LC# or Description: 15.0588.01001

Recommendation:
☐ Adopt Amendment
☑ Do Pass ☐ Do Not Pass ☐ Without Committee Recommendation
☑ As Amended ☐ Rerefer to Appropriations
☐ Place on Consent Calendar

Other Actions: ☐ Reconsider ☐ _____

Motion Made By: Rep. Monson Seconded By: Rep Vigessa

Representatives	Yes	No	Absent	Representatives	Yes	No	Absent	Representatives	Yes	No	Absent
Chairman Jeff Delzer	✓			Representative Nelson	✓			Representative Boe	✓		
Vice Chairman Keith Kempenich	✓			Representative Pollert	✓			Representative Glassheim	✓		
Representative Bellew	✓			Representative Sanford	✓			Representative Guggisberg	✓		
Representative Brandenburg	✓			Representative Schmidt	✓			Representative Hogan	✓		
Representative Boehning	✓			Representative Silbernagel	✓			Representative Holman	✓		
Representative Dosch	✓			Representative Skarphol	✓						
Representative Kreidt	✓			Representative Streyle	✓						
Representative Martinson	✓			Representative Thoreson	✓						
Representative Monson	✓			Representative Vigesaa	✓						
	9	0	0		9	0	0		5	0	0

Totals

(Yes)	23
No	6
Absent	0
Grand Total	23

Floor Assignment: Boe

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent: _____

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

HB 1431: Appropriations Committee (Rep. Delzer, Chairman) recommends **AMENDMENTS AS FOLLOWS** and when so amended, recommends **DO PASS** (23 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). HB 1431 was placed on the Sixth order on the calendar.

Page 1, line 7, replace "$450,000" with "$350,000"

Page 1, line 10, remove "out of any moneys in the general"

Page 1, line 11, replace "fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated" with "from special funds derived from donations and other local funds raised by the state board of agricultural research and education"

Page 1, line 11, replace "$450,000" with "$350,000"

Renumber accordingly

2015 SENATE POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS

HB 1431

2015 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Political Subdivisions Committee
Red River Room, State Capitol

HB 1431
3/12/2015
Job Number 24707

☐ Subcommittee
☐ Conference Committee

Committee Clerk Signature	

Explanation or reason for introduction of bill/resolution:

A bill for an act to authorize the Langdon research extension center to purchase certain land in Cavalier County.

Minutes:

Written testimony # 1 Rep. Monson
Written testimony # 2 Randy Mehloff

Chairman Burckhard opened the hearing on HB 1431. All senators were present.

Representative Monson sponsor for HB 1431. Written testimony # 1.

Chairman Burckhard How many acres is this? **Rep. Monson** ¼ acres, 160 acres with 162.8.

Chairman Burckhard You said $350,000. **Rep. Monson** yes it was $350,000 or $2,000 an acre which in this day and age you can hardly buy pasture land in some places for that. It is reasonable price. It has a lot of lowland that is salt or soda type soil, but it's got good stuff on it too. Overall it is good.

Chairman Burckhard On the actual bill, on line 7, it says, "but not to exceed $450,000 nor the appraised value" of the property. Should that be "or" instead of nor? Rep. Monson I didn't write. I guess Anita must have drafted with the way she thought it should be. Our Ag committee did amend it though from $450,000 and at one time we even had it as a pool of money that they could use to bid on it because the family was kind of baulking at selling it and they said we'll put it on the open market and we'll have a bidding deal. Now they've come around and they said we'll take the appraised value from North Dakota. So now it's back at being a solid number. The appraisal was like $350,000/$2000 was one of them and then $352,000, and $346,000 was another one. He had like 3 different versions of it, I think and Randy can explain that more to you. But, it's right at $350,000.

Senator Judy Lee Could we have the engrossed version? **Rep. Monson** the engrossed version is 02000. Senator Judy Lee Do you know how much is currently paid in rent and is that just in the extension budget because I am looking at the difference really between the two and it's a number we are kind of talking about here.

Rep. Monson Well they are paying rent and he would tell you exactly how much they've been renting it for and I don't think the rent is real high. But, you know when you start thinking about it, that's a savings now. If we buy it we don't have to pay the rent anymore, so that's actually a savings or reduction in the budget. Then the fact that they will actually own it, and have it from this day forward is a pretty big plus as well. I know rent up in our country is a lot more than probably what he is paying.

Senator Judy Lee We are not looking at a total outlay without any other, we are replacing some other outlays by doing this. So the current rent that is in there is that in the extension budget now, the rent?

Rep. Monson Yes, it would be in their operating budget.

Randy Mehlhoff NDSU Langdon Research Extension Center Director spoke in support of HB 1431. Written testimony # 2. (9:17-13:90) He referenced the map on his handout for the Senators in the committee to see.

Senator Judy Lee Can you tell me what the rent amount is that is currently in the budget?

Randy Mehloff This is kind of interesting. I had alluded earlier that the family is extremely proud of us having this land for research. Up until last year, we only pay $45 an acre for rent. It has been raised now, if we continued leasing it, it would probably go up to $100 an acre because the people that have taken over the estate sees that $45 is below rental rate. I explained to the sister, the landlord and we talk a little bit, talk about memories of North Dakota, and then I would always say okay we need to sign a lease, and she would always say $45 and then I would say that is way under market rate. We would offer to raise it, but she never wanted to raise it. Last year when the estate took over, we paid $75 last and if we were to continue leasing they indicated it would probably be $100.00.

Chairman Burckhard This is the owners sister that has it. **Randy Mehloff** Yes this is the owners sister. They are a little bit separated from North Dakota. The lady that owned the land and had the stroke lived in Chicago for the last 40 years; and her sister lives in Manhatten for the last 40 years. When I first started working on this, they hear all the stories about oil in North Dakota and things like that, and their original offer was $6,000 an acre. They fell $4000 for the land and $2,000 for mineral rights. But, we just kept talking with them. I did have an appraisal done here a few weeks ago, and low and behold when I shared the appraisal number with her, two days later the attorney contacted me and said they would be willing to pay that price.

Senator Judy Lee Who did the appraisal?

