

Minutes

Management Committee



Meeting date: May 14, 2025

Time: 2:30 PM

Location: 390 Robert Street

Members present:

☒ Chair, Judy Johnson, D1

☒ Vice Chair, John Pacheco Jr., D5

☒ Deb Barber, District 4

E Robert Lilligren, District 6

☒ Yassin Osman, District 7

☒ Gail Cederberg, District 11

☐ Vacant, District 15

☐ = present, E = excused

Dakota Land, Water, and People Acknowledgment

The Metropolitan Council acknowledges that the land we currently call Minnesota and specifically the seven-county region is the ancestral homeland of the Dakota Oyate who are present and active contributors to our thriving region. As part of the Metropolitan Council's commitment to address the unresolved legacy of genocide, dispossession, and settler colonialism and the fact that government institutions, including the Metropolitan Council, benefitted economically, politically, and institutionally after the forceable removal of the Dakota Oyate, the Metropolitan Council is dedicated to instilling Land, Water, and People Commitments in regional policy. These commitments support the Dakota Oyate, the eleven federally recognized Tribes in Minnesota, Ho-Chunk Nation, and the American Indian Communities representing over 150 diverse Tribal Nations that call the seven-county region home.

Call to order

A quorum being present, Committee Chair Johnson called the regular meeting of the Management Committee to order at 2:30 p.m.

Dakota Land, Water, and People Acknowledgment

The Dakota Land, Water, and People Acknowledgment was noted by Council Member Johnson.

Agenda approved

Council Members did not have any comments or changes to the agenda. **Motion carried.**

Approval of minutes

It was moved by Cederberg, seconded by Osman to approve the minutes of the April 23, 2025, regular meeting of the Management Committee. **Motion carried.**

Non-consent business

1. **2025-83:** 2025 Salary Adjustments for the Regional Administrator and General Counsel

It was moved by Osman, seconded by Pacheco, that the Metropolitan Council accept Chair Zelle's 2025 salary adjustment recommendation for Ryan O'Connor, Regional Administrator and Ann Bloodhart, General Counsel and authorize staff to implement salary increases in alignment with the non-represented adjustment (4.5%), including performance compensation for performance scores of "Meets Expectations" or higher (2.5%) effective December 21, 2024.

It was noted that the process and timing for this annual item were going to be adjusted so this

item would be back again at the end of the year for the 2026 salary adjustments.

Cassandra Tabor, Chief Human Resources Officer, Human Resources, 651-602-1417 presented the item.

Motion carried.

2. **2025-124:** Railroad Liability Insurance for Northstar Operations

It was moved by Osman, seconded by Barber, that the Metropolitan Council authorize the renewal of its railroad liability insurance, effective 6/1/25-6/1/26, for the Northstar Commuter Rail Operations in an amount not to exceed \$2.6M.

Ned Smith, Chief Financial Officer, 651-602-1162 presented the item.

Motion carried.

Information

1. Litigation Review (closed session): Discussion of Attorney-Client Privileged matters and Litigation issues. Ann Bloodhart, General Council, 651-602-1105 presented the item.

It was moved by Cederberg, and seconded by Osman, to close this meeting to the public to discuss attorney-client privileged matters. **Motion Carried.**

Because this was the final agenda item, it was noted that the meeting would not be reopened following the discussion of attorney-client matters and the meeting would be adjourned at the conclusion of the discussions.

In accordance with the motion, the meeting was closed to the public and began discussion of Attorney-Client Privileged matters and Litigation issues at 2:47 pm, Wednesday, May 14, 2025. Chair Johnson asked for the room to be cleared except for Council Members, Management Committee staff and others whose presence is necessary to conduct the closed meeting.

Closed session business was concluded at 3:20 p.m.

The following persons attended the closed portion of the committee meeting: Chelsea Bartoe, Laura Baures, Ann Bloodhart, Sheri Chesness, Lori Connery, Darcy Erickson, George Henry, Patrick Lee-O'Halloran, Greg Ricci, Ned Smith, and Cassandra Tabor.

