

FISCAL COMMITTEE

April 8, 2021

3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Zoom

Minutes

Present: Shannon Jesme, Stephen Nelson, Shelley Koerber, Tracy Boman, Trish Kalvoda, Brenda Bruggeman, Brent Braga, Ben Hoffman, Teresa Mattison, and Julie Fenning (recorder).

Absent: Stacey Hron

- 1. Minnesota State Budget** - Shannon provided a handout showing the Governor's proposal, the House, and the Senate's proposed budget. Both funding levels are much lower than the governor. The Senate has a requirement that tuition rate is 5% lower each year. House is requiring tuition freeze. There is a belief that the federal CRRSSA funding can be used instead of appropriation, so they are funding at a lower level. The system office is trying to ensure that that is not allowed. Shannon has not received any information on third round of funds. Leveraged equipment and access and opportunity are protected and will be available. There will continue to be the extra amount for rural colleges. The Senate has language talking about tuition refunds to students no longer enrolled, for online differential tuition. Northland had two courses that we would need to refund students if that is passed with an approximate cost of \$5500.
- 2. HLC Conference was this week.** Shannon provided an update from the HLC Conference. There was a presentation that covered student loan forgiveness and free community colleges.
- 3. CRRSSA** – Reviewed draft plan for CRRSAA funding that has been tentatively approved by the President's Council. More discussion is needed on many items. IT requests have been approved and Stacey is ordering to ensure it is received and installed by December 31, 2021. This is one-time money, cannot be used for expenses that carry on into additional years, including positions. Next Steps: Reviewing equipment requests for priority and where funding can come from: CRRSAA, leveraged equipment, Perkins, NSF funds, etc. The group working on leveraged equipment is reviewing list to assign funding source to prioritized requests.
- 4. Adjourned:** 4:01 p.m.