Randy Mehloff Paul Vorachek he is from Grafton. **Senator Judy Lee** Is he an independent or does he work with Farmers Live Company in any way? **Randy Mehloff** he is independent and he if foremost appraiser. I originally contacted Ag Country Farm Credit Services and they suggested this guy because he has more experience, more licensed and more formal. So we had him do it.

Senator Bekkedahl So you do have the opportunity as this progresses, the way the bill passes or not, to continue leasing the property? You have not lost that opportunity have you?

Randy Mehloff Right now there in limbo. They are not even talking to us about rent because there hoping that it will be sold. But if worse comes to worse, I certainly would hope to rent it, but I have been given an indication though that if we do not buy it. We would probably rent it this year, but then they would put it up for sale for a third party because they do want to sell it. They need the money to support the lady that is in the rest home.

Senator Bekkedahl Is the area of the property is that grain bins, or some types of structures that goes with this then?

Randy Mehloff That is actually that part we do not own. That is a house there, a homestead there.

Senator Bekkedahl And that would be removed from the sale? Randy Mehloff Yes, the actually sale is like 152.2 acres.

Senator Grabinger You mentioned special funds. It has been changed now to special funds, do you have any idea where you can come up with that or how you intend to come up that if we left that the way it is?

Randy Mehloff We fully realize that if were to have a situation where it was appropriate or not, I would rather have it not because I can take on that challenge. Right now I haven't really dug into see where we can get the money. Just a little history, it was 10 years ago the Legislature provided us $300,000 for a new headquarters building and then locally we raised $610,000 to complete that and finish the building up and to equip it with furnishings inside. Two years ago we hired a soil health specialist. The Legislature provided quite a bit of money for our soil health project a couple of sessions ago, and we did hire a specialist on station. The work that he does is amazing. We have a station that has a lot of salinity and thing so he is having a blast out there finding ways and methods to try to get the soil back to the health it should it be. The reason I mention that is we had producers that came into our station about 1 year ago wanting us to do research on field tiling. You see a lot of this expessive tiling going on but folks want to know if it's economical or not. We have an area (refers to the map, yellow part) these folks put up an $85,000 research on that area and we installed that last year and do the research this year. I think the local area is aware that 10 years ago we came up with $610,000 and we raised $85,000 last fall for this project and I am not saying that I can't come up with some money. Just the other day I heard a comment from a producer that "oh here comes Mehloff he is going to probably as for money again". The local constituency is really supportive our center very well. I can't say that I cannot find the money, I probably could but I need a couple of years but, I guess the point of my conversation here is that already the local constituency has put in quite a bit of money into our center and that is why I am hoping that we can more of an appropriation.

Senator Grabinger Do you have any reserves or anything that can be tacked on to or added to your budget? **Randy Mehloff** Yes, I do have some reserve. I feel that if I needed to come up with soft dollars here, this is what scares me. I think that I could do it in 4 years

but you know what happens is that after two, you never know what is going to happen after that second year. I do have reserves right now to begin at least making payments. I could take the rent and use that and work on it that way.

Senator Judy Lee There is sort of standard language that we use on a regular basis which includes an appropriation. I am not even opposed to you on that when we're talking general fund here. But, never having an appropriation and then add additional language that enables you if your able to come up with additional dollars to do that whatever it might be. I think if they really owe the center some support here, because this is an important investment for your area. But I also agree that it would be a mistake for us to tie your hands and not enable you to have access to other funds that might be available if the community steps up. So, if we did something like that, with an appropriation that enabled you to make use of whatever other funds might be available, I am thinking maybe that would give you the most flexibility.

Randy Mehloff That is workable. Yes, I can see that working.

Chairman Burkhard closed the hearing on HB 1431.

Committee Discussion

Senator Anderson Rep. Monson serves on the Subcommittee of the Appropriation over in the House. He already talked to our Appropriations committee chair and I understand what Senator Lee was suggesting, but I would say probably in this case it would be better off letting Rep. Monson handle the Appropriations deal. I don't know if your experience is it would be better for us to say something about it, or what.

Senator Judy Lee I don't disagree at all with Senator Anderson in talking about the discussions that have already taking place. But I think the committee might want to consider is indicating that we but if others feel think that there is a reason to have some state- buy-in here. We could amend it that way. We know they are going to have their way with it on the other side of the hall. It's more of a matter of our reviewing this and looking at a combination perhaps of appropriated and special funds. Then if they choose to put it back the way it was before I think Rep. Monson has particularly wanted to let Senator Holmberg know that they didn't want this to go away. But that is just my thoughts.

Chairman Burckhard Where does it say special funds, am I missing that?
Senator Judy Lee If you're in the 02000 one, it is line 10. Then also looking at line 7, but not exceed $350,000 nor the appraised value of the property, that got to be 'or'. Correct?

Senator Judy Lee I think Anita wrote that one. I don't know the performance style thing.

Senator Anderson I am not opposed to Senator Lee's suggestion that we say our committee backs the appropriations. We could certainly do that and send it out that way. The question would be are we going to have any trouble getting it through the Senate. But I don't think so, but.

Senator Grabinger The way I kind of look at it, I think it would be a mistake for us to lose this opportunity for the land. I think they need it, I think were given a fair price on the land and we're not being ripped off. I certainly want to see us do it and I think as a committee we would want to get that point across that we think this is something we need to do. If we don't tell them to put the appropriation in there they certainly aren't going too. I am thinking as a committee, if we think that is the way we should go we should do that, but I certainly don't want to kill the bill because of the fiscal note either. I think it is important that they have the opportunity to buy this so with Senator Lee's recommendation I can go along with that.

Senator Bekkedahl I agree with Senator Lee as well. I think this is important. We've seen in our area how important these issues are especially when you have contiguous property. There are already using it and they already have the history of the research on that property which I think is immeasurable at this point. My only dilemma is that I also understand what Senator Anderson is saying. Maybe at the very least before we pass out at least somebody from the committee should or may have a discussion with Rep. Monson and just say do you mind if we do this. I don't know how those protocols work between House and Senate so I am going defer to the more experienced here.

