

# Meeting Minutes: Full Council

Date: Wednesday, June 8, 2022  
Location: 1600 University Avenue W., Suite 8 Saint Paul, MN 55104  
As provided by MN Stat. 13D.021, the meeting was held electronically

## Attendance

### Council Members

| Council Member | Attendance |
| --- | --- |
| Nikki Villavicencio | Present |
| Ted Stamp | Present |
| Saido Abdirashid | Absent-excused |
| Leigh Lake | Present |
| Quinn Nystrom | Present |
| Judy Moe | Present |
| Andy Christensen | Excused-excused |
| Myrna Peterson | Present |
| Hope Johnson | Present |
| Dave Johnson | Present |
| Trent Dilks | Absent-excused |
| Jen Foley | Present |
| Dawn Bly | Present |
| Nimo Ahmed | Present |

### Staff and guests

* David Dively, E.D.
* Shannon Hartwig
* Trevor Turner
* Chad Miller
* Sophie Strzok
* Margot Imdieke Cross
* Brittanie Wilson
* Linda Gremillion
* David Fenley, joined at 3:06 pm

### Ex-Officio Members

* Lisa Larges, SSB
* Leslie Kerkhoff, DHS
* Chris McVey, DEED
* Scott Beutel, MDHR
* Tom Delaney, MDE

Meeting called to order at 2:08 pm

**Action:** Motion to approve meeting agenda by Dave Johnson, and seconded by Jen Foley, motion unanimously passed by roll call vote, with 11 in favor and 3 members absent.

**Action:** Motion to approve April 12, 2022. meeting minutes by Myrna Peterson, and seconded by Hope Johnson, motion unanimously passed by roll call vote, with 11 in favor and 3 members absent.

## Membership Business

Discussion on placing new member to a committee. Nimo Ahmed will join the External Relationships committee.

**Action:** Myrna Peterson made a motion to appoint council member Nimo Ahmed to the External relationships committee, it was seconded by Leigh Lake. The motion unanimously passed by roll call vote, with 11 in favor and 3 members absent.

## External Relationships Committee Update

Group discussion led by Dawn, Leigh, and Judy. A couple meetings ago Dawn and Judy agreed to become co-chairs of the external relationships committee. One of the things the committee talked about it’s been struggling with, is the focus of on where to focus our energy. We talked about, working more as a team, with staff and council members and increasing communication at meetings and in general. Staff did talk a little bit in our committee meeting about some of the frustrations, and what we found was that a lot of us have been struggling over the past two year, but nobody has talked about. When we started talking about it, people started saying they were having the same issues. We thought we should come and talk to the Full Council about it, since it was only a few of us at our last meeting. We would like to get everybody's input on the topic. We talked about the external relationships committee and how we are supporting the people throughout Minnesota with disabilities. It is the work that the Council's doing. It's important work, how the Council can move forward. The employees of the Council need to understand where they're at, and how can we help them with their duties because they, too, are there to help Minnesotans with disabilities. We have a commitment and a passion of helping people with disabilities, helping Minnesota help people with Minnesota, no matter if you live in southwest Minnesota, northwest Minnesota, Minneapolis, or St. Paul, it's across the state, across the board, all people. We all need to decide as a Council, of the work that was done before, do away with due to dealing with the issues of the old executive director and the trauma that people dealt with and some of those things. David Dively mentioned creating an environment where people can bring these issues up and encourage membership and staff to bring up, whether they're struggling with policies that we have , or struggling personal feelings about how they feel functioning as a Council, they are welcome, they need feel that things are accessible to individuals. Speak out, whether it's the staff or Council members. The other thing that we talked about is that we've got ex-officio members. The represent several the places across Minnesota that offer services for people with disabilities. The reason they're here is to hear from the council, but they're also there so that we can work together. As the external relationships committee, we're hearing from our area’s or the Council hears that as a whole that, here's an educational issue. We can work with our partners to try to find solutions to these barriers that have been brought to our attention. We really need for you, as a council member, to look to your area, and how we can you help be a voice for what's going on in your area, to let the Council know where we can start, weaving this net of protection across our state.

## Governance Systems Committee-led discussion

The Governance Systems committee provided an update on the work the group is ding on the Executive Director Limitations Policy and what paring down the information could look like. Ted has formulated a simplified version of monitoring, that we can review. It's a better fit based on everybody's feedback. The committee will work on it in the next meeting in July. Council membership will review the policies before the next meeting, and provide input.

## State Fair Planning Update

Linda Gremillion gave the state fair update. We have a new intern, Sophie Strzok who will be working on the State Fair planning with Linda. The theme for the booth this year is “what is disability pride?” The team will be reaching out to membership, partners and other groups about scheduling needs to staff the booth.

## Financial Report

David Dively provided the financial report. Refer to document what is disability justice.xls.

## Staff Reports

Trevor Turner provided an update to the group on public policy and work he will be doing at the State Fair booth. Brittanie Wilson provided a recap of an event she participated in with the MN DNR and track chairs.

## Executive Director Report

David Dively provided an update to the group on activities he has been participating in. Discussion on attending the Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities 50th anniversary, and the 35th anniversary of the partners in policy program. The event provided a few ideas for us to look at as we celebrate our 50th as an agency next year. Update on the progress staff in-service planning and discussion and strategizing, it was a total of about 30 hours of working together as a team with facilitation. The agency needs to work the workplace violence prevention plan. The poll sent out to membership, indicated we will continue with remote meetings, we will re-valuate in the next three months (next meeting). There were requests for a hybrid option moving forward, details will need to be worked out on accessibility. Discussion also included planning for council wide in-person planning for in-service, strategic planning and relationship building.

## Public Comment

No public comment

Adjourned 4:03 pm

Submitted By: Shannon Hartwig