



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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New Board Officers and Members Chosen at NDBA

Bismarck, ND – The North Dakota Bankers Association (NDBA) announces new officers and board members.

Mark DuBord, president for American Federal Bank, Fargo-Moorhead, succeeds Eric Hardmeyer, president of the Bank of North Dakota, as chairman of the NDBA Board of Directors. A graduate of the Graduate School of Banking in Boulder, Colorado, DuBord has been in banking since 1981. He is a member of the Fargo-Moorhead AM Rotary and serves on the Foundation Board with Catholic Schools. DuBord joined American Federal in 1998 and resides in Fargo with his wife, Colleen, and two children.

Tim Hennessy, regional president for U.S. Bank in Western North Dakota, Bismarck, became chairman-elect of the NDBA Board. A Berthold native, Hennessy began his banking career in 1977 and joined U.S. Bank in 1994. Hennessy was named president of U.S. Bank in 1997 and regional president in 2001. He serves on boards for numerous organizations in Bismarck and currently serves on the ND Centers of Excellence Commission, chairs the Missouri Valley YMCA Board of Trustees and chairs the University of Mary Board of Regents. Tim has three grown children and has lived in Bismarck since 1975 with his wife, Eve.

Brent Zavalney, president for Choice Financial Group in Langdon, was elected treasurer of the NDBA Board. Zavalney began his banking career with First Bank System in 1977 as an agricultural loan officer in Minot, ND. He transferred to Langdon in 1981 to become an AVP to lead the agricultural lending department. He now serves as the President of Related Services for all Choice Financial locations, is a member of the senior credit committee and executive management team. He has been a member of the bank's board of directors since 1987. Brent has served on the governing boards of the Cavalier County Job Development Authority, Cavalier County Hospital Foundation, Langdon City Park Board and United Lutheran Church. He was raised on his family farm in central ND and is a graduate of North Dakota State University. He is married to Debi and lives in Munich, ND.

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Steve McLaen, president of Sargent County Bank, and Thomas Stennes, president of Harwood State Bank have been appointed to the North Dakota Bankers Association board of directors for four-year terms. Steve McLaen is a 1980 graduate of NDSU and serves as president of Sargent County Bank of Forman and Stock Growers Bank of Napoleon. McLaen has two sons: Austin and Matthew and resides with his wife Janell in Foreman. Thomas Stennes began his banking career in 1976. He served in various capacities with Harwood State Bank before becoming president in 1983. Tom is a graduate of the Graduate School of Banking in Boulder, Colorado. He resides in Fargo with his wife Karen and their three children.

Pat Artz, president of State Bank of Bottineau; Ronald Braseth, president of The Goose River Bank; and Vaune Cripe, senior vice president of American Bank Center, Dickinson have been elected to the North Dakota Bankers Association board of directors for four-year terms.

Pat Artz, has been with State Bank of Bottineau for over 9 years and will be assuming the duties of president as of October 1, 2008. He holds a Bachelor's of Science degree from NDSU and is involved in many organizations within the community such as: MSU-Bottineau Foundation and Athletics, Bottineau County Economic Development, the North Dakota Stockmen's Association and the Bottineau Jaycees. Artz resides in Bottineau. Ronald Braseth is a graduate of the North Dakota State College of Science in Wahpeton and serves as CEO of The Goose River Bank and president of the Mayville Bank. This year he will be celebrating 40 years in the banking industry. Ronald serves on the North Dakota State Banking Board. He resides in Mayville with his wife Jenell. Vaune Cripe has been with American Bank Center for twelve years, at this time she is in charge of external operations for American Bancor. Vaune is a CPA and received her MBA from the University of Mary. She has two children and one grandson and resides in Dickinson with her husband Jack.

The North Dakota Bankers Association represents 87 banks with over 300 facilities in North Dakota. The association offers service to banks in the areas of government relations, education, communications, insurance and bank products.

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