Senator Judy Lee We don't have to ask the House about anything. On the other side of this wall that is where we will be chatting. I am confident that Rep. Monson would appreciate it if it looks like we make this part of a general fund appropriation, if we don't its going to end up coming back in special funds. But, I think it is sort of irresponsible of us, although we have been irresponsible on other occasions, and in this and every other session, but we're just saying that they have to raise all the money locally again, and I don't think that is right. Ag is such an important part of the economy and all the things that have already been said about why this is a unique opportunity. The state should at least be a partner in it if nothing else. So, if I might suggest that **we would amend the bill to say that it that there would be an appropriation of $350,000 but with the language which Femi can get from LC that indicated that they can receive and recruit additional funding as well because that way, maybe something will happen that they want to have a building and we can enable them to collect local funds for that.** They can't do anything unless we tell them. So that would be the thrust of my amendment.

2nd **Senator Dotzenrod**
Senator Grabinger If he's got reserves in some other funds that he can utilize I certainly think if there was some kind of language we could include that would make sure that he takes that opportunity to use that and then we can cover with the additional. I don't know what the language would be, my fear is if we just pay for it then he's going to continue to have his reserves and we aren't going to touch any of that. I think the intent was use what you got and we'll do the rest.

Senator Judy Lee Did he say how much he has in reserves?

Senator Anderson You asked him about the reserves and he said that I might have other ways to raise money. I can't imagine that they have reserves that aren't in their budget. Appropriations usually says you have to spend and there is probably a few thousands in there, it can't be much.

Chairman Burckhard I would suggest that is probably correct. He probably has a very benevolent group out there that he can raise some money if he needs to.

Chairman Burckhard We've had a proposal for an amendment and we've had a second. We've had discussion, are we ready to vote on the amendment?

Senator Judy Lee Just to clarify I meant general funds with the additional language plus the ability to make use of other funds that they might have available from other sources.

Roll call vote on the amendment
6 Yea, 0 No, 0 Absent

Discussion:

Senator Grabinger Did we want to slide this by Rep. Monson before we continue.
Senator Judy Lee Why would we do that, I mean we are a policy committee. We are determining policy here.

Senator Dotzenrod I think this whole hearing has been kind of astounding to me. Its operating like a charitable institution up there. We've got land given essentially given to us and their doing a tiling project that has been for with no state dollars and the potential benefit that could occur especially when you're talking the tiling is a new technology and that was fascinating to me. I don't know if we've got another facility in the state that's gotten the kind of local support. I don't see how the state goes wrong on this deal. We don't get many chances to get a contiguous piece like this and to have sellers who are that willing to hold off. It could go to a public auction and they have a lot of other options, but they are here. So, I think this is really a unusual set of circumstances and we should recognize a good deal when we see it. If we can get this at this time, and under the terms that we're talking about here. I just think it is unusual, I don't remember quite anything like this.

Chairman Burckhard For the extension center in Minot, I know at least twice, in the last 15 years, they have raised private funding to go with the state funding on some projects there as well so.

Senator Judy Lee replied it was a do pass as amended and re-refer to appropriations
2nd Senator Grabinger

Roll call vote
6 Yea, 0 No, 0 Absent
Carrier: Senator Dotzenrod

15.0588.02001
Title.03000

Adopted by the Political Subdivisions Committee

March 13, 2015

3/13/15

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL NO. 1431

Page 1, line 10, remove "from special funds derived from"

Page 1, remove line 11

Page 1, line 12, replace "education" with "out of any moneys in the general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated"

Renumber accordingly

Date: 3.12.15
Roll Call Vote: 1

2015 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE
ROLL CALL VOTES
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 1431

Senate Political Subdivisions Committee

☐ Subcommittee

Amendment LC# or Description: 15.0588.02001

Recommendation: ☑ Adopt Amendment
☐ Do Pass ☐ Do Not Pass ☐ Without Committee Recommendation
☐ As Amended ☐ Rerefer to Appropriations
☐ Place on Consent Calendar

Other Actions: ☐ Reconsider ☐

Motion Made By Sen. Judy Lee Seconded By Senator Dotzenrod

Senators	Yes	No	Senators	Yes	No
Chairman Burckhard	X				
Senator Anderson	X		Senator Dotzenrod	X	
Senator Bekkedahl	X		Senator Grabinger	X	
Senator Judy Lee	X				

Total (Yes) 6 No 0

Absent 0

Floor Assignment

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

Date: 3.12.15
Roll Call Vote: 2

2015 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE
ROLL CALL VOTES
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 1431

Senate Political Subdivisions Committee

☐ Subcommittee

Amendment LC# or Description: _____

Recommendation: ☐ Adopt Amendment
☑ Do Pass ☐ Do Not Pass ☐ Without Committee Recommendation
☑ As Amended ☑ Rerefer to Appropriations
☐ Place on Consent Calendar

Other Actions: ☐ Reconsider ☐ _____

Motion Made By Senator Judy Lee Seconded By Senator Grabinger

Senators	Yes	No	Senators	Yes	No
Chairman Burckhard	X				
Senator Anderson	X		Senator Dotzenrod	X	
Senator Bekkedahl	X		Senator Grabinger	X	
Senator Judy Lee	X				

Total (Yes) 6 No 0

Absent 0

Floor Assignment Senator Dotzenrod

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

HB 1431, as engrossed: Political Subdivisions Committee (Sen. Burckhard, Chairman) recommends **AMENDMENTS AS FOLLOWS** and when so amended, recommends **DO PASS** and **BE REREFERRED** to the **Appropriations Committee** (6 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). Engrossed HB 1431 was placed on the Sixth order on the calendar.

Page 1, line 10, remove "from special funds derived from"

Page 1, remove line 11

Page 1, line 12, replace "education" with "out of any moneys in the general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated"

Renumber accordingly

2015 SENATE APPROPRIATIONS

HB 1431

2015 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Appropriations Committee
Harvest Room, State Capitol

HB 1431
3/27/2015
Job # 25534

☐ Subcommittee
☐ Conference Committee

Committee Clerk Signature Emmery Brotherg for Rose Laning

Explanation or reason for introduction of bill/resolution:

A BILL for an Act to authorize the Langdon research extension center to purchase certain land in Cavalier County.

