



Meeting Presentations January 23-24

	Page
Finance and Facilities Committee	2
Academic and Student Affairs Committee	6
Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee	9
Board of Trustees	10





**Finance and Facilities Committee
Meeting Minutes
January 23, 2024**

A meeting of the Finance and Facilities Committee of the Board of Trustees was held on Tuesday, January 23, 2024.

Committee members present: Jay Cowles, Chair; Jim Grabowska, Tim Huebsch, Jerry Janezich, , and Kathy Sheran.

Committee members absent: Micah Coatie, April Nishimura

Other board members present: Alex Cirillo, Dawn Erlandson, Roger Moe, Christopher Richter, George Soule, and Cheryl Tefer

Staff present: Scott Olson, Chancellor; Bill Maki, Vice Chancellor for Finance and Facilities

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

Committee Chair Cowles called the meeting to order at 12:34 p.m.

Agenda Item 1: Approval of the Meeting Minutes for November 14, 2023

Committee Chair Cowles asked if there were any changes or amendments to the minutes, then asked for a motion. Trustee Grabowska made the motion and Trustee Huebsch provided a second.

A roll call vote was conducted. The vote was as follows:

Micah Coatie	Absent
Jay Cowles	Aye
Jim Grabowska	Aye
Tim Huebsch	Aye
Jerry Janezich	Aye
April Nishimura	Absent
Kathy Sheran	Aye

The committee voted to approve the minutes.



Agenda Item 2: Contracts Requiring Board Approval:

Committee Chair Cowles invited Brian Yolitz, Associate Vice Chancellor for Facilities to present the contracts for review.

Committee Chair Cowles asked committee members to consider the following recommended committee motion **for Agenda Item 2a: Institutional Effectiveness and Technology Renovation, Metropolitan State University**

The Finance and Facilities Committee recommends that the Board of Trustees authorize the Chancellor or the Chancellor's designee, to enter into a construction contract not to exceed \$1.2 million to renovate the Institutional Effectiveness and Technology spaces at Metropolitan State University.

Trustee Huebsch made the motion and Trustee Grabowska seconded. A roll call vote was conducted. The vote was as follows:

Micah Coatie	Absent
Jay Cowles	Aye
Jim Grabowska	Aye
Tim Huebsch	Aye
Jerry Janezich	Aye
April Nishimura	Absent
Kathy Sheran	Aye

The committee voted to approve the recommended motion.

Committee Chair Cowles asked committee members to consider the following recommended committee motion **for Agenda Item 2b: McElroy G Hall HVAC Upgrade, Minnesota State University, Mankato**

The Finance and Facilities Committee recommends that the Board of Trustees authorize the Chancellor or the Chancellor's designee, to enter into a construction contract not to exceed \$2,000,000 to upgrade the HVAC system in McElroy G Hall at Minnesota State University, Mankato.

Trustee Janezich made the motion and Trustee Grabowska seconded. A roll call vote was conducted. The vote was as follows:

Micah Coatie	Absent
Jay Cowles	Aye
Jim Grabowska	Aye
Tim Huebsch	Aye
Jerry Janezich	Aye
April Nishimura	Absent
Kathy Sheran	Aye

Committee Chair Cowles asked committee members to consider the following recommended committee motion **for Agenda Item 2c: Updated Office Space Lease, System Office**

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 \$22.0 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.

Trustee Grabowska made the motion and Trustee Huebsch seconded. A roll call vote was conducted. The vote was as follows:

Micah Coatie	Absent
Jay Cowles	Aye
Jim Grabowska	Aye
Tim Huebsch	Aye
Jerry Janezich	Aye
April Nishimura	Absent
Kathy Sheran	Aye

Agenda Item 3: Proposed Amendment to Board Policy 6.7 Real Estate Transactions and Management (First Reading)

Committee Chair Cowles invited Associate Vice Chancellor Yolitz to present the first reading of the Proposed Amendment to Board Policy 6.7 Real Estate Transactions and Management as detailed in the meeting materials.

The proposed amendment consists of technical edits, reference to other applicable policies and the application of new formatting and writing standards. System Procedures related to Policy 6.7 are currently undergoing review and update at the staff level.

This being the first reading of the proposed amendment, there was no vote taken.

