

**MINNESOTA STATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
April 21, 2010**

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

Executive Committee Members Absent: David Paskach

Other Members Present: Cheryl Dickson, Jacob Englund, Christopher Frederick, Louise Sundin, and James Van Houten

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, April 21, 2010, at 3:10 PM.

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

(1) Minutes of March 17, 2010

The minutes of the Executive Committee meeting on March 17, 2010, were accepted as written.

(2) FY 2010 Third Quarter Board Operating Budget

Trustee Scott Thiss reviewed the Board of Trustees Operating Budget report for the third quarter ending March 31, 2010. The budget is \$212,500. At the end of the quarter, \$111,628 had been spent, \$67,461 had been encumbered, leaving an available balance of \$33,411.

(3) Discuss FY 2011 Board Operating Budget

Trustee Thiss began a discussion on the Board's FY 2011 Operating Budget. Trustee Duane Benson suggested that the Board consider a hard freeze on travel. He added that travel outside of the state of Minnesota is hard to justify given the state's budget challenges. Vice Chancellor Laura King explained that Chancellor James McCormick delivered a strong message about travel and that travel in the Office of the Chancellor had dropped by 50 percent. Chair Olson and Trustee Benson clarified that the travel freeze would be for the Trustees. Trustee Van Houten spoke about the value of having Trustees attend national higher education conferences. Vice Chair Ruth Grendahl asked staff to ascertain if the governor has issued a hard freeze on travel. Trustee Thiss concluded the discussion, and added that he will recommend a budget for discussion at the May meeting of the committee.

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

John Asmussen, Executive Director, Office of Internal Auditing, reviewed a reporting template for the Office of the Chancellor divisions to report on multi-year financial and personnel data. The template also collects narrative explanations of the distribution between duties performed by the division and similar duties performed by the colleges and universities, redistribution of costs or personnel, performance metrics and major accomplishments and major divisions and committee work plans for the coming year.

Executive Director Asmussen explained that the first reports would be in June, and they will review FY 2010, and look ahead to FY 2011. He recommended that the reports be given annually in June so that the committees can review last year's performance. Vice Chair Grendahl inquired about the consulting contracts for searches for presidents and vice chancellors. Vice Chancellor King explained that the budgets for the executive searches are from systemwide set asides. Chair Olson commented that this agenda item will be continued in May.

(5) System Office Review

Chancellor McCormick provided a brief summary on the review of the system office that was conducted by the Structural Review Advisory Team. The team members were Senior Vice Chancellor Linda Baer, Vice Chancellors Lori Lamb and Laura King, Interim Vice Chancellor Carolyn Parnell, and Presidents Doug Allen, Kevin Kopischke, Larry Lundblad, Earl Potter, Donovan Schwichtenberg and Edna Szymanski. The Chancellor is reviewing their recommendations that address structural policy goals, services framework and parameters to ensure systemic strength.

(6) Discuss May 18-19, 2010 Meetings

Chair Olson and the committee reviewed the agenda items for the May 18-19 meetings. There will be a recommendation for a president of Bemidji State University and Northwest Technical College, second readings on several Board policies, the FY 2011 Operating Budget and the FY 2012-2017 Capital Budget Guidelines.

(6) Leadership Council Comments

Richard Davenport, President, Minnesota State University, Mankato, and co-chair of the Leadership Council, reported that the Leadership Council meeting on April 6 was abbreviated so that the presidents could attend the House Higher Education Committee meeting. Presidents Earl Potter and Ann Wynia testified. The presidents discussed the FY 2011 Operating Budget, focusing on the Master Green Sheet and planning for FY 2012 and 2013 budgets.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:40 PM.