Minutes:

Attachments: # 1 - # 2

Legislative Council - Alex Cronquist
OMB - Becky Deichert

Chairman Holmberg called the committee to order on HB 1431.

Dave Monson, State Representative, District 10, Bill Sponsor:
Introduced HB 1431. See Testimony - Attachment # 1.

Chairman Holmberg said that the legislature doesn't really get to visit the research centers and he told the story of the center at Langdon.

Senator Mathern: I would like to support this bill; will there be any difficulty in the House in light of this general fund allocation?

Representative Monson: It's not always clear sailing in the House; in the beginning of the session, we didn't have the appraisal so we put in $450,000 from General Funds. It went to House Agriculture Committee and then thought to switch it to special funds where they would raise the money locally. When we got the appraisal, it was $350,000. We sent it over with special funds in it and Senate Agriculture decided that general funds were alright; I agree. It could be a bit of a struggle but I believe we can get it through on the House side. If it looks like it is in trouble, I might try and figure out a way to get some special funds back in their again. I thought of other ways to fund it and every time I came up with something it didn't seem better than coming up with $350,000 of general fund. It we can't afford $350,000 for land that is very valuable to the research center then we have problems.

Senator Bowman: I'm doing research budget now and we have problems for all the requests. Would you consider if we did a 50-50 match of special funds and general finds because that would be the best interest of that community. I'm just throwing it out because I'd like to see it too.

Representative Monson: That would be ok with me, the research director is standing behind us and he can weigh in on that. This is a community that chips in in a surprising way when it comes to this research station. Much of the funding that went to pay for the building was raised locally. This community highly regards the research station; I thought of using the income from the Dickinson swap and pay it off that way. Special funds could work.

Chairman Holmberg: Would it make any difference if you were tasked with raising $150,000 for this project? Would that make it more difficult to get donations?

Representative Monson: Part of the problem is we don't have a lot of time; I don't know how long they will wait around for the money to be raised and that is one of the considerations that make me think the general fund might be a faster, cleaner way to go. I think they could raise the money quite quickly if there was a match but time is something that we have to consider. It is a risk that they'll say "we offered it to you and you didn't come up with the money." Honestly, I'm not sure that anyone would buy it locally.

(11:59) **Senator Heckaman:** Is it the regular policy to make the research centers provide some of the money for their projects?

Chairman Holmberg: We have not been particularly been even-handed; we do it some places. We do not have a consistent policy.

Senator Wanzek: No local farmer will buy it, is that because of the interest of it going to the research center?

Representative Monson: No, they see the value of it at the research station and it's not bad land and it's certainly worth $2000 an acres.

Senator Kilzer: You said that the experiment station has been renting it for a few decades? What kind of experimenting have they been doing on it?

Representative Monson: Yes; history is valuable and the more history they have on a research piece of land the more valuable it becomes, especially with the 23 years of experiments here. This is one of the smallest research stations land-wise and it does a lot of research on a small amount of land.

Randy Mehlhoff, Director, NDSU Langdon Research Extension Center:
Testified in favor of HB 1431. See Attachment # 2

He talked about Joanne Kerns and rental costs and the rent has not been raised for 30 years - ($40/acre).

The family knows that if they put it up for sale, they could make more money than the appraisal. The appraisal ($2160/acre) is accepted by the family.

He said he would be in favor of doing a 50 - 50 but said that 10 years ago, the community came up with $610,000 to support the new headquarters building that the legislature authorized and have us $300,000 for that and four years ago the legislature funded a soil health initiative and Langdon received one of the specialists.

Last fall, a group of farmers came to the center to ask for field tiling research. I explained to the producers that it would be a good project but the cost might keep us from doing it. A couple months later, they came in with a check for $85,000 to tile a 25 acre lot. I wanted to give an indication of how the community has supported the center and the worst case scenario would be to rely purely on special funds because it would be difficult to raise those dollars.

(20:21) **Senator Erbele:** What are the buildings in the photo?
152.6 acres

Randy Mehlhoff: This quarter is 152.6 acres and that is a residence and would be a carve out.

Mike Beltz, Chairman, State Board of Agricultural Research and Education (SBARE):
Testified in favor of HB 1431. No written testimony.
He explained why SBARE didn't have the Langdon Research Center in the SBARE budget.

Senator Kilzer: We have a number of research stations around the state; has anyone done a study or come up with an idea of the most efficient size of each one of these? I would think that if there's ever been a study done about the most efficient size of research stations, we would be able to calculate the most efficient size of what this one would be.

Mike Beltz: All of their missions are different, so size and scale would be different with each center and the amount of staff they have there. Carrington is struggling to have enough ground to do all their projects; Streeter has a large land space, but they have cattle and grass. Just because of nature at each site, I don't know if there is an optimal size.

Chairman Holmberg closed the hearing on HB 1431.

2015 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Appropriations Committee
Harvest Room, State Capitol

HB 1431
4/1/2015
Job # 25719

☒ Subcommittee
☐ Conference Committee

Committee Clerk Signature Rose Laning

Explanation or reason for introduction of bill/resolution:

A BILL for an Act to authorize the Langdon research extension center to purchase certain land in Cavalier County.

Minutes:

Legislative Council - Alex Cronquist
OMB - Becky Deichert

Senator Bowman called the sub-committee to order on HB 1431. **Senator Erbele** and **Senator O'Connell** were also present.

Senator Bowman: It's a simple deal and just a matter of funding it. We've got a couple options but don't know if we have enough money left after all the requests we've had. We could fund ½ of the research center and they could come up with half, that would make it a little easier for leadership to take on. If we could find another funding source, because we used ERP (Environmental Rangeland Protection) fund money this morning for funding agent orange.

Senator Bowman: It's $350,000?

Ken Grafton, VP, Agricultural Affairs, NDSU: Yes, for the land purchase.

Senator Bowman: The people up there really want it and I know what good it's going to do up there. We'll try to come up with something..

Becky Deichert, OMB: There has been discussion on the House side about possibly using ERP funds for it.

