



**Board of Trustees  
Meeting Minutes  
October 18, 2023**

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A meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on October 18, 2023.

Trustees present: Roger Moe, Chair; George Soule, Vice Chair; Alex Cirillo, Jay Cowles, Dawn Erlandson, Jim Grabowska, Tim Huebsch, Jerry Janezich, Javier Morillo, April Nishimura, Christopher Richter, Kathy Sheran, Cheryl Tefer

Trustees absent: Micah Coatie, Idman Ibrahim

Staff present: Scott Olson, Chancellor

Meeting materials and audio recordings are available on the [Board of Trustees website](#).

Chair Moe called the meeting to order at 11:38 a.m.

**Chancellor's Report, Scott Olson**

Chair Moe, Vice Chair Soule, and trustees

Thank you to Hennepin Technical College for their generosity and hosting us the past 3 days. This is my first official board meeting and seeing the passion and commitment that was in the room as we stated our commitment to Minnesota's future with all our partners gives me great confidence in the work ahead.

Trustees, as always thank you for your time and service and I appreciate our campus Presidents who spent time with us over the past few days and the depth of our conversations. Monday's event, for which we had over 130+ people in attendance and over 230 people listening by zoom. We made a collective workforce commitment and I want to acknowledge the partners that attended including Governor, Majority Leader Dziedzic, Chair Pelowski and Rep Urdahl and former Rep. Carlson.

Chair Moe, the work that was collectively done last legislative session advocating and securing a historic investment in Minnesota State was crucial for our campuses and the students we serve.

With the historic investment comes a responsibility to clearly show how these funds are helping students and the communities we serve. In her remarks on Monday President Bodin did a great job of pointing out how the funding will give Hennepin Tech the ability to expand

its plumbing program which is spot on for the vision of these investments. Minnesota State will have an opportunity to tell our story on November 6th. Chair Pelowski will hold a hearing that day at 1:00 pm. I, along with Chair Moe, Vice Chancellor Maki and other system and campus leaders, look forward to this important engagement. We will share additional information with trustees once the hearing agenda is finalized.

So, President Downs I have to say GO DRAGONS! It was a honor for Kelley and I as well as Trustee Soule to spend time with you and Mary at your inauguration this past weekend. Along with the impressive ceremony – which included a balloon drop - we were able to attend the homecoming football game and I had the honor to do the coin flip and although I failed as Moorhead lost the toss – the Dragons offense bailed me out as they scored 53 points for the win.

With regards to NextGen, HCM/Finance implementation is in yellow and progressing towards go live, 9 months from now, in July '24. Yellow means that there are key areas of challenge in the project that we are paying close attention to. We are currently in the second of three testing cycles and are kicking the tires of what we have built.

There are key areas needing our continued focused attention: testing, companion projects, reporting and sustainment. There is time for our stakeholders to get to know Workday better through developed learning opportunities which will prep them for formal end user training in April '24. While we are focused on getting to a successful July of '24 go live for HCM/Finance, pre-planning continues to prep for Workday Student implementation. Chair Moe – that concludes my remarks.

### **Chair's Report**

Thank you, Chancellor. We are inspired by your enthusiasm! The last time we were all together was for our Annual Board Retreat at Minnesota North. I would like to again thank President Raich and his team for planning great activities and taking such good care of all of us. Trustees spent time reviewing and discussing findings from our recent Board Assessment on how to be a more effective board. This month's meeting is our first foray into implementing some of those strategies. This includes providing trustees information well in advance of meetings so that there can be thorough review and thoughtful discussion. This also includes meeting times with less presentation and more discussion. I think we demonstrated this in these meetings. We also had president liaisons at the table. I thank everyone for their willingness to take a more active role in these areas.

I have been able to participate in and observe our collective efforts at the system and our campuses in hosting dozens of "bonding visits" by the Senate and House Capital Investment Committees. To date we have hosted committee members at 23 of our campuses. I know Trustee Sheran was able to participate in one of the stops in Mankato. We look forward to continuing hosting legislators on campus as they make their way around the state viewing infrastructure needs throughout Minnesota, and I hope trustees can participate in these

bonding tours if your schedule allows. Looking ahead, the House Capital Investment Committee will be in Southeast region of the state the end of October and in the metro region mid-November. The Senate Capital Investment Committee will tour central Minnesota mid-November and the Southeast region the end of November, and they plan to tour the metro region in January. As we look forward to session beginning in February, our teams will have hosted about 50 visits of committees and leaders from the administration.

