



**Board of Trustees
Meeting Minutes
November 16, 2022**

A meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on November 16, 2022.

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

Trustees absent: Asani Ajogun, Victor Ayemobuwa, Jim Grabowska, Javier Morillo, Oballa Oballa

Staff present: Devinder Malhotra, Chancellor

The meeting materials for this meeting are available [here](#), starting on page 96. An audio recording of the meeting is available [here](#).

Chair Moe called the meeting to order at 3:37 p.m.

Chancellor's Report, Devinder Malhotra

Chair Moe, Vice Chair Soule, and trustees:

Thank you and all the trustees for your engagement over these past few days. There was a lot of important work and discussions that took place and without a doubt we are energized for the work ahead. It was a pleasure to recognize several of our colleagues who earned emeritus status and to meet past trustees and presidents that helped build Minnesota State. It was an important reminder to me that relationships are crucial to our success and the deep commitment to Minnesota State remains strong with leaders of the past.

Chair Moe – you charged us back in July to think BOLD as we prepared ourselves for the upcoming biennial budget request. I think we have fulfilled that request. The budget that has been discussed over the past few months is the culmination of listening to both internal and external stakeholders led by Vice Chancellor Maki. I appreciate the efforts by him and his team to develop a budget that meets the needs of our students and to provide our faculty, staff, and campus and system leaders with the tools we need.

I am deeply appreciative of the support by Students United, LeadMN, IFO, MSCF, MSUAASF, AFSCME, and MAPE as expressed in their joint letter shared with us today.

It cannot be overstated the importance of the synergy of all Minnesota State partners working together to tell our story on how our campuses deliver for communities across Minnesota and the students in which we serve. We may have a BOLD request but only together will we be BOLD in our actions. Our request is going to need heavy lifting by all – our board, our presidents, and most importantly our campuses. The campus story is what makes our work real – it is what binds our policymakers to the communities they serve. Chair Moe, in the coming weeks your work in meeting statewide organizations as well as the charge to campus leaders to ask for support for our request will strengthen our message. We also will be executing a statewide media and coordinating legislative contacts which we will seek board engagement. In a few weeks we also will be gathering with our legislative advocacy network to add to these efforts. This is important work and as the letter from our Minnesota State partners remind us we are in this together.

Chair Moe, in closing - this week has been a somber week for the members of the Minnesota State community. Early Monday morning, we learned of the passing of one of our own – President Stephanie Hammitt of Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College, after a brief and courageous battle with cancer. Our thoughts continue to be with her husband, Brian, her children and grandchildren and the Fond du Lac community. Stephanie was a quiet soul but there was no doubt of her deep conviction for her students, her community, and her culture and heritage. She will be truly missed.

And with that Chair Moe, that concludes my remarks.

Chair's Report

Thank you, Chancellor Malhotra, for your remarks. The Board also gives its condolences to President Hammitt.

I start with an update on recent events since our last meeting in Hutchinson. I want to acknowledge that we have two new board members since our October meetings. We are excited to have Jim Grabowska and Tim Huebsch joining us and look forward to working with them in the years to come. November's joint meeting with Leadership Council was a success; it was good to connect with Leadership Council colleagues and I appreciated the presentation and discussion on the pandemic impact on teaching and learning. The study session on transfer was a deep dive into the myths around transfer in our system and provided clarity on the facts and actual stats for this topic. We also celebrated our six newly designated presidents emeritus. It was great to connect with current and former Minnesota State colleagues at the Celeste Hotel reception on Tuesday evening. Finally, Chancellor Malhotra, Trustees Erlandson and Sheran, and myself attended the Association of Community Colleges Trustees conference in New York City at the end of October. We celebrated with Dr. Lisa Bergin, faculty member from Minneapolis College. She was selected to receive the 2022 ACCT Central Regional Faculty Award; therefore, she was then in the running for the national award. While she

did not end up winning the national award, we are still extremely proud of her outstanding service to students and pleased that she was recognized for her service.

