

**Nebraska Statewide Workforce & Educational Reporting System (NSWERS)  
Executive Council Business Meeting Notification and Agenda**

March 2, 2022 1:00 p.m.

Varner Hall Boardroom, 3832 Holdrege Street, Lincoln, NE 68583

Publicized notice of the Executive Council meeting was given by posting the date, time, and location on the NSWERS.org website.

**1. CALL TO ORDER** – President Ted Carter called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

1.1 Roll Call

Roll Call showed the following NSWERS members in attendance:

President Ted Carter, President  
Chancellor Paul Turman, Vice President  
Commissioner Matthew Blomstedt, Secretary/Treasurer  
President Paul Illich, Member

1.2 Announcement of the placement of the Open Meetings Act information

President Carter announced that information regarding the Open Meetings Act is posted on the wall in the Varner Hall Boardroom and is available on the NSWERS.org website.

**2. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

No public comment.

**3. PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

3.1 Additions or corrections to agenda

No agenda items were removed, added or corrected.

Approval of the agenda as presented passed with a motion by Commissioner Matthew Blomstedt, second by Chancellor Paul Turman.

President Paul Illich	Yea
Commissioner Matthew Blomstedt	Yea
Chancellor Paul Turman	Yea
President Ted Carter	Yea

#### 4. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Dr. Matthew Hastings, Executive Director, NSWERS made a presentation on behalf of himself and the Management Team regarding the Strategic Plan. (See attached PowerPoint.)

**Goal 1 – Establish a Data System.** Dr. Hastings reported that the overall progress towards Strategic Plan is approximately 51% complete.

The proposed draft of the 2022-2023 budget for NSWERS will be presented to the Management Committee in March and then come before the Executive Council as an action item at the Executive Council Business meeting scheduled for April 27, 2022.

Dr. Hastings stated that the Communications Plan, which ensures a consistent and traceable flow of information that NSWERS uses to communicate with board and committee members, partners, affiliates, and relevant constituents, including the Legislature, have made improvements to the main webpage and now can communicate through Twitter.

Dr. Hastings reports that he continues to have regular meetings with the philanthropic entities and his next scheduled meeting with donors is scheduled for March 4.

Dr. Hastings thanked Executive Council members for their testimony in support of LB 1130, a bill introduced by Senator Morfeld, that requires data sharing and execution of agreements with the NSWERS by various state departments. At that same hearing some push back from state agencies stating that the proposed language is in violation of state and federal statutes and could possibly affect federal monies for same. NSWERS plans to continue to work with the state agencies, business partners and Legislators to possibly amend LB 1130 or build a future legislative package with language that all entities can concur. Dr. Hastings will be communicating with each Executive Council member for suggested direction on this matter.

Dr. Hastings announced that the first NSWERS Advisory Committee will meet May 4, 2022 at the Nebraska Innovation Campus. He also reported on the need to update data sharing agreements between NSWERS and partners and is currently awaiting quotes from Aon on NSWERS application of continuing cyber liability and public official liability. There is an action item today regarding this procurement.

Dr. Hastings reported that NSWERS will move forward with hiring of data scientist(s), administrative support and leverage assistantships/internships with specialty contracting for IT consulting for developing NSWERS secure web portal. NSWERS will work with an annual calendar for partners to submit data knowing that some partners will submit data annually and some quarterly, anticipating that NSWERS will update the data quarterly.

Dr. Hastings underlined NSWERS acknowledging the importance of establishing and maintaining a robust data security process. At this time NSWERS will make sure of Microsoft's Government Cloud high secure storage space and manage in cooperation with NU ITS to ensure security controls.

**Goal 2 – Evaluate Efficacy.** Dr. Hastings reported that this goal is approximately 43% complete; with the Information Agenda approximately 92% complete. NSWERS continues work in establishing a Data Analysis & Prediction Operations by implementing a modern, flexible, and scalable analytics unit wherein a review of POC (education and workforce outcomes) data product can be viewed at <https://dataviz.nswers.org/>.

Dr. Hastings discussed establishing and maintaining data to facilitate Data as a product and Data as a service. The data Clearinghouse will be used to facilitate data as a product and make data itself available to NSWERS partners via the NSWERS portal.

For using data as a service, NSWERS is exploring a Nebraska Electronic Transcript Service to produce an MVP designed to deliver official, digital transcripts from Nebraska’s public K12 school to Nebraska’s public postsecondary institutions possibly through an eTranscript license that is already established in the State of Nebraska. The goal for using digital transcripts is to decrease costs associated with managing K12 student transcripts over paper process; provide faster and more secure admissions decisions; using a more modern easy to use system for students, parents, and education officials; and provides a more reliable, streamlined and long-term access for students to their academic records and achievements. Dr. Hastings asked the NSWERS Executive Council members if this is something they would like to explore and will have more conversations about same.

**5. COMMITTEE REPORTS (NONE)**

**6. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**6.1** Under Nebraska State Statute 84-1410 a Motion for the Council to enter closed session for the prevention of needless injury to the reputation of NSWERS personnel passed with a motion by Chancellor Paul Turman, second by Commissioner Matthew Blomstedt.

