

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF THE
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

April 25, 2025

President Guskiewicz called the meeting of the Board of Trustees to order at 8:08 a.m. via livestream.

Trustees present: Rebecca Bahar-Cook, Mike Balow, Dennis Denno, Renee Knake Jefferson, Sandy Pierce, Brianna Scott, Kelly Tebay, and Rema Vassar.

University officers present: President Guskiewicz, Interim Provost and Executive Vice President Jeitschko; Senior Vice President Frace; Executive Vice President Gore; Vice President and General Counsel Quinn; Secretary Fletcher; Vice Presidents Beekman, DeVooght, Gage, and Guerrant. Faculty liaisons present: Jack Lipton. Student liaisons present: Lauren Pelon.

All actions taken were by unanimous vote of the Trustees present, unless otherwise noted.

1. On a motion by Trustee Tebay, supported by Trustee Balow, the **BOARD VOTED to approve** the proposed agenda.
2. Committee on Budget and Finance

Trustee Pierce presented the Trustee Budget and Finance Committee Report and the following recommendations and resolutions.

A. 2025-26 Housing and Dining Rates – Clarification

The Trustee Committee on Budget and Finance recommends that the Board of Trustees authorize the Administration to implement the housing and dining rates for the 2025-26 academic year, as set forth in the resolution.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of Michigan State University hereby confirms the basic residence hall double housing and dining rate increase by 2.9% to \$12,928 for residents who select the silver unlimited meal plan for the 2025-26 academic year.

Trustee Pierce **moved to approve** the recommendation, with support from Trustee Scott.

Trustee Balow provided the following comments.

As before, before we get to a vote, I'm just going to explain my vote. And I have some people texting that there's no livestream, so I don't know if that's, if there's a problem there, but I'm just throwing it out there for you, Jeremy. I thought long and hard about this, but this is a little bit, what do you call it there? We're trying to correct the math there, but we're doing this publicly, so I think it's worth discussing, you know, the exact same reasons why I didn't support this before, and it's not because I don't recognize the need for a proper budget and appropriate increases within the residence hall system. But, as we talked about, and will talk about, we're going to do a better job of getting trustees the information that they asked for in the weeks leading up to this, which I think was part of the problem. Just so people understand, you know, a no vote is not random. You know it's because there were some reservations about getting the information in a timely fashion, and when trustees bring up objections in the meeting, you know, particularly regarding, you know, the use of the dollars to go into the Breslin Center. At least from my perspective, you know, those comments are very carefully considered and thought out, and so I'm glad that the Lansing State Journal and we are working to clarify the situation, and we can talk more about that, but it's still very important to me that people understand that trustees aren't voting no for any random reason, but they're well thought out considerations and objections if we don't have all of the information that we need in time. And I appreciate your commitment to rectifying that situation, and I just wanted to commend you for that publicly, and as a group, we'll get better. And I appreciate all my brother and sister trustees and their support for ensuring that all the information is provided to us in a good, timely and accurate fashion, and that we all support each other in getting that information in a good, timely and accurate format, and we'll all get to a better place if we're all working to the same end. And that's all I have to say, but that explains my no vote today, which is unchanged from the previous session. Thank you.

Trustee Pierce provided the following comments.

This is Sandy Pierce, Trustee Pierce, and I would just say that this is a correction of a math error. It was a mistake from some of the leadership team, but it's been fixed, and this is correct.

Trustee Denno provided the following comments.

I'd like Trustee Balow's comments to be my comments too. Thanks.

Roll Call Vote

Trustee Bahar-Cook – Yes
Trustee Balow – No
Trustee Denno – No
Trustee Knake Jefferson – Yes
Trustee Pierce – Yes
Trustee Scott – Yes
Trustee Tebay – Yes
Trustee Vassar – No

THE BOARD VOTED to approve the recommendation.

3. Request to Adjourn

On a motion by Trustee Pierce, supported by Trustee Scott, **THE BOARD VOTED to adjourn** at 8:13 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in green ink, appearing to be 'Stefan Fletcher', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Stefan Fletcher
Secretary and Chief of Staff to the Board of Trustees