I also want to update you on the Chancellor search. We are now finalizing an agreement with a search consultant and have identified the co-chairs of search committee. Later this month we will invite nominations for members of the committee from all internal constituent groups including a university and college teaching faculty selected by the faculty organization; a member of the service faculty; one student each from the college and university sectors; one member from AFSCME, MAPE, MMA; and up to three members of the public joined by two administrators (presidents university, community college, technical college). We expect to advertise the position and begin active recruitment of candidates in December and continue through January and early February 2023. The SAC will review materials and conduct interviews with select semi-finalists in March and a second round will follow in April. The goal is for Trustees to appoint a chancellor at the May meeting with the appointment taking effect on August 1, 2023.

Chair Moe asked if anyone wanted to remove an item from the Consent Agenda and requested that Item 3.c. (Social Sciences Building Lease at MSC-Southeast) be removed. Trustee Cowles made the motion to approve the consent agenda (with exception of Item 3.c.) and Trustee Cirillo seconded. A roll call vote was conducted. The vote was as follows:

Trustee Ajogun	Absent
Trustee Ayemobuwa	Absent
Trustee Cirillo	Yes
Trustee Cowles	Yes
Trustee Erlandson	Yes
Trustee Grabowska	Absent
Trustee Huebsch	Yes
Trustee Janezich	Yes
Trustee Moe	Yes
Trustee Morillo	Absent
Trustee Nishimura	Yes
Trustee Oballa	Absent
Trustee Sheran	Yes
Trustee Soule	Yes
Trustee Tefer	Yes

The board voted to approve the consent agenda (with the exception of Item 3.c.) as follows:

- 1. Minutes of the Board of Trustees Meeting, October 19, 2022**
- 2. Minutes of the Board of Trustees Special Meeting, November 3, 2022**
- 3. Contracts Requiring Board Approval**
 - a. 100 Wing Nursing Education Suite Renovation, Minnesota State College Southeast**
 - b. Library Building Renovation Design, Normandale Community College**

- 4. Review Audit Results and Approve Release of Audited Financial Statements and Federal Student Financial Aid Audit**
- 5. FY2023 Capital Program Recommendation**

Chair Moe then requested the vote for the item removed from the consent agenda (Item 3 c. Social Sciences Building Lease, Southwest Minnesota State University). A roll call vote was conducted. The vote was as follows:

Trustee Ajogun	Absent
Trustee Ayemobuwa	Absent
Trustee Cirillo	Yes
Trustee Cowles	Yes
Trustee Erlandson	Yes
Trustee Grabowska	Absent
Trustee Huebsch	Yes
Trustee Janezich	Yes
Trustee Moe	Abstained
Trustee Morillo	Absent
Trustee Nishimura	Yes
Trustee Oballa	Absent
Trustee Sheran	Yes
Trustee Soule	Yes
Trustee Tefer	Yes

The board voted to approve item pulled from the Consent Agenda as follows:

- 3. Contracts Requiring Board Approval**
 - c. Social Sciences Building Lease, Southwest Minnesota State University**

Board Standing Committee Reports

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

- Outreach and Engagement Committee, Dawn Erlandson, Chair
- Audit Committee, Alex Cirillo, Chair
- Finance and Facilities Committee, Jay Cowles, 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 and MSUAAF, in addition to a joint letter in support of FY2024-25 Biennial Budget request and have been posted to the board website.

In person remarks were provided by:

- Students United: Kaileigh Weber, State Chair; Axel Kylander, State Vice Chair

- Inter Faculty Organization: Jenna Chernega, President
- Minnesota State College Faculty: Matt Dempsey, President
- Minnesota State University Association of Administrative and Service Faculty: Alex Kromminga, President

Trustee Reports

Additional remarks were made by Trustees Huebsch, Soule and Tefer.

The next board meetings are scheduled for January 24-25, 2023.

Adjournment

Chair Moe adjourned the meeting at 4:39 p.m.