BUSINESS (in closed meeting):

A. Discussion of Attorney-Client Privileged Matters and Litigation Issues Regarding a Matter Entitled *Metropolitan Council and Hennepin County v. DMJM Harris, Inc. and AECOM Technical Services, Inc.* Associate General Counsel Patrick Lee-O'Halloran advised the committee members on the facts and issues regarding this matter and answered committee member questions. Committee members discussed the matter.

B. Discussion of Attorney-Client Privileged Matters and Litigation Issues Regarding a Matter Entitled *Metropolitan Council v. Crossroads Properties, Inc., et al. (Hartford Parcel 400 – Gold Line)* Acting Deputy General Counsel George Henry advised the committee members on the facts and issues regarding this matter and answered committee member questions. Committee members discussed the matter.

C. Discussion of Attorney-Client Privileged Matters and Litigation Issues Regarding a Matter Entitled *Brooke Blakey and Sidney Jones v. Metropolitan Council.* Acting Deputy General Counsel George Henry advised the committee members on the facts and issues regarding this matter and answered committee member questions. Committee members discussed the matter.

D. Discussion of Attorney-Client Privileged Matters and Litigation Issues Regarding a Matter Entitled *Steven Glasford, et al. v. City of Minneapolis and/or Metro Transit (Metropolitan*

Council). Acting Deputy General Counsel George Henry advised the committee members on the facts and issues regarding this matter and answered committee member questions. Committee members discussed the matter.

E. Discussion of Attorney-Client Privileged Matters and Litigation Issues Regarding a Matter Entitled *Michael Fiorito v. Metropolitan Council*. Acting Deputy General Counsel George Henry advised the committee members on the facts and issues regarding this matter and answered committee member questions. Committee members discussed the matter.

F. Discussion of Attorney-Client Privileged Matters and Litigation Issues Regarding a Matter Entitled *Abdirahman Yonis v. Transit Metro, Metro Transit*. Associate General Counsel Chelsea Bartoe advised the committee members on the facts and issues regarding this matter and answered committee member questions. Committee members discussed the matter.

G. Discussion of Attorney-Client Privileged Matters and Litigation Issues Regarding a Matter Entitled *Wasyihun Fanta v. Metro Transit, et al.* Associate General Counsel Chelsea Bartoe advised the committee members on the facts and issues regarding this matter and answered committee member questions. Committee members discussed the matter.

H. Discussion of Attorney-Client Privileged Matters and Litigation Issues Regarding a Matter Entitled *Jamesia Sullen v. Metropolitan Council, et al.* Associate General Counsel Chelsea Bartoe advised the committee members on the facts and issues regarding this matter and answered committee member questions. Committee members discussed the matter.

I. Discussion of Attorney-Client Privileged Matters and Litigation Issues Regarding a Matter Entitled *Metropolitan Council v. CSM RI Eden Prairie, LLC (Parcel 223, Green Line Extension)* Associate General Counsel Darcy Erickson advised the committee members on the facts and issues regarding this matter and answered committee member questions. Committee members discussed the matter.

J. Discussion of Attorney-Client Privileged Matters and Litigation Issues Regarding a Matter Entitled *Stairstep Foundation v. State of Minnesota, et al.* Acting Deputy General Counsel George Henry advised the committee members on the facts and issues regarding this matter and answered committee member questions. Committee members discussed the matter.

K. Discussion of Attorney-Client Privileged Matters and Litigation Issues Regarding a Matter Entitled *Michael Janish v. Metropolitan Council, et al.* Acting Deputy General Counsel George Henry advised the committee members on the facts and issues regarding this matter and answered committee member questions. Committee members discussed the matter.

Adjournment

Business completed; the meeting adjourned at 3:20 p.m.

Certification

I hereby certify that the foregoing narrative and exhibits constitute a true and accurate record of the Management Committee meeting of May 14, 2025.

Approved this 28 day of May 2025.

Council contact:

Lori Connery, Recording Secretary
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