Meeting Agenda: Minnesota Eligibility Technology System Executive Steering Committee

November 25, 2025
10:00 a.m.-12 p.m.
Location: Room #2308, Minnesota Senate Building, 95 University Ave. W., St. Paul, MN 55155

This meeting is being recorded and posted to a public website pursuant to Minn. Stat. 62V.055.

Agenda

Call to Order & Welcome

Facilitator - Jon Eichten (Co-chair)

The November 25, 2025 meeting of the Minnesota Eligibility Technology System Executive Steering Committee was called to order at 10:05 a.m. It was noted that the meeting is being recorded and may be posted to a public website in accordance with Minnesota Statute 62V.055.

Quorum

The following ESC members were present: Co-chair Jon Eichten (MNIT), Libby Caulum and Marian Potter (MNsure), Jennifer Trom and Dustin Letica (MACSSA), Heather Lessard (DHS) and Mike Wright (MNIT). Others in attendance included: Jackie Hippen, Brian Sittarich, Troy Kingore, and Terry Okeefe. The quorum for the meeting was met.

Agenda

No questions were raised regarding the agenda as presented.

Administrative Items

Membership Changes

The Chair announced that Julie Marquardt has stepped down from her role on the METS ESC. Heather Lessard has been appointed to fill her seat. Heather introduced herself as the Funding Alignment Manager at DHS within the Office of the Deputy CFO and confirmed her presence for quorum purposes.

It was also noted that Dave Greeman has moved to Hennepin County and that his co-chair seat is now vacant. Efforts are underway to fill the position. No additional questions were raised regarding membership changes.

Minutes

Members were given time to review the August 26, 2025 meeting minutes. No amendments or corrections were proposed.

A motion to approve the August 26, 2025 meeting minutes was made by Dusty and seconded by Libby. All members present voted in favor. The motion passed unanimously. The minutes were approved as presented.

METS Financial Update

Presenter – Jackie Hippen (Director of Enterprise Planning and Administration)

Jackie presented the State Fiscal Year 2026 Quarter 1 METS ESC Fiscal Report for the quarter ending September 30, 2025. The report was prepared collaboratively with the ESC Budget Work Group, including DHS, MNsure, counties, and MNIT.

State Fiscal Year 2026 Q1 Fiscal Report

The report included a four-year financial view across two biennia and detailed quarterly reporting for Fiscal Year 2026. The development budget for Fiscal Year 2026 totals approximately 37.8 million dollars, consisting of 24 million dollars in APD funded development and 13.8 million dollars in MNsure specific development. The operations budget for Fiscal Year 2026 is approximately 43.5 million dollars.

Projected development expenditures are currently estimated at 34.6 million dollars, reflecting an anticipated underspend primarily within APD funded projects due to timing and project start delays. Operations expenditures are projected at approximately 99 percent of the annual budget, with modest overspend in staff augmentation and enterprise services tied to legislative changes and cloud transition activities.

A motion to approve the Quarter 1 Fiscal Report for the period ending September 30, 2025 was made by Jenny and seconded by Heather. The motion passed unanimously.

State Fiscal Year 2026 METS Budget

Following discussion of the quarterly report, the Committee considered approval of the State Fiscal Year 2026 METS Budget as presented.

A motion to approve the State Fiscal Year 2026 METS Budget was made by Heather and seconded by Jenny. The motion passed unanimously.

The Chair expressed appreciation to Jackie Hippen for her leadership in managing the financial transition and chargeback model updates following organizational changes within DHS, DCT, DCYF, and Shared Services.

METS IT Program Status Update

Presenter - Brian Sittarich (METS Program Manager)

Brian presented the METS IT Program Status Update. Brian outlined the agenda, which included (1) an approval request for the METS ESC, (2) METS program updates, and (3) standing items covering the SFY 2026 road map, METS deliverables, and stoplight status reports.

Approval Requests

There were no approval requests requiring ESC action at this time.

METS Updates

Projects Added to Portfolio

No new projects have been added to the METS portfolio since the prior meeting.

Projects Activated

No new projects were formally activated during this reporting period.