Agenda Item 4: Proposed Amendment to Board Policy 5.14 Contracts, Procurement and Supplier Diversity (First Reading)

Committee Chair Cowles invited Vice Chancellor Maki to present the first reading of the Proposed Amendment to Board Policy 5.14 Contracts, Procurement and Supplier Diversity as detailed in the meeting materials. The Vice Chancellor was joined by Dr. Tim Anderson, System Director for Procurement and Contract Management.

Proposed amendments include increasing the threshold from \$1 million to \$3 million for Board of Trustees approval for contracts, agreements, and purchases. Additional proposed changes include updates to definitions to improve understanding and interpretation of policy, and general policy modifications for clarity.

This being the first reading of the proposed amendment, there was no vote taken.

Agenda Item 5: College and University Financial Performance Update

Committee Chair Cowles invited Vice Chancellor Maki to present the College and University Financial Performance Update as detailed in the meeting materials. The Vice Chancellor was joined by Metody Popov, Interim System Director for Financial Reporting, and Steve Ernest, System Director for Financial Planning and Analysis.

This item provides a review of the Minnesota State fiscal year 2023 and fiscal year 2022 financial statement results and a report on college and university fiscal year 2023 financial health indicators per Board Procedure 7.3.16.

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

Adjournment

The committee chair adjourned the meeting at 2:25 p.m.



**Academic and Student Affairs Committee
Meeting Minutes
January 24, 2024**

A meeting of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee of the Board of Trustees was held on January 24, 2024.

Committee members present: Cheryl Tefer, Chair; Alex Cirillo, Vice Chair; Dawn Erlandson, Christopher Richter, Kathy Sheran, Idman Ibrahim, Javier Morillo

Committee members absent: None

Other board members present: Jay Cowles, Jim Grabowska, Tim Huebsch, Roger Moe, George Soule

Staff present: Scott Olson, Chancellor; Satsha Green-Stephen, Sr. Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs

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

Committee Chair Tefer called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

Agenda Item 1: Approval of the Meeting Minutes for October 18, 2023

Committee Chair Tefer asked if there are any changes or amendments to the minutes then asked for a motion to approve. Trustee Cirillo made the motion and Trustee Richter provided a second.

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

Agenda Item 2: Proposed Amendment to Board Policy 2.10 Student Housing (First Reading)

Committee Chair Tefer invited Satasha Green-Stephen, Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs to present Proposed Amendment to Board Policy 2.10 Student Housing (First Reading) as detailed in the meeting materials.

This being a first reading of the item, there was no vote taken.

Agenda Item 3: Proposed Amendment to Board Policy 3.8 Students Complaints and Grievance (First Reading)

Committee Chair Tefer invited Satasha Green-Stephen, Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs to present Proposed Amendment to Board Policy 3.8 Students Complaints and Grievance (First Reading) as detailed in the meeting materials.

This being a first reading of the item, there was no vote taken.

Agenda Item 4: Proposed Amendment to Board Policy 3.40 Recognition of Veteran Status (First Reading)

Committee Chair Tefer invited Satasha Green-Stephen, Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs to present Proposed Amendment to Board Policy 3.40 Recognition of Veteran Status (First Reading) as detailed in the meeting materials.

This being a first reading of the item, there was no vote taken.

Agenda Item 5: Proposed Amendment to Board Policy 3.18 Honorary Degrees (First Reading)

Committee Chair Tefer invited Satasha Green-Stephen, Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs to present Proposed Amendment to Board Policy 3.18 Honorary Degrees (First Reading) as detailed in the meeting materials.

This being a first reading of the item, there was no vote taken.

Agenda Item 6: Proposed Amendment to Board Policy 3.29 College and University Transcripts (First Reading)

Committee Chair Tefer invited Satasha Green-Stephen, Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs to present Proposed Amendment to Board Policy 3.29 College and University Transcripts (First Reading) as detailed in the meeting materials.

This being a first reading of the item, there was no vote taken.

Agenda Item 7: Transfer Paths to Graduate Education

Committee Chair Tefer invited Sr. Vice Chancellor Satasha Green-Stephen along with guest presenters listed, to present Transfer Paths to Graduate Education, as detailed in the meeting materials.