Back in June, on my last birthday, I made the comment that a strong Minnesota State system depends on a strong University of Minnesota system and vice versa: we are intertwined. In the not too distant future, I want to have a joint meeting with our Board and the U of M Board of Regents, as well as the State education commissioner as well. We have some joint efforts underway at this time, and I think it's a good idea to have more interaction together.

Finally, I want to thank Hennepin Technical College and President Bodin for hosting us during these three days of excitement and meetings, and all of your efforts, particularly to the culinary staff. I also want to thank everyone for the great involvement and discussions at this month's meeting.

### **Other Reports**

Vice Chair Soule provided comments on his recent trip to Minnesota State University Moorhead for President Downs' Inauguration.

Trustee Sheran provided a summary of the Association of Community College Trustees Leadership Congress that she attended earlier this month.

### **Consent Agenda**

Chair Moe asked if anyone wanted to remove an item from the Consent Agenda, besides the already removed Office Space Lease Agreement. Trustee Cowles made the motion to approve the consent agenda and Trustee Grabowska seconded. A roll call vote was conducted. The vote was as follows:

Trustee Cirillo	Yes
Trustee Coatie	Absent
Trustee Cowles	Yes
Trustee Erlandson	Yes
Trustee Grabowska	Yes
Trustee Huebsch	Yes
Trustee Ibrahim	Absent
Trustee Janezich	Yes
Trustee Moe	Yes
Trustee Morillo	Yes
Trustee Nishimura	Yes
Trustee Richter	Yes

Trustee Sheran	Yes
Trustee Soule	Yes
Trustee Tefer	Yes

The board voted to approve the consent agenda as follows:

1. Minutes of June 21, 2023
2. Proposed Amendment to Board Policy 3.35 Credit for Prior Learning (Second Reading)

### **Board Standing Committee Reports**

#### Finance and Facilities Committee, Jay Cowles, Chair

Committee Chair Cowles reported that the committee approved recommendation for one item. The Finance and Facilities Committee recommends the Board of Trustees adopt the following motion:

*The Finance and Facilities Committee recommends the Board of Trustees authorize the Chancellor or the Chancellor's designee to enter into a 10-year lease at Wells Fargo Place not to exceed \$18.0 million over the term for housing the Minnesota State system office and associated functions. This authorization includes provisions for two (2) five-year options to extend the lease subject to board approval.*

Recommendations of a committee do not require a second. A roll call vote was conducted. The vote was as follows:

Trustee Cirillo	Yes
Trustee Coatie	Absent
Trustee Cowles	Yes
Trustee Erlandson	Yes
Trustee Grabowska	Yes
Trustee Huebsch	Yes
Trustee Ibrahim	Absent
Trustee Janezich	Abstain
Trustee Moe	Yes
Trustee Morillo	Absent
Trustee Nishimura	Yes
Trustee Richter	Yes
Trustee Sheran	Yes
Trustee Soule	Yes
Trustee Tefer	Yes

The board voted to approve the recommended motion.

The board also received reports from meetings of the following committees:

- Academic and Student Affairs Committee, Cheryl Tefer, Chair
- Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee, George Soule, Chair

- Outreach and Engagement Committee, Dawn Erlandson, Chair
- Workforce and Organizational Effectiveness Committee, George Soule, Chair

### **Student Associations and Bargaining Units**

Student associations and bargaining units were invited to submit written remarks and were given the opportunity to address the board in person. Written remarks were provided by AFSCME.

In person remarks were provided by:

- Students United: Emma Gabbert, Vice Chair; Adam Thompson, Student Advocacy Coordinator
- American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME): Minnesota State Policy Committee - Jennifer Erwin, President
- Minnesota Association of Professional Employees (MAPE): Nicole Emerson, Minnesota State Meet & Confer Chair
- Inter Faculty Organization (IFO): Jenna Chernega, President
- Minnesota State College Faculty (MSCF): Kevin Lindstrom, President
- Minnesota State University Association of Administrative and Service Faculty (MSUAAF): Kristy Modrow, President

### **Trustee Reports**

No trustee reports were heard.

### **Adjournment**

Chair Moe adjourned the meeting at 1:07 p.m.