

March 21, 2008

ITEM 138-2002-C0308

Authority to Plan and Design New Sky Suites at Bobcat Stadium; Montana State University-Bozeman

THAT:

The Board of Regents of Higher Education authorizes MSU-Bozeman to work with the MSU Foundation to engage an architect for the purpose of initial planning and design of the expansion of Bobcat Stadium in anticipation of construction of additional sky suites in accordance with this item and the terms of MCA § 20-25-309.

EXPLANATION:

1. The 2007 Legislature promulgated MCA § 20-25-309, which permits leasing land and facilities to a private non-profit foundation for the purpose of constructing or renovating athletic facilities.
2. The MSU Foundation is a private non-profit foundation as contemplated by MCA § 20-25-309. MSU-Bozeman proposes to have the MSU Foundation engage an architect for the purpose of providing the initial planning and design development for an anticipated expansion of Bobcat Stadium to construct additional sky suites similar to those currently existing on the west side of the stadium, as well as related elements which might include the addition of seating or other support service areas. MSU anticipates that, at a future date, MSU will seek Board of Regents authority to sign a lease with the MSU Foundation in order to complete this construction project.
3. The value of this initial planning and design development services will be up to \$250,000, but the actual cost will be reduced, due to in-kind contributions of services.
4. This anticipated planning and design work will be financed with non-state funds including gifts, grants, donations, in-kind contributions and facility revenues.
5. This authorization will allow MSU to ask the MSU Foundation to move forward immediately to negotiate a final contract with an architect.
6. Final approval of the Board of Regents will be sought before the expenditure of any funds for actual construction.
7. This item supersedes the authority granted to MSU by the Regents in Item 133-2007-R1106, in November 2006, which occurred prior to the Legislature's passage of MCA § 20-25-309.