MNIT – Open Enrollment Update

Brian reported that Open Enrollment launched successfully on November 1, 2025. As of the meeting date, the program was 25 days into the enrollment period. No significant system issues have occurred. Minor issues that were identified were addressed promptly and resolved without operational disruption.

Heightened monitoring will continue through the end of the Open Enrollment period. Technical teams are conducting regular system health checks during weekdays while the Command Center remains active.

Collaboration with MNsure continues through the Virtual Command Center structure. Enhanced readiness protocols and coordinated cross team engagement have contributed to a stable and smooth Open Enrollment experience. No Committee action was required.

Standing Topics

Roadmap Overview

The roadmap is organized by project status, with closed projects listed at the bottom and active efforts sorted by anticipated end date. Each entry identifies whether the effort is a formal project, its status, funding source, APD designation, AC2 code, and projected completion date.

Three updates have been noted since the prior meeting. The **HCCS IVR Phone System** project end date was extended to December 19, 2025 to allow additional time for post deployment defect resolution. The **QHP Eligibility System Transition** project end date moved to November 12, 2026 to accommodate post deployment stabilization activities. The **Increasing Healthcare Access and Affordability** initiative moved from September 30 to October 7, 2025 to support formal project closure activities. These updates were schedule adjustments only and did not require ESC approval.

Upcoming Deliverables

The **Fall 2025 release**, scheduled for deployment on December 21, 2025, includes support for Minnesota Paid Leave, non-project operational work, and inclusion of the HCCS IVR Phone System updates to address identified defects.

The **Winter 2026 release**, scheduled for deployment on February 22, 2026, includes the expansion of Medical Assistance for Former Foster Care eligibility and multiple METS Input Group enhancements focused on system performance and usability improvements.

The **Spring 2026 release**, targeted for June 2026, includes the QHP Eligibility System Transition project, Input Group work, annual maintenance, and operational reporting updates.

The **Summer 2026 release** is currently in planning and is expected to include additional Input Group work, ongoing maintenance activities, and enterprise initiatives including Login MN alignment.

The Committee was informed that release scope is actively managed to align with capacity, enterprise dependencies, and legislative requirements. No approval actions were requested.

Stoplight Status of Projects

The Stoplight Status Report was presented reflecting project health as of November 14, 2025. Six projects are currently active. Five projects are reported in Green status, and one project is in Yellow status. No projects are in Red status.

The status indicator arrows reflect overall trend direction. No projects were reported as downgraded to Red since the last meeting. One minor scope adjustment related to MinnesotaCare for Non-Citizens Not Lawfully Present was reflected in release planning but did not require ESC action.

New Business

MNIT Enterprise Work Awareness

Presenter - Deb Tibstra (MNIT Division Manager)

Cloud Migration

Deb presented an update on the statewide migration of on premises infrastructure to Microsoft Azure cloud services. This mandate impacts all applications currently hosted on VMware infrastructure and must be completed by June 30, 2026.

For METS, the migration approach is a lift and shift model, meaning infrastructure changes only with no application-level modifications. CMS approval is required due to METS integration with the federal data services hub. Testing environments have already been migrated successfully, and production migration is targeted for late March or early April 2026. The objective is to complete migration with sufficient stabilization time prior to the June release window.

This effort supports improved agility, business continuity, scalability, and long-term cost optimization.

MNEIAM to LoginMN Migration

Deb also presented the transition from MNEIAM to Login MN, the State's modern identity and access management platform. This change supports enhanced security capabilities and alignment with Minnesota's broader digital identity strategy.

Unlike the infrastructure migration, this initiative requires application level changes within METS. The Login MN implementation is aligned with the Quest project and is targeted for deployment in the Summer 2026 release. Development work is underway, with code merge planned in December and deployment to testing environments in January.

Login MN includes optional identity assurance capabilities up to IAL2, including document upload and liveness validation. Agencies may determine the appropriate level of identity validation based on program requirements.

No ESC approvals were required for either initiative. Both efforts were informational updates due to their impact on application roadmaps and release planning.

Public Comment

Facilitator - Jon Eichten (Co-chair)

The Chair opened the floor for public comment and paused to allow for any input from attendees participating in person or virtually.