



**Executive Committee
Meeting Minutes
September 4, 2024**

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees was held on September 4, 2024.

Committee members present: George Soule, Chair; Dawn Erlandson, Vice Chair; Tim Huebsch, Treasurer; Jim Grabowska, Roger Moe, Cheryl Tefer

Committee members absent: Jay Cowles

Other board members present: Kathy Sheran

Staff present: Scott Olson, Chancellor; Kari Campbell, Executive Director

The meeting materials are available [here](#).

Chair Soule called the meeting to order at 8:01 a.m.

Agenda Item 2: Minutes of June 5, 2024

Chair Soule asked if there are any changes or amendments to the minutes. Trustee Moe requested a change then Chair Soule asked for a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Trustee Grabowska made the motion and Trustee Moe provided a second.

A roll call vote was conducted, and the minutes were approved unanimously as amended.

Chancellor's Updates

Chair Soule and Trustees, I would like to start with our System Office Redesign. The Tower Floors 3, 4, 5, 6 are all officially under construction and we are all moved over to the atrium side – many of our employees are remote working. Early estimates we are receiving have us within budget – will know more in the next two weeks as we work with the building management to secure the general contractor and then the fun can begin. We will provide an update at the October Executive meeting. One item of interest to the Board include is that the 4th floor will now house IT and HR staff. Another is that the 3rd floor – which is more visitor friendly will be the multi-purpose room which will serve as the board room and accommodate our other large gatherings.

The next topic I want to give updates for is Executive Searches. Previously we announced presidential searches this year due to retirements at both Lake Superior College and South Central College. We will also search at Northland Community and Technical College (one-year interim). Yesterday, Vice Chancellor Dees shared her exciting news: she is leaving Minnesota State to become a Vice President for Executive Searches at Greenwood Asher. We are excited for her but sad for us – Andriel is a true leader, listener, and advocate.

As a result, we will launch a search this afternoon for Interim Vice Chancellor which is open to current and former Minnesota State employees. We plan to bring a recommendation to the October Board meeting. This position is expected to serve from November 1 until summer of 2025. The search for a Permanent Vice Chancellor will launch early 2025 and we expect to bring recommendation to the June 2025 Board meeting.

Some exciting news with Enrollment: Summer enrollment was up overall (System overall 5.6%; Colleges 10%; and Universities 2%). Fall enrollment is also up and promising. Compared to FY2024 YTD, we are up 6.3% systemwide! We have yet to know the full impact of the North Star Promise – once we get the final enrollment numbers will begin the analysis of this along with OHE.

Now for a NextGen Implementation Update. As you know, we went “go-live” in July and have provided updates to board in those early few weeks. There has been lots of excitement and energy around go-live, but it is important to remind ourselves that we will continue to learn though out the next year, as each month new business processes will be introduced in the new platform.

I can tell you that our teams – both at the system level and campus level – have truly put their hearts and souls into the last several months. I am proud of our leaders, many in this room, who have jumped in fully to support their teams and to work alongside their campus colleagues to address issues and to identify solutions. Our folks are tired but committed – we have identified some strategies to help address this and to provide needed support. We will provide a full update and project risk review at the October Board meeting.

I would like to close by telling you about a couple of Faculty Pay issues. Yesterday I shared a memo with the board about the faculty pay issues that we are experiencing this fall semester. We regret that this has occurred and have taken many steps to remedy the issues. This included deploying fixes immediately to address some of the operational issues that were preventing business processes from being completed accurately. Also, Vice Chancellor Davis has been in communication with presidents, CHROs, and faculty union leaders as we worked to understand the potential scope/impact and possible solutions. This weekend, once we could identify the individuals affected, each campus received a list of those impacted and notified them. Off-cycle checks have been offered to those who experience financial hardships.

These issues are not attributable to a single issue, but rather related to the complexities of new business processes in Workday; complexities of coordination between 3 systems: Workday that holds the information; Faculty Workload Management (FWM) that holds the faculty appointment information-how many credits; and SEMA4 the required state payroll/benefits system.

That concludes my remarks.

Chair's Update

The chair did not provide remarks.

Agenda Item 5: Review board assessment survey

Chair Soule invited Executive Director Campbell to provide an update on the board assessment process.

This being an informational item, there was no vote taken.

Agenda Item 6: Review board retreat schedule

Chair Soule invited Executive Director Campbell to give an update on the board assessment process.

This being an informational item, there was no vote taken.

Agenda Item 7: Update on biennial budget listening sessions

Chair Soule invited Melissa Fahning from the Government Relations team to provide an update on upcoming biennial budget listening sessions.

This being an informational item, there was no vote taken.

Adjournment

Chair Soule adjourned the meeting at 8:48 a.m.