Senator Bowman: I don't know if we can do it legally. When you establish in law what money is supposed to be used for, do we have the authority to change that with an amendment? I was one of the guys that sponsored that back in 1992.

Senator O'Connell: You won't know until you get challenged.

Senator Bowman: If it's possible, we'll look at it. Maybe half of it and then half from the general fund or maybe private funding, but we'll try to do everything we can to see that we can make that work.

Ken Grafton: Thank you.

Senator Bowman closed the hearing on HB 1431.

2015 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Appropriations Committee
Harvest Room, State Capitol

HB 1431
4/10/2015
Job # 26003

☐ Subcommittee
☐ Conference Committee

Committee Clerk Signature	Alice Delzer

Explanation or reason for introduction of bill/resolution:

A BILL for an Act to provide for the Langdon Research Center

Minutes:

No testimony submitted

Chairman Holmberg called the committee to order on Friday, April 10, 2015 in regards to HB 1431. Alex Cronquist, Legislative Council and Becky Deichert, OMB were also present. All committee members were present.

,
V.Chairman Bowman moved a Do Not Pass. 2nd by Senator O'Connell.

Chairman Holmberg stated we do not need this bill anymore because it has been included in HB 1020.

Chairman Holmberg call the roll on a DO NOT PASS on 1431.

A Roll Call vote was taken. Yea: 13; Nay: 0 Absent: 0.

Senator O'Connell will carry the bill.

The hearing was closed on HB 1431.

Date: 4-10-15
Roll Call Vote #: 1

2015 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE
ROLL CALL VOTES
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 1431

Senate Appropriations Committee

☐ Subcommittee

Amendment LC# or Description:

Recommendation:
☐ Adopt Amendment
☐ Do Pass ☒ Do Not Pass ☐ Without Committee Recommendation
☐ As Amended ☐ Rerefer to Appropriations
☐ Place on Consent Calendar

Other Actions: ☐ Reconsider ☐

Motion Made By Bowman Seconded By Mathern

Senators	Yes	No	Senators	Yes	No
Chairman Holmberg	✓		Senator Heckaman	✓	
Senator Bowman	✓		Senator Mathern	✓	
Senator Krebsbach	✓		Senator O'Connell	✓	
Senator Carlisle	✓		Senator Robinson	✓	
Senator Sorvaag	✓				
Senator G. Lee	✓				
Senator Kilzer	✓				
Senator Erbele	✓				
Senator Wanzek	✓				

Total (Yes) 13 No 0

Absent 0

Floor Assignment O'Connell

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

HB 1431, as engrossed and amended: Appropriations Committee (Sen. Holmberg, Chairman) recommends **DO NOT PASS** (13 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). Engrossed HB 1431, as amended, was placed on the Fourteenth order on the calendar.

2015 TESTIMONY

HB 1431

#1
1/29/15

Testimony on HB 1431

Rep. David Monson

District 10

Mr. Chairman and members of the House Ag Committee, for the record I am Rep. David Monson from District 10 in northeastern ND. I introduced this bill for my local NDSU Ag Research Center in Langdon.

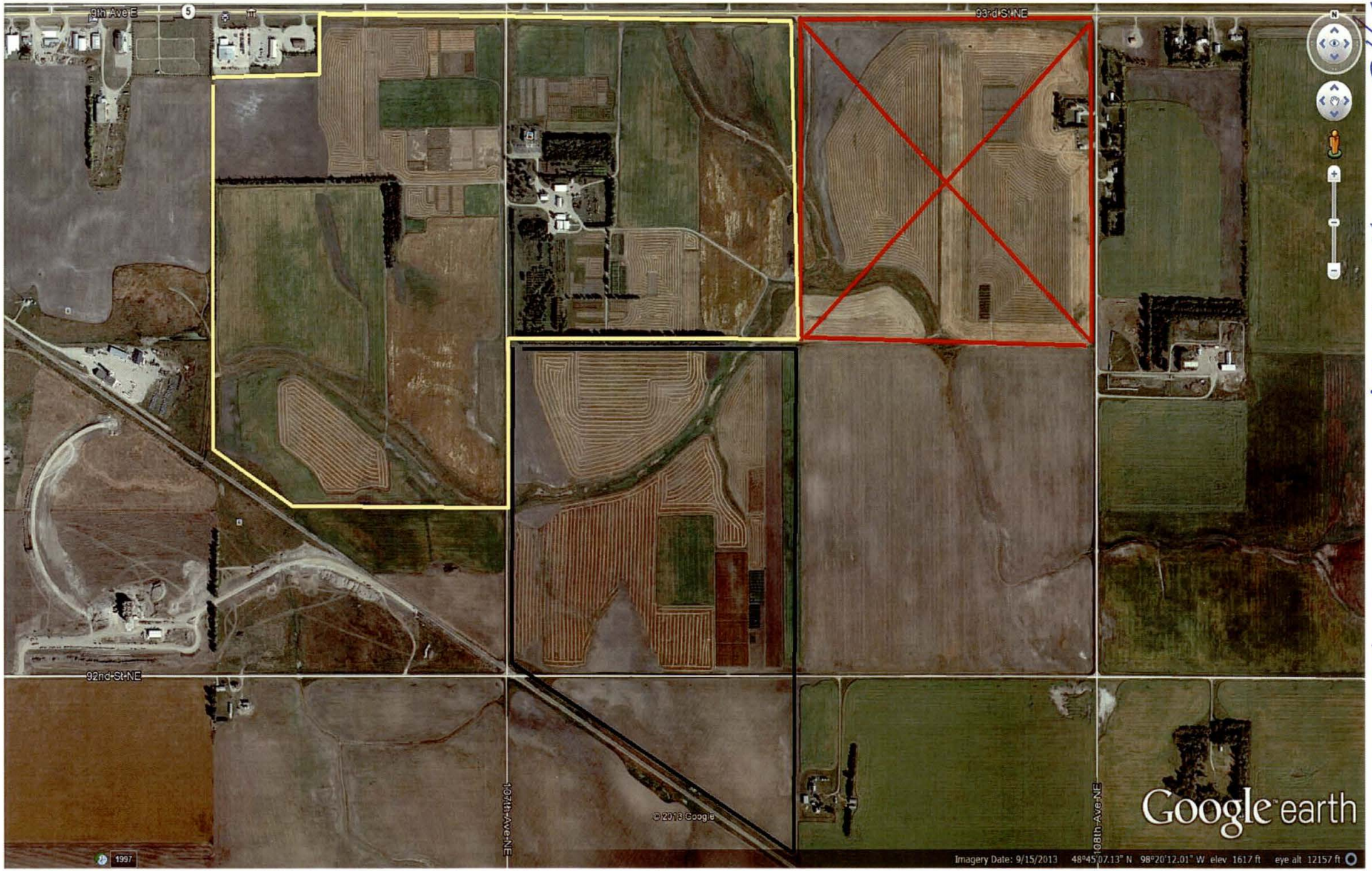
The purpose of the bill is to provide the Langdon Research Center with a pool of money to purchase a quarter of land that borders their property. This is property that they have been renting for approximately 20 years. The owner has had some recent health issues. Therefore, the family has now decided to sell the land. This is land that is definitely not prime agriculture land in our county, but it is very valuable to the center. The center depends on this land to raise crops they wish to increase in their plant/crop breeding programs. This provides a source of revenue to the center when they sell the seed as Foundation, Registered, or Certified seed. The land can also be used for research purposes if they choose.