Commissioner Matthew Blomstedt	Yea
President Paul Illich	Yea
President Ted Carter	Yea
Chancellor Paul Turman	Yea

Executive Session began 1:34 p.m.

Executive Session ended 1:53 p.m.

**7. ACTION ITEMS**

**7.1** The NSWERS bylaws identify three officers of the Executive Council – a President, Vice President, and Secretary-Treasurer – each serving a two-year term. Council officers were initially appointed at the January 29, 2020 meeting of the NSWERS Executive Council. Two years having now expired, today NSWERS Executive Council will again open nominations and appoint new officers.

The NSWERS bylaws stipulate that our Vice President shall be the member who will serve as the President in the next two-year term. To begin this process, NSWERS Executive Council will now move to recognize our Vice President as the new President of NSWERS Executive Council.

Motion to recognize Chancellor Paul Turman as the President of the NSWERS Executive Council passed with a motion by President Paul Illich, second by Commissioner Matthew Blomstedt.

President Ted Carter	Yea
Chancellor Paul Turman	Yea
Commissioner Matthew Blomstedt	Yea
President Paul Illich	Yea

**Chancellor Paul Turman conducts the remainder of the NSWERS Executive Council Business meeting serving as the President of NSWERS Executive Council**

**7.2** Approve Minutes of NSWERS business meeting, October 27, 2021.

Motion to approve the minutes of the October 27, 2021 NSWERS Executive Council Business meeting passed with a motion by President Ted Carter, second by President Paul Illich.

President Ted Carter	Yea
Chancellor Paul Turman	Yea
Commissioner Matthew Blomstedt	Yea
President Paul Illich	Yea

**7.3** Discuss, consider and take all necessary action to nominate and appoint a Secretary-Treasurer of the NSWERS Executive Council.

**Discussion:** Commissioner Matthew Blomstedt stated that he would be agreeable to serve as Secretary-Treasurer for another two-year term for the NSWERS Executive Council.

Motion to appoint Commissioner Matthew Blomstedt as Secretary-Treasurer of the NSWERS Executive Council passed with a motion by Commissioner Matthew Blomstedt, second by President Ted Carter.

Chancellor Paul Turman	Yea
Commissioner Matthew Blomstedt	Yea
President Paul Illich	Yea
President Ted Carter	Yea

**7.4** Discuss, consider, and take all necessary action regarding to nominate and appoint a Vice President of the NSWERS Executive Council.

**Discussion:** President Ted Carter nominates President Paul Illich as Vice President of NSWERS Executive Council. No other nominations received.

Motion to appoint President Paul Illich as Vice President of the NSWERS Executive Council passed with a motion by President Ted Carter, second by Commissioner Matthew Blomstedt.

Chancellor Paul Turman	Yea
Commissioner Matthew Blomstedt	Yea
President Paul Illich	Yea
President Ted Carter	Yea

**7.5** Discuss, consider, and take all necessary action with respect to the procurement of public officials and cyber liability insurance.

**Discussion:** President Carter would recommend that the current coverage, \$5 million for cyber liability \$2 million for public official liability insurance be kept the same as he has familiarity that if limits were to increase it could increase costs as well as attention that the Council may not want.

Motion for the Executive Council to direct Executive Director Hastings to procure public officials and cyber liability insurance that includes \$5 million coverage for cyber liability and \$2 million coverage for public officials passed with a motion by Commissioner Matthew Blomstedt, second by President Ted Carter.

President Paul Illich	Yea
President Ted Carter	Yea
Chancellor Paul Turman	Yea
Commissioner Matthew Blomstedt	Yea

## **8. ADDITIONAL BUSINESS**

**8.1** Discuss and consider potential revisions to the NSWERS Interlocal Agreement

President Carter advised that this is only a discussion item at this point and the NSWERS Executive Council will be informed of potential revisions to the Interlocal Agreement prior to any action.

## **9. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS AND DISCUSSIONS**

**9.1** Presentation and discussion of the NSWERS POC data project <https://dataviz.nswers.org/> - Executive Director Hastings

Dr. Hastings advised that the this is a demo project, a preliminary analysis on a single cohort of Nebraska public school students. The purpose of this interactive analysis is to demonstrate capability of securely ingesting the data and answer questions about the

pathways students take through the secondary and post-secondary systems and into the workforce.

**10. INFORMATION ITEMS AND REPORT**

**10.1 NSWERS Treasurer’s Report – Commissioner Matthew Blomstedt**

Commissioner Blomstedt presented Treasurer’s Report. Dr. Hastings reports the Treasurer’s Report at least annually to foundation contributors, or as they request.

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn the NSWERS Executive Council Business Meeting passed with a motion from Chancellor Paul Turman, second by President Paul Illich.

President Ted Carter	Yea
Chancellor Paul Turman	Yea
Commissioner Matthew Blomstedt	Yea
President Paul Illich	Yea

President Turman adjourned the meeting at 2:15 p.m.

A NSWERS Executive Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 27, 2022, at a time and place to be determined.