- Ginny Arthur, President, Metropolitan State University
- Kyle Swanson, Dean, College of Sciences, Metropolitan State University
- Faisal Kaleem, Professor, Department of Computer Science and Cybersecurity, Graduate Director, Cyber Operations Program and Executive Director, MN Cyber, Metropolitan State University

- Kumara Jayasuriya, President, Southwest Minnesota State University,
- Robbyn Wacker, President, St. Cloud State University
- Katherina Pattit, Dean, Herberger Business School, St. Cloud State University
- Kenneth Rebeck, Professor and Director of the Master of Science in Applied Economics, St. Cloud State University

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

Agenda Item 8: Legislative Investments in Academic and Student Affairs

Committee Chair Tefer invited Sr. Vice Chancellor Satasha Green-Stephen along with Paul Shepherd, Interim Associate Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management and Kim Lynch Associate Vice Chancellor for Educational Development and Technology to present Legislative Investments in Academic and Student Affairs, as detailed in the meeting materials.

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

Adjournment

The committee chair adjourned the meeting at 9:58 a.m.



Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee
Meeting Minutes
January 24, 2024

A meeting of the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee of the Board of Trustees was held on January 24, 2024.

Committee members present: George Soule, Chair; Javier Morillo, Vice Chair; Jim Grabowska, Idman Ibrahim, Christopher Richter and Kathy Sheran

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee members absent: April Nishimura

Other board members present: Alex Cirillo, Jay Cowles, Dawn Erlandson, Tim Huebsch, Jerry Janezich, Roger Moe, and Cheryl Tefer

Staff present: Scott Olson, Chancellor; Andriel Dees, Vice Chancellor for Equity and Inclusion

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

Committee Chair Soule called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Agenda Items 1: Approval of the Meeting Minutes of October 17, 2023

Committee Chair Soule asked if there are any changes or amendments to the minutes then asked for a motion to approve. Trustee Richter made the motion and Trustee Morillo provided a second.

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

Agenda Item 2: Addressing Equity Gaps: Art of Equity and MavPass

Committee Chair Soule invited Vice Chancellor Dees along with the following staff from Minnesota State University – Mankato, Henry Morris, Vice President for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, Timothy Berry, Associate Vice President for Faculty Affairs & Equity Initiatives, and Laura Jacobi, Professor and University MavPASS Faculty Liaison to present their work surrounding closing equity gaps at Minnesota State University - Mankato, as detailed in the meeting materials.

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

Adjournment

The committee chair adjourned the meeting at 11:01 a.m.





**Board of Trustees
Meeting Minutes
January 24, 2024**

A meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on January 24, 2024.

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

Trustees absent: Micah Coatie, Idman Ibrahim, April Nishimura

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 11:06 a.m.

Student Associations and Bargaining Units

Chair Moe stated that comments from student associations and bargaining units will occur prior to the Chancellor and Chair Reports. Both groups were invited to submit written remarks and were given the opportunity to address the board in person. In person (VIRTUAL) remarks were provided by:

- Students United: Marweh Asif, President and Samir Khan, Vice Chair

Instead of speaking separately, bargaining units provided a joint statement regarding payroll issues. Bargaining unit leaders present included:

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

Chancellor's Report, Scott Olson

Thank you, Chair Moe. I appreciate our Bargaining Unit leaders speaking about these issues to us. In the future, while we work on these problems, please contact either Vice Chancellor Davis or me directly so that we can begin to fix these issues.

I would like to share some Executive Search Updates. First, I want to show appreciation to both the Winona State University Search Advisory Committee (SAC), who recently wrapped up their semi-finalists interviews, and to President Jayasuriya for his leadership as chair of the SAC. We will conduct finalist interviews the week of February 12th with visits to both Winona, Rochester, and the system office.

Next, we launched the Northland Community and Technical College search last week for the interim president position and look forward to identifying finalists to meet students, faculty, and staff at both campuses and the system office.

Finally, I am conducting listening sessions St. Cloud State University on February 12th. The schedule is out to meet with students, faculty, staff, and community members. Following my visit, we will launch the search to identify an interim president for SCSU. Thank you to the trustees who are participating on the interview panels.