The plan was for the family to provide the director of the research center with an appraisal and sell the land to the center. However, the family has indicated that they want to now put the land out on bids for sale to the highest bidder. Since the state is required to purchase property at no more than the appraised value, the director is now working on getting a local appraisal of the land. The $450,000 appropriation in this bill may or may not be enough to purchase the land, but in order to give the center a chance to even bid on the land in an open auction, we felt we needed to put a realistic number into this bill until we can get a good appraisal. The $450,000 in this bill is a little over $2800/acre which in today's land market in our area is on the low side. However, that is what the director feels is a realistic number for this land.

I encourage you to look favorably on this land purchase request and will try to answer any questions you may have.

Langdon Research Extension Center Land Base

Key: Owned Land 390 acres | Rented Land 200 acres | Land for Sale 160 acres (rented for 30 yrs)



1/29/15 HB 1431 Tom Bergen #2a

#2b

Testimony – Tom Borgen, Langdon Research Extension Center Advisory Board Chairman

HB 1431 – January 29, 2015 – 9:45am – Agriculture Committee – Rep. Dennis Johnson Chair

Langdon REC Land Base History

1908 – SB 111 authorized the establishment of an experiment station not less than 160 acres near either Hannah or Langdon. Citizens of the Langdon area provided personal funds to purchase 160 acres. The land was given free of charge by warranty deed to the state of North Dakota.

1953 – Second land acquisition added 70 acres. Unsure of source of funds.

1985 – Romeo and Agnes Chaput donate 160 acres to the Langdon Research Extension Center. This comprises the 390 acres owned by ND for the LREC.

2014 – Landlord health episode forces family to sell land rented by the LREC for 30 years.

2015 – Langdon conducts a leadership role on all aspects of canola production research, disease research, soil health research, and agronomy research on all crops grown in northern ND. Coupled with the foundation seed stocks program and new extension programming land base is the most critical need today for the Langdon REC.

How the NDSU Langdon REC has used the Land (for sale) in the Past

- This land houses the F1 nursery (normally 20+ acres) for the NDSU potato breeder. It is ideally located at the Langdon REC because of its perfect location near the potato growing regions of ND but far enough away as to not be affected by a disease outbreak in the growing regions.
- This land also houses the canola breeding nursery since a breeding program was established at NDSU. It takes approximately 10 to 15 acres.
- Graduate students from the plant sciences department at NDSU use this land on research projects associated with their graduate work.
- The corn breeding nursery also uses this quarter for annual trials.
- Canola fertility trials compose some of the acreage in alternative years.
- The final use of the remaining land goes into the foundation seed increase program. This program is responsible for getting the best NDSU varieties of seed into the producers' hands as quick as possible. Very important in northeast ND as Langdon mainly increases NDSU HRSW varieties. Over 50 percent of all HRSW grown in our region is a NDSU variety. This region is the number one producer of HRSW in ND.

Summary

The NDSU Langdon REC's most critical issue going forward is solidifying its land base. With 740 acres comprising the entire research and extension center, losing 160 would be a significant threat to all of the research and extension work we do today.

We feel it is justified to request an appropriation to purchase the 160 acres as this community has time and time again supported the Langdon REC by:

1. Local producers provided personal funds to purchase 320 out of 390 acres currently owned.
2. In 2004, local producers and residents contributed $510,000 of personal funds to complete an $810,000 headquarters and learning center located at the Langdon campus. The legislature provided $300,000 in appropriated funds.
3. In 2014, The Langdon REC completed field tiling construction on a 25 acre piece of land that is highly saline and sodic. In 2015, we will begin research and extension activities to begin educating producers on the economics of field tiling outside of the RRV on the 25 acres. The cost of the project was $85,000 and all funds were donated by producers in the area.

February 11, 2015

#1

15.0588.01001
Title.

Prepared by the Legislative Council staff for
Representative Monson
February 10, 2015

HB 1431
House Approps.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL NO. 1431

Page 1, line 7, replace "$450,000" with "$350,000"

Page 1, line 10, remove "out of any moneys in the general"

Page 1, line 11, replace "fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated" with "from special funds derived from donations and other local funds raised by the state board of agricultural research and education"

Page 1, line 11, replace "$450,000" with "$350,000"

Renumber accordingly

H.B. 1431
3.12.15
#1

Testimony on HB 1431

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District 10

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The purpose of the bill is to provide the Langdon Research Center with a means to purchase a quarter of land that borders their property. This is property that they have been renting for 20 to 30 years. The owner has had some recent health issues. Therefore, the family has now decided to sell the land. This is land that is definitely not prime agriculture land in our county, but it is very valuable to the center. The center depends on this land to raise crops they wish to increase in their plant/crop breeding programs as well as research plots for various research they conduct. The seed production provides a source of revenue to the center when they sell the seed as Foundation, Registered, or Certified seed, and it is a very valuable piece of ground to them due to the many years of experimental history they have on this land .

