TOPIC: Frostburg State University: Construction of a Press Box for Bobcat Stadium

COMMITTEE: Finance

DATE OF COMMITTEE MEETING: January 24, 2013

SUMMARY: Frostburg State University (FSU) requests permission to demolish the existing press box at Bobcat Stadium and construct a replacement facility. Bobcat Stadium, located on the FSU main campus is used to host many sporting events including: football; field hockey; and men's and women's soccer, lacrosse, and track & field. It is also used for intramural sports as well as community events such as Relay for Life.

The old press box is in poor condition with inadequate restroom facilities both in size and condition. The facility is not heated or air conditioned sufficiently. Additionally, the roof needs to be replaced and the facility is not ADA compliant. The size of the current press box is 4,800 square feet. The requested new press box is 10,000 square feet. Current regulations require two means of egress for fire safety—essentially two stair towers. The current building has one. The University is also required to have an elevator for ADA regulations. The current building does not have an elevator. The additional stair tower and elevator required an extra 1,800 square feet. There is also additional square footage to increase restroom space.

The site plan for the press box requires an extensive storm water management (SWM) plan. The stadium site is not large enough to construct the required SWM. The Maryland Department of the Environment is allowing FSU to treat the storm water runoff at an existing parking at another location on campus to obtain the SWM permit. This second location constantly floods a nearby resident hall. Controlling the storm water at this location, the cost of which is included in the project, is greatly needed and will be very beneficial to the University.

The University has reduced the cost of the project to $4.1 million through value engineering $700,000 from the building. The University has accumulated Auxiliary Facilities funds sufficient to fund the project, which is an appropriate use of the fees.

Under current Board of Regents Policy, approval of capital projects between $1 million and $5 million can be made by the Chancellor or Chief Operating Officer. The Chancellor and Chief Operating Officer plan to approve this project. Recognizing concern about fiscal matters of Intercollegiate Athletics programs, this item is intended to alert the Board of a capital item relating to Intercollegiate Athletics.

ALTERNATIVE(S): This is an information item.

FISCAL IMPACT: This is an information item.

CHANCELLOR’S RECOMMENDATION: This is an information item.