



Board of Directors Meeting

Thursday, August 7th from 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

[Zoom link](#) (if this link does not work, please use the link in the calendar invite)

Current leadership

Role	Student Information
President	Sudi Adow: Rochester Community and Technical College
Vice President	Marco Loera Alvarez: Rochester Community and Technical College
Treasurer	Rose Sargent: South Central College - North Mankato
Secretary	Alex Bender: Anoka Ramsey Community College - Coon Rapids
Region 1 Rep: North	Samantha Koehn: MN State Community and Technical College
Region 2 Rep: Central	Andrew Anaya Ledesma: Ridgewater College
Region 3 Rep: South	Makayla Anderson: Rochester Community and Technical College
Region 4 Rep: Metro West	Andrea Kimlinger: Hennepin Technical College
Region 5: Metro East	Blessing Manka Ndam: Century College
Region 6: The Cities	Alessandra Elarae: Minneapolis College
Region 7: Metro Northwest	Abdikarim Hagi: Anoka Ramsey Community College - Coon Rapids

Rights and Responsibilities of the Governing Council

Rights	Responsibilities
Access to financial statements	Read the statements and understand them enough to participate meaningfully
The right to be well informed (political, financial language)	Communicate training needs and ideas (especially for future leaders)
Right to be an advocate, to use/have a voice	Doing right by the students, represent responsibly (effectively/accurately)
Approve amendments to the bylaws	Read, review, understand Bylaws - communicate to other students any changes
Oversee, review LeadMN policies	Maintain policies and access to governing documents (e.g. being able to quickly access and refer to Bylaws)
Hire and oversee LeadMN Executive Director	Understanding ED job role and hiring process; support the ED to be successful in their role
Set a budget	Knowing historical budgets and actuals; accurate budget forecast based on goals
Adopt a motion and create a resolution	Identifying and proactively solving problems
Meet monthly	Work done is effective at advancing our goals
Advocate positions enacted at the fall GA	Understand GC roles and what seats are open
	Fiduciary responsibilities - understand them, attend training, ask questions

Group Agreements
1.
2.
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6.
7.
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9.
10.

Meeting Agenda

Attendee list

Student Leaders: Sudi, Marco, Rose, Alex, Abdi, Andrew, Samantha, Andrea K, Alessandra

Staff: Rachel, Andrea T, Carin, Molly, Casey, Ben

Guests:

Absent: Blessing (Excused), Makayla

Open the Meeting and Consent Agenda Items: (5 minutes)

1. August 2025 agenda
2. [July 2025 minutes](#)

Motion to approve by Andrea, Seconded by Andrew

Welcome and icebreakers (10 minutes)

1. Introduction question
2. This or that?

Discussion items (20 minutes)

1. [Board of Trustee Councils and Committees](#)
 - a. **The board discussed opportunities to join these councils and committees**
2. Article 12, presented by Alex Bender
 - a. **Alex introduced Article 12's draft**
3. [Demographic survey](#) for grant submission use
 - a. **Carin bought the survey above to the attention to board**
4. Microsoft Office vs. Google Suite
 - a. **The board discussed methods for digital communication and filesharing**

Breakout Rooms (15 minutes)

1. Steering Committee, Alex Bender

- a. The Steering Committee is focused on updating, maintaining, and curating our working documents, such as our bylaws and election policy. This committee will be reviewing these documents, suggesting changes, and seeking out ways to improve and expand the language LeadMN is built around. The expected workload of this committee will be dependent on the direction we receive from the Board as a whole but members can anticipate being asked to become deeply familiar with our working documents and be able to discuss them in detail so as to propose changes before the Board. This committee is likely to meet on a biweekly basis to start as we assess our current bylaws, previous versions of them, and determine areas of focus for the rest of the year. The pace of the committee may be subject to change though it is unlikely we will meet less often than once a month.

2. Advocacy Committee, Sudi Adow

- a. What it is?: The Advocacy Committee is the driving force behind LeadMN's efforts to elevate student voices at the campus, state, and federal levels.

What work will be done?: This committee shapes LeadMN's annual legislative agenda, responds to critical policy issues through Calls to Action, and plans major events such as Advocacy Day and the D.C. Summit. Members engage in hands-on work including storytelling, research, and organizing, focusing on pivotal issues like college affordability, basic needs, and academic equity.

Is it for you?: Ideal for students passionate about turning their experiences into powerful advocacy, this committee provides the tools and platform to influence decision-makers and drive tangible change for all Minnesota students.

3. Fiscal Committee, Rose Sargent

4. Open call for additional committees

- a. **The process for making new committees was discussed**

Reports (5 minutes)

1. Fiscal Committee report on July meeting
 - a. **Rose reported on the activities of the Fiscal committee.**

Event Planning Updates (20 minutes)

1. Incoming Leaders Training Q&A
 - a. **Questions were asked and answered on the upcoming training**
2. [Mighty Consulting work for September to November](#)
 - a. **Rachel briefed the board on our consultation**
3. Fall GA on November 7-8

- a. Rachel briefed the board on the upcoming GA

Open Discussion (25 minutes)

Color Palette- Alex Bender

Alex discussed the concept of a Value Color Palette

Questions/additions?

The board discussed the diversity committee scope, reporting hours, expectations and workload for the year, and mileage reimbursement

Motion to adjourn by Andrew, seconded by Andrea

Review Items:

[Link to Message Board to the BoD](#)

Staff reports

[Executive Director](#)

[Communications Manager](#)

[Campus Organizing Director \(Casey\)](#)

[Campus Organizing Director \(Ben\)](#)

[Development Manager](#)

[Policy Director](#)

Event and Program Coordinator

Office Manager

[Executive Board reports](#)

President

Vice President

Treasurer

Secretary

[Board of Directors](#)

Region 1

Region 2

Region 3

Region 4

Region 5

Region 6

Region 7

[Student Advocates](#)

Region 1

Region 2

Region 3

Region 4

Region 5

Region 6

Region 7

Interns

Advocacy and Public Policy - State

Advocacy and Public Policy - Federal

Marketing

Scholarship Database