The plan was for the family to provide the director of the research center with an appraisal and sell the land to the center. Unfortunately, the appraisal they got from a MN firm was way over valued. The director of the center had a ND appraiser do an appraisal which came in at $350,000, a little over $2,000/acre. The family has indicated that they will now sell the land at the local appraised value. Since the state is required to purchase property at no more than the appraised value, we put that $350,000 figure in the bill. In light of the way the revenue forecast was looking, I decided to have the House Ag Committee make it special funds instead of general funds as I had originally submitted. If there is a way to find any source of revenue from the state we would sure appreciate that, but I don't want to jeopardize the bill and put it in risk of not passing. I have some ideas I'm working on, so if you can work with me a while I'd appreciate it.

H.B.1431 3.12.15 #2.1

Testimony – Randy Mehlhoff, NDSU Langdon Research Extension Center Director

HB 1431 – March 12, 2015 – 9:00am – Political Subdivision Committee – Sen. Randall A. Burckhard/Chair

Langdon REC Land Base History

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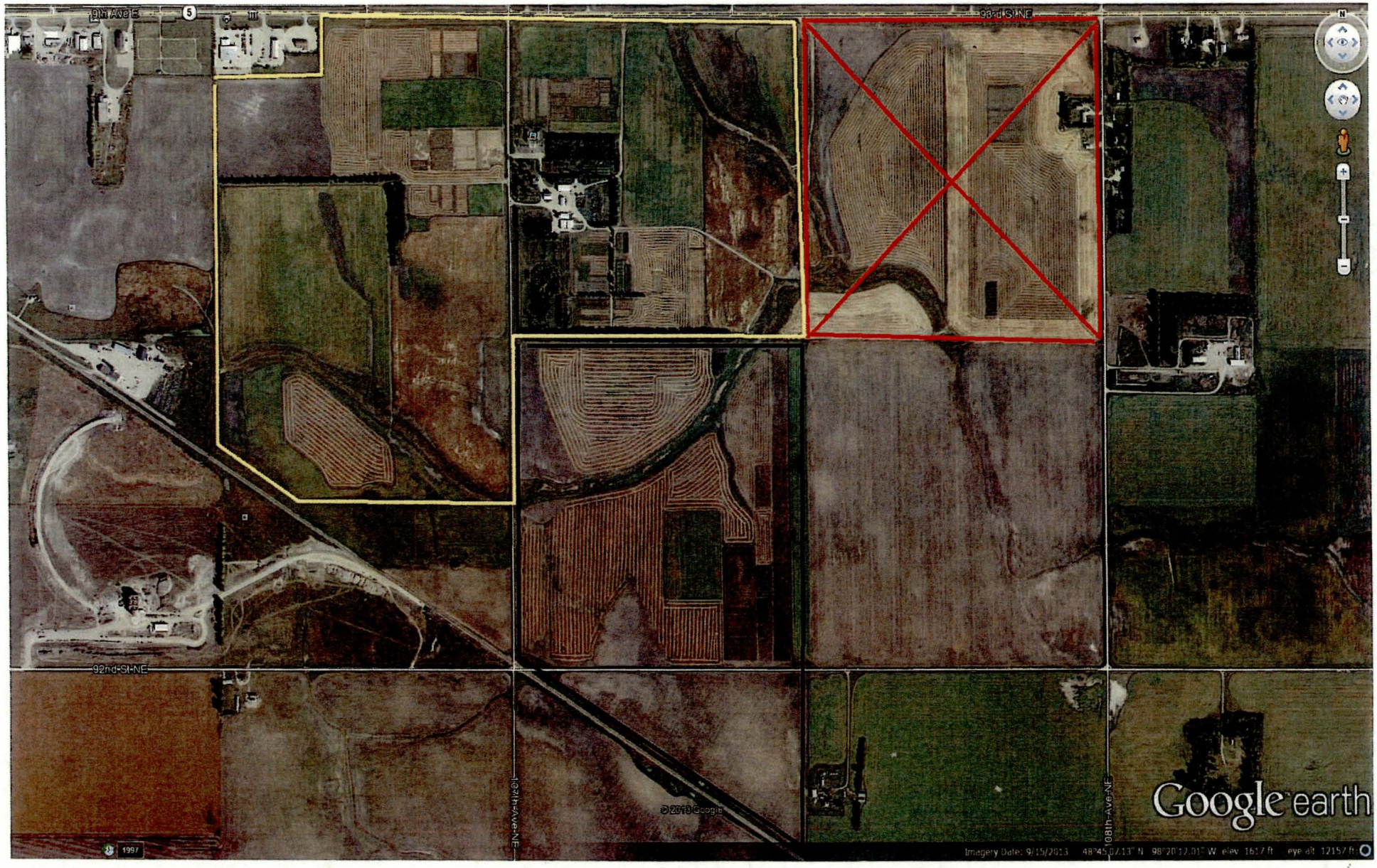
H.B. 1431
#2.2
3.12.15

Langdon Research Extension Center Land Base

Key: Owned Land 390 acres | Rented Land 200 acres | Land for Sale 160 acres (rented for 30 yrs)



HB 1431
3-27-15
#1

Testimony on HB 1431

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District 10

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1.1

Testimony – Randy Mehlhoff, NDSU Langdon Research Extension Center Director HB 1431 3-27-15

HB 1431 – March 27, 2015 – 9:30am – Senate Appropriations Committee – Senator Ray Holmberg Chair #2

NDSU Langdon REC Land Base History

1908 – SB 111 authorized the establishment of an experiment station not less than 160 acres near either Hannah or Langdon. Citizens of the Langdon area provided personal funds to purchase 160 acres. The land was given free of charge by warranty deed to the state of North Dakota.

1953 – Second land acquisition added 70 acres. Unsure of source of funds.

1985 – Romeo and Agnes Chaput donate 160 acres to the Langdon Research Extension Center. This comprises the 390 acres owned by ND for the LREC.

