

**MINNESOTA STATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES  
May 19, 2010**

---

Executive Committee Members Present: David Olson, Chair, Duane Benson, Ruth Grendahl, Christine Rice and Scott Thiss

Executive Committee Members Absent: David Paskach and Thomas Renier

Other Members Present: Jacob Englund and Christopher Frederick

The Minnesota State Colleges and Universities Board of Trustees Executive Committee met at Wells Fargo Place, 30 7th St., E., 4th Floor, Board Room, Saint Paul, on Wednesday, May 19, 2010, at 3:00 PM.

Chair David Olson convened the meeting and announced that a quorum was present.

**(1) Minutes of April 21, 2010**

The minutes of the Executive Committee meeting on April 21, 2010, were accepted as written.

**(2) FY 2011 Board of Trustees Operating Budget (First Reading)**

Treasurer Scott Thiss reported that after the Executive Committee's discussion last month on the Board's FY 2011 Operating Budget, he is recommending a proposed budget of \$212,500. This is the same amount as the FY 2010 Operating Budget. The assumptions include additional meetings for the Board's search for a new chancellor and the appointment of up to six new members. He continued that the key budget item for discussion is the \$15,000 for development/national conferences. Some Trustees were concerned about the costs associated with attending national conferences given the state's and the system's budget constraints. After discussion, Trustee Thiss made the following motion which was seconded and approved:

*The \$15,000 for development/national conferences will be added to the Contingency Fund. The Executive Committee will consider travel to national higher education conferences by reviewing the program/agenda and other factors before granting approval.*

Vice Chair Grendahl requested that the record show that the Executive Committee took this action to demonstrate the Board's prudence with its own operating budget.

**(3) Follow-up to OLA Evaluation of the System Office**

Chair Olson commented that the performance reports on the divisions within the Office of the Chancellor will be presented at the June meeting.

**(4) Discuss June 15-16, 2010, Meetings**

Chair Olson announced that the Board will meet on June 2 for a closed session with the Chancellor as part of his annual evaluation. Following the meeting, the Trustees will complete a survey that will be compiled by Executive Director John Asmussen, Office of

Internal Auditing. The Board will meet again in another closed session on June 15, and the results of the Chancellor's annual evaluation will be announced at the Board meeting on June 16.

Chair Olson commented that the reception on June 15 will be to recognize presidents and senior staff who are leaving or retiring from the system and the Trustees whose terms on the Board are ending.

There was a discussion about the search for a new chancellor and how it will be conducted. There was a concern about the timing as the Board had not yet discussed the profile or the process for the chancellor search. Suggestions ranged from hiring an interim chancellor to convening a Blue Ribbon group to assist with the search. Lori Lamb, Vice Chancellor for Human Resources, reported that a Request for Proposal for a search firm had been published. Vice Chancellor Lamb recommended scheduling time for the Board to discuss the profile and process during the June Board meeting. Chair Olson suggested a facilitated conversation to guide the Board through the process. The Trustee group looking at the responses to the RFP's will be selected later. Chair Olson concluded that the Board will schedule time for a facilitated conversation on the chancellor search at the June meeting.

#### **(5) Leadership Council Comments**

President Davenport, President, Minnesota State University, Mankato, and co-chair of the Leadership Council with Chancellor McCormick, reported on the Leadership Council meeting of May 4. Presidents are assuming budget reductions of between 10-15 percent and possible program eliminations. Other considerations include replacing more faculty with adjuncts, sharing positions, and early separation agreements.

#### **(6) Other**

Trustee Rice suggested that the Board may want to participate in self-evaluations. The results could improve the quality of the meetings by making sure that the Board is asking the right questions and engaging in the right discussions. Vice Chancellor Lamb noted that there is value in self-evaluations, especially when compared to other evaluative information and looking at the gaps. Trustee Grendahl asked Vice Chancellor Lamb to provide some insights on Board self-evaluations at a future meeting of the Human Resources Committee.

#### **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 3:45 PM.