



**Executive Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
April 6, 2022**

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A meeting of the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees was held on April 6, 2022.

Committee members present: Jay Cowles, Chair; Rudy Rodriguez, Vice Chair; Roger Moe, Treasurer; Dawn Erlandson, April Nishimura, Cheryl Tefer, Michael Vekich

Committee members absent: None

Other board members present: Asani Ajogun, George Soule

Staff present: Devinder Malhotra, Chancellor; Kari Campbell, Executive Director

The meeting materials are available [here](#). An audio recording of the meeting is available [here](#).

Chair Cowles called the meeting to order at 8:02 a.m.

**Chancellor's Updates**

Chair Cowles, Vice Chair Rodriguez, trustees – my updates today are brief.

Government Relations team has provided updates over the past few days as the House and Senate have a deadline of this Friday to get their respective spending bills out of their respective committees. To say the bills are vastly different is an understatement and over the next several weeks the difficult task of bringing very different priorities together will be the task of legislative leaders and Governor Walz. We will continue to keep you up to date and appreciate your guidance in the weeks ahead.

On March 11th following my conversations with the HTC college community, I issued a call for nominations and applications for the interim president at Hennepin Technical College. Yesterday, we shared the names of the four candidates who will participate in interviews this week:

- Joy Bodin, Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs at Central Lakes College
- Lisa Larson, who currently serves as the Head of the community College Growth Engine Fund at the Education Design Lab but previously served at North Hennepin Community College and Hennepin Technical College.

- Jessica Lauritsen, Vice President for Student Affairs and Acting President at Hennepin Technical College
- Kevin Lindstrom, Interim Dean of Student Affairs at Anoka Technical College

Later this morning, I along with Chief of Staff Simonsen, vice chancellors, and Trustees Soule and Tefer will interview four candidates, and on Friday, all four candidates will visit the Brooklyn Park campus to meet with students, faculty, staff, and administrators. It is my intent to bring to the Board's April 20th meeting my recommendation for the interim president.

I also want to give a shout out to the Minnesota State Mankato Men's Hockey team who will be playing in the Frozen Four this Thursday evening against some other team from Minnesota. I can assure you having spent time with President Inch last week he would be happy to talk hockey to anyone!

### **Chair's Update**

Thank you, Chancellor, for your remarks. I am very pleased to report that the Board Office has received many requests for trustee attendance at this spring's commencements. Participating in commencement ceremonies is a true highlight of trustee service so I am thrilled that many campuses are returning to in-person events. Trustees – the Board Office is working to compile the list of requests so look for a communication yet today to solicit your interest in attending these ceremonies.

I also want to express my appreciation for the flexibility that both trustees and presenters showed at last month's board meetings as we shifted back to in-person meetings in a hybrid mode. This month's meetings will be in-person and I look forward to having everyone back in the same room after a very lengthy hiatus.

### **Agenda Item 3: Minutes of March 2, 2022**

Chair Cowles asked if there are any changes or amendments to the minutes then asked for a motion to approve. Vice Chair Rodriguez made the motion and Trustee Moe provided a second. A roll call vote was conducted and the minutes were approved unanimously.

### **Agenda Item 4: Proposed Committee Charter Revisions (Second Reading)**

#### **a. Academic and Student Affairs Committee**

Chair Cowles invited Trustee Tefer and Sr. Vice Chancellor Ron Anderson to provide an update on changes since the first reading. The meeting materials for this item begin on page 8. Feedback was received from committee members with the following proposed addition, noted below in red text:

#### **Authority:**

The principal elements of the Charter of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee shall be:

1. Provides advice and counsel to the chancellor. (This duty is shared with other board members)

2. Preparation of an annual committee workplan
3. Recommend proposed board policies within the purview of the committee
4. The committee's oversight includes but is not limited to:
  - Diversity, **inclusion** and equity matters related to students and academic program

Chair Cowles asked committee members to consider the following recommended committee motion, as amended per discussion:

*The Executive Committee recommends that Board of Trustees adopt the revised charter of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee.*

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

Trustee Cowles	Yes
Trustee Erlandson	Yes
Trustee Moe	Yes
Trustee Nishimura	Yes
Trustee Rodriguez	Yes
Trustee Tefer	Yes
Trustee Vekich	Yes

The committee voted to approve the recommended motion.

#### **b. Audit Committee**

Chair Cowles invited Trustee Vekich to provide an update on changes since the first reading. The meeting materials for this item begin on page 11. No additional feedback was received.

Chair Cowles asked committee members to consider the following recommended committee motion:

*The Executive Committee recommends the Board of Trustees adopt the revised charter for the Audit Committee.*

Vice Chair Rodriguez made the motion and Trustee Nishimura seconded. A roll call vote was conducted. The vote was as follows:

Trustee Cowles	Yes
Trustee Erlandson	Yes
Trustee Moe	Yes
Trustee Nishimura	Yes
Trustee Rodriguez	Yes
Trustee Tefer	Yes
Trustee Vekich	Yes

The committee voted to approve the recommended motion.

**Agenda Item 5: Proposed Committee Charter Revisions (First Reading)**

**a. Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee**

Chair Cowles invited Vice Chair and Vice Chancellor Andriel Dees to review proposed amendments to the Academic and Student Affairs Committee charter. The meeting materials for this item begin on page 15.

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

**b. Facilities Committee and Finance Committee**

Chair Cowles invited Trustee Moe to review proposed changes to the Facilities and Finance Committee charters. The meeting materials for this item begin on page 19. Trustee Moe noted that these two committees were combined into a single committee up until five (5) years and that he and Trustee Janezich have discussed recombining them. Trustee Moe invited Vice Chancellor Bill Maki and Associate Vice Chancellor Brian Yolitz to provide additional information and rationale for this proposed change.

Chair Cowles asked committee members to consider the following recommended committee motion:

*The Executive Committee recommends the Board of Trustees combine the Facilities and Finance Committees into a single committee and direct committee chairs to develop a new charter for the combined committee.*

Vice Chair Rodriguez made the motion and Trustee Nishimura seconded. A roll call vote was conducted. The vote was as follows:

Trustee Cowles	Yes
Trustee Erlandson	Yes
Trustee Moe	Yes
Trustee Nishimura	Yes
Trustee Rodriguez	Yes
Trustee Tefer	Yes
Trustee Vekich	Yes

The committee voted to approve the recommended motion. Chair Cowles directed Trustees Janezich and Moe, in collaboration with staff leads, to develop a new, single charter for a combined committee for a first reading at the May Executive Committee meeting.

**Agenda Item 6: Review Draft Board Chair Role Description**

Chair Cowles reviewed a draft board chair role. Committee members provided feedback. The meeting materials for this item begin on page 27.

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

**Agenda Item 7: Review draft preferred qualifications and attributes for effective trustees**

Chair Cowles reviewed a draft document on preferred qualifications and attributes for effective trustees. Committee members provided feedback. The meeting materials for this item begin on page 32.

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

**Adjournment**

Chair Cowles adjourned the meeting at 9:52 a.m.