2014 – Landlord health episode forces family to sell 160 acres of land rented by the LREC for 30 years.

2015 – Owners offer land to the state at fair market value to be used by the Langdon REC for agricultural research and extension programs.

NDSU Langdon REC Land Use

- This land houses the F1 nursery (normally 20+ acres) for the NDSU potato breeder. It is ideally located at the Langdon REC because of its perfect location near the potato growing regions of ND but far enough away as to not be affected by a disease outbreak in the growing regions.
- This land also houses the canola breeding nursery since a breeding program was established at NDSU. It takes approximately 10 to 15 acres.
- Graduate students from the plant sciences department at NDSU use this land on research projects associated with their graduate work.
- The corn breeding nursery also uses this quarter for annual trials.
- Canola fertility trials compose some of the acreage in alternative years.
- The final use of the remaining land goes into the foundation seed increase program. This program is responsible for getting the best NDSU varieties of seed into the producers' hands as quick as possible. Very important in northeast ND as Langdon mainly increases NDSU HRSW varieties. Over 50 percent of all HRSW grown in our region is a NDSU variety. This region is the number one producer of HRSW in ND.

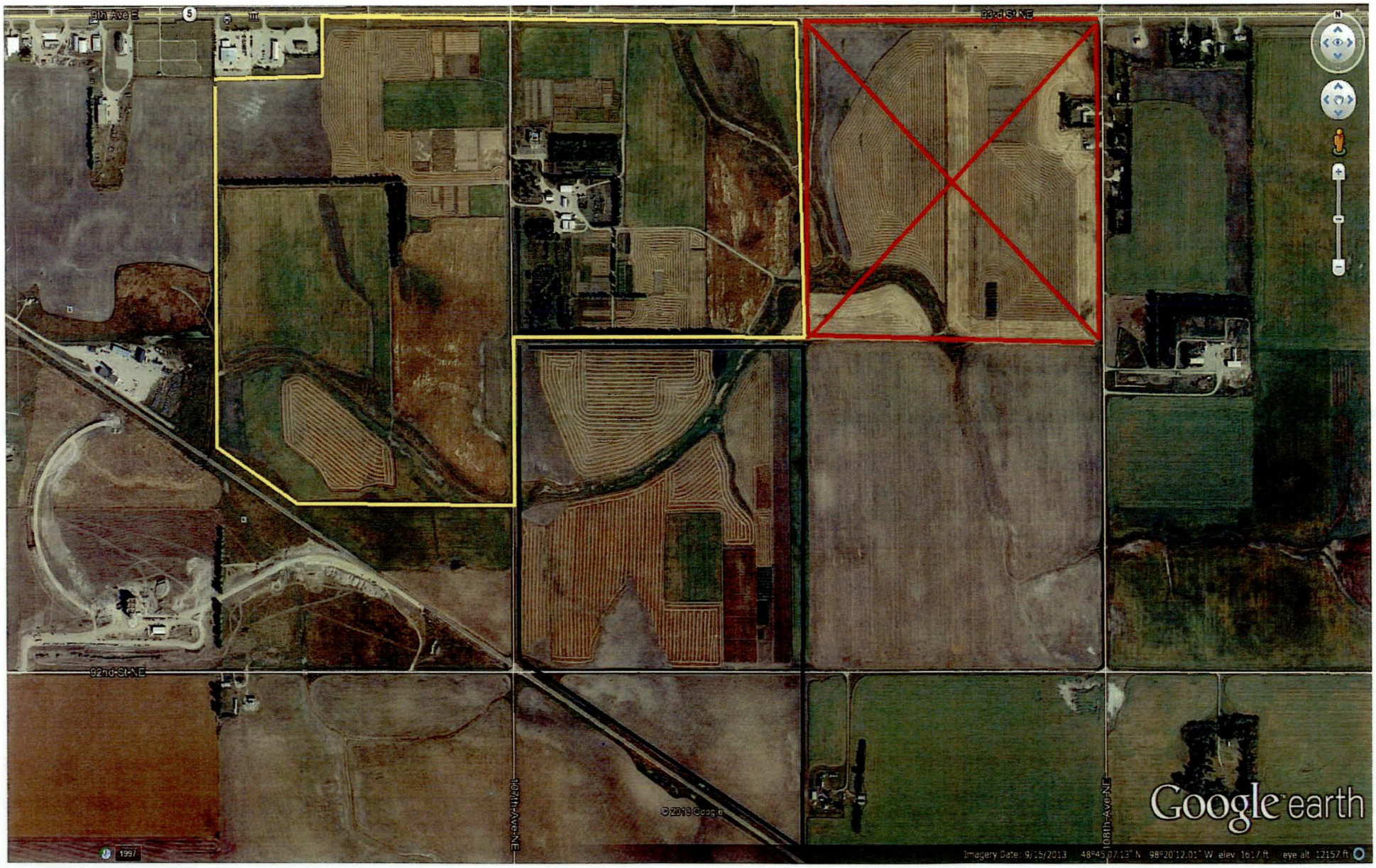
Summary

The NDSU Langdon REC's most critical issue going forward is solidifying its land base. With 740 acres comprising the entire research and extension center, losing 160 acres would be a significant threat to the current level of research and extension programming we do today.

Recent community support for the NDSU Langdon REC.

1. In 2004, local producers, businesses and residents contributed $610,000 of funds to complete a $910,000 headquarters and learning center located at the Langdon campus. The legislature provided $300,000 in appropriated funds.
2. In 2014, The Langdon REC completed field tiling construction on a 25 acre piece of land that is highly saline and sodic. The cost of the project was $85,000 and all funds were donated by producers in the area. In 2015, we will begin research and extension activities to begin educating producers on the economics of field tiling outside of the RRV on the 25 acres.

Your support of HB1431 including an Appropriation as Amended by the Senate Political Subdivision Committee Will Enable Current Levels of Ag Research to Continue at the NDSU Langdon REC for Years to Come.

Langdon Research Extension Center Land Base

Key: Owned Land 390 acres | Rented Land 200 acres | Land for Sale 160 acres (rented for 30 yrs)