**Summary**

**Present:** Scott Monson, Chair, Minneota   
Joe Meyer, Past Chair, Murray County Central  
Dennis Laumeyer, Benson

Ryan Nielsen, Canby

Chris Fenske, Lakeview   
Terry Gaalswyk, Minnesota West   
Klint Willert, Pipestone

Doug Froke, Renville County West

Ray Hassing, Round Lake-Brewster   
Sonya Vierstraete, SW Minnesota State University   
Dr. Chad Anderson, Tracy

Jeff Holm, Willmar  
Richard Schneider, Yellow Medicine East

**Absent:** Molly Schilling, Vice Chair, Adrian   
Jeff Horton, Gibbon-Fairfax-Winthrop   
Paul Bang, Heron Lake-Okabena

Barry Schmidt, Jackson County Central   
Melissa Radeke, Lester Prairie   
Bill Adams, Willmar

John Landgaard, Worthington

**Staff:** Cliff Carmody, Executive Director

Tegan Gillund, Director of Finance

Shelly Maes, Director of Member Engagement & SWWC Foundation Executive Director

Mary Palmer, Senior Director of Special Servies

Deecy Jesse, Administrative Assistant

1. Call to Order – Scott Monson, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.
   1. Welcome and Introductions
   2. Agenda Review and Approval

The agenda was reviewed. Motion by Joe Meyer, second by Ray Hassing, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion passed.

* 1. Review and Approve 1/18/24 Meeting Summary

The minutes from the January 18, 2024, Superintendents’ Executive Council meeting were reviewed. Motion by Dennis Laumeyer, second by Doug Froke to approve the January 18, 2024, Superintendents’ Executive Council meeting summary. Motion passed.

1. Information/Discussion/Action
   1. FY24 Lease Levy Allocation – Tegan and Cliff
      1. Considerations for FY25 allocation

Tegan provided a presentation overview of the FY24 Lease Levy Allocation. A one-page document shared the allocation of the leases for the current year FY24. $826,000 is an estimate. The allocation of 40% is split evenly between all districts on a flat dollar amount and 60% is the lease amount based on enrollment APU.

***Request***: Provide a total recap to include info on full/associate members/CCOGA, etc. that will help pay, timeline and have a PowerPoint that provides the same information to share out to boards.

Information will continue to come forward at the Regional in-person Superintendent meetings. Perhaps the Annual Meeting or Regional Board Meeting can be set up to provide information as well and rotate location each year.

* 1. Legislative Update – Sam Walseth (not available to attend)
  2. Day at the Capitol Follow Up – Dennis L., Ray H., Doug F., Joe M., Jeff H., Rich S., Molly S.

Overall, the Day at the Capitol was good. Some state representatives seemed quite defensive and unapologetic about decisions made.

* 1. SWWC Board Request RE: Ex Officio Member Consideration – Cliff

Discussion was held whether the Council felt it would like to request having a Superintendent or two attend the monthly board meetings and serve as an Ex Officio Member.

**Motion**: Motion by Klint Willert, second by Jeff Holm, to request from SWWC Service Cooperative Board of Directors for an Ex Officio Member.

1. SWWC Updates/Program Highlights
   1. Special Services Information/Updates – Mary Palmer

ELC enrollment is 199 students (206 is the capacity). Some open slots in Montevideo, Willmar and Windom.

SMSU site has an asbestos concern, and the job site is closed until further notice. Concerns are cost and timeline.

Staffing: In need of 2 SLP’s (all applicants want virtual), 1 OT, ELCs need 10 Teachers, and Director of Special Education.

Office of Special Ed Programs: occasionally they request data from the state that trickles down to the districts. Mary said they may reach out to one of your teachers.

* 1. Director of Finance Report – Tegan Gillund
     1. FY24 Final Budget Update provided by Tegan.
     2. FY25 Capital Budget Update provided by Tegan.
     3. SWWC Membership Agreement Renewal Update

There are 24 memberships yet to receive. If you have any questions, please reach out to Tegan.

1. SWWC Executive Director Report – Cliff Carmody

9.7 FTEs will be hired for regional work around the READ Act. The RCEs will be under Compass starting next year.

1. Committee Reports
2. Communication, Information and Updates
   1. MREA Updates – Cliff Carmody

Sam has the Tuesday morning updates. Friday, MREA will be interviewing for the Executive Director position.

* 1. MASA Updates – Dr. Bill Adams

MASA Conference this week.

* 1. MN Telemedia Report – Paul Bang/Dr. Jeff Horton/Ray Hassing

Approved two grant applications.

* 1. Post-Secondary Partners Updates
     1. SMSU – Dr. Sonya Vierstraete
* CUGMEC (Collaborative Urban and Greater MN Educators of Color) grant funds are available to support teacher candidates of color with scholarships during student teaching. If you have any students, paraprofessionals, and tier 1 or 2 teachers of color, please reach out to me.
* If you have faculty who want to seek graduate credit for LETRS training, we will be offering AE 580 Science of Reading I (2 credits) & AE 581 Science of Reading II (2 credits) this summer. If teachers are seeking their K-12 reading licensure or Master of Education with emphasis in Reading, they could apply their LETRS training toward coursework. More information is coming soon.
* We are working on redesigning our Teacher Preparation Program based on the newly adopted Standards of Effective Practice in MN. This includes a foundations of literacy course for candidates prior to admission to the School of Education – so an early introduction to the Science of Reading (SoR). The literacy courses post-admission to the Teacher Preparation Program were reviewed in the spring of 2023 and have been approved by PELSB via the reading audit process – addressing the SoR theory and practices focusing on phonemic awareness, phonics, vocabulary development, fluency, and reading comprehension along with oral language development and writing.
  + 1. MN West Community & Technical College – Dr. Terry Gaalswyk
* SD border of regents and reciprocity – no implication for those that currently attend or choose to attend.
* Transition in course for high school relation model.
* Past spring released a new scholarship – PSEO Reach Scholarship. Funding these with institutional reserves.
* Lady Jays are going to the National Tournament for 3rd year in a row.
* New football coach, Jermane Smith.
* Have resolution on Admin Plan – 2-year plan about a 5% increase.
* 25% net decline in farm income.
  1. SWWC Foundation for Innovation in Education Update – Shelly Maes

Time of year where I start working on grants for support next year. Science & Nature Conference with the Natural Eagle Center as keynote.

Congratulations to Ryan Nielsen on the MASA Region 3 Administrator of Excellence Nomination 2023-24.

1. Open Forum/Closing Remarks

Continue working on relationships with legislators, the concerns are real.

1. Adjourn