

Compensation Council
July 16, 2026
1:00 PM

MEETING MINUTES

Members Present:

Patrick McCormack, Chair
David Asp, Vice Chair
Gary Borgendale
Thomas Boyd
Devin Driscoll
Benjamin Gerber
Adam Hanson
Susan Holden
Roger Josephson
Amanda Matchett
Amanda Mills
Nicholas Morgan
Karl Morton Badger
Amber Naqvi
Betsy O'Berry
James Robins
Kristi Schmidt
Tim Stout
Benson Whitney

Members Excused:

Janice Brandt
Tim Brinkman
Kelli Commers
Jason Resseman
Davis Senseman

Patrick McCormack, Chair, called the meeting of the Compensation Council to order at 1:04 PM in the Ladyslipper Room of the Centennial Office Building. A quorum was present.

Approval of Minutes

Susan Holden moved approval of the June 18, 2026, meeting minutes. Seconded. THE MOTION PREVAILED.

Presentation by Judicial Selection Commission

Erin Sindberg Porter, Chair, Judicial Selection Commission, presented on the

Commission's work in 2025 and judicial salaries, along with a compensation request for district court and appellate court judges.

MMB Presentation on Current Forecast and Budget

Travis Bunch, Deputy State Budget Director, MMB, provided an overview of the State Budget as of the end of the 2026 legislative session.

Presentation by Judicial Branch

Jeff Shorba, State Court Administrator, Minnesota Judicial Branch, presented an overview of judicial branch salaries and the Judicial Council's request for judicial compensation.

Discussion and Motions

David Asp moved to recommend to the Legislature an increase in judicial salaries of 6% on July 1, 2027, and 6% on July 1, 2028. Seconded.

A roll call vote was taken. The results were as follows:

Ayes: Chair McCormack, Vice Chair Asp, Borgendale, Gerber, Hanson, Morgan, Morton Badger, Schmidt, Stout

Nays: Boyd, Driscoll, Holden, Josephson, Matchett, Mills, O'Berry, Robins, Whitney

There being 9 Ayes, 9 Nays and 6 Absent, THE MOTION DID NOT PREVAIL.

Judge Richard Kyle, President of the Minnesota District Judges Association (MDJA), addressed Council members' questions related to the MDJA judicial recommendations.

Amanda Mills moved to recommend to the Legislature an increase in judicial salaries of 10% on July 1, 2027, and 4% on July 1, 2028. Seconded.

A roll call vote was taken. The results were as follows:

Ayes: Chair McCormack, Vice Chair Asp, Borgendale, Boyd, Driscoll, Gerber, Hanson, Holden, Josephson, Matchett, Mills, Morgan, Morton Badger, O'Berry, Robins, Schmidt, Stout, Whitney

There being 18 Ayes, 0 Nays and 6 Absent, THE MOTION PREVAILED.

David Asp moved to include the following language in the Compensation Council's 2026 Report:

The Compensation Council recommends that, effective for the 2027 and 2028 Compensation Council, the Legislature establish statutory methods of automatic adoption and funding of the Compensation Council's judicial salary

recommendations consistent with the Legislature's constitutional obligation to prescribe the compensation for judges.

Seconded.

A roll call vote was taken. The results were as follows:

Ayes: Chair McCormack, Vice Chair Asp, Borgendale, Boyd, Driscoll, Gerber, Hanson, Holden, Matchett, Mills, Morgan, O'Berry, Schmidt, Stout

Nays: Josephson, Morton Badger, Robins

There being 14 Ayes, 3 Nays and 7 Absent, THE MOTION PREVAILED.

Nick Nero, Research Analyst, Legislative Coordinating Commission, noted that Council members had been provided with additional materials related to the Inspector General position, including position descriptions and salary comparisons.

Dori Leland, Enterprise Director, Workforce Development, Minnesota Management and Budget (MMB), addressed Council members' questions related to the Inspector General salary determination.

David Asp moved to set the Inspector General salary at \$198,214, as recommended by MMB. Seconded.

A roll call vote was taken. The results were as follows:

Ayes: Chair McCormack, Vice Chair Asp, Borgendale, Boyd, Driscoll, Gerber, Hanson, Holden, Josephson, Matchett, Mills, Morgan, Morton Badger, O'Berry, Schmidt, Stout

Nays: Robins

There being 16 Ayes, 1 Nay and 7 Absent, THE MOTION PREVAILED.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:44 PM.