Regarding Bonding Recommendations, the Governor announced his bonding recommendations and although they may not be what we had hoped for at this stage of the game, we appreciate his support of higher education. This is a long game and just the first move, and we will continue to advocate fiercely for what our campuses need to deliver the education that our students deserve. A part of that advocacy is to get out our story about our needs and so next week I will participate in a long-standing tradition of chancellors...getting in the car with Bernie Omann and traveling the state to visit editorial boards in the communities we serve. This year – I am excited to share that Interim President Jeff Ettinger of the University of Minnesota will join me on some of those visits. It is our goal to raise the collective voice of public higher education across the state and express our needs for public infrastructure support.

Finally, just a summary of External Activities. I had the opportunity to attend along with Vice Chair Soule and Trustee Richter – the LeadMN Gala where we celebrated scholarship awardees. Last Friday, I attended the Students United Community Leader Fellowship Fundraiser and Community Celebration. This Friday, I will be speaking at the 15th Power in Diversity Leadership Conference held at St. Cloud State University.

In mid-February, I will be speaking at the Minnesota Chamber of Commerce conference where I will have the opportunity to speak directly to all the local chamber presidents. A few weeks after that Executive Director Shannon Bryant will be a speaker at the Chamber's annual Workforce Summit that includes chambers and business leaders.

Given our conversation yesterday – our colleges and universities cannot do this work alone, so these opportunities help to get our message out there and to share our value proposition and role to help advance the state’s workforce.

Chair Moe – that concludes my remarks.

Chair’s Report

Thank you, Chancellor. I will be joining part of the editorial board meetings that the Chancellor mentioned and wanted to remind you of the Legislative breakfasts coming up in February-you are all invited. As you may recall from our Mankato meeting in November, we discussed the possibility of having the trustees and U of M Regents get together. We have decided to wait until Summer or Fall to attempt that.

I was able to attend MSU-Moorhead’s commencement in December, that was an enjoyable occasion. We also held a Special Board Meeting in December to finish up the last contract we negotiated, so we have that behind us. Vice Chair Soule and I continue to get updates from General Counsel Goings and continue to stay on call with the Chancellor, so we have constant contact.

Before I move to the consent agenda, I just want to say that I really appreciate the engagement of the Board as well as the presenters’ information and presentations. It has been a great day and a half!

Consent Agenda

Chair Moe asked if anyone wanted to remove an item from the Consent Agenda. A roll call vote was conducted. Trustee Grabowska motioned and Trustee Cowles seconded. 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	Absent for Vote
Trustee Nishimura	Absent
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 November 15, 2023
2. Minutes of December 19, 2023 Special Meeting
3. Contracts Requiring Board Approval
 - a. Institutional Effectiveness and Technology Renovation, Metropolitan State University
 - b. McElroy G Hall HVAC Upgrade, Minnesota State University, Mankato
 - c. Updated Office Space Lease, System Office

New Business

Chair Moe asked if there was any new business. Trustee Cirillo brought forward a motion related to the Joint meeting of the Audit and Outreach and Engagement Committee held on January 23, 2024 which included review and discussion of results of the recent audit of customized contract training programs. The motion was as follows:

The Minnesota State Board of Trustees is supportive of contract training and recognizes its strategic importance to Minnesota State and the State of Minnesota. The Board of Trustees endorses the creation of a definition for customized contract training, the establishment of best practices, and the creation of individualized implementation plans for each college and university. The board charges the chancellor and his team with providing an update to the board in four (4) months.

Trustee Cowles seconded and 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	Absent for Vote
Trustee Nishimura	Absent
Trustee Richter	Yes
Trustee Sheran	Yes
Trustee Soule	Yes
Trustee Tefer	Yes

The board voted to approve the motion.

Board Standing Committee Reports

The board received reports from meetings of the following committees:

- Academic and Student Affairs Committee, Cheryl Tefer, Chair
- Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee, George Soule, Chair
- Finance and Facilities Committee, Jay Cowles, Chair
- Audit Committee, Alex Cirillo, Chair

Trustee Reports

Several brief trustee reports were heard by Vice Chair Soule, Trustee Tefer, and Trustee Erlandson.

Adjournment

Chair Moe adjourned the meeting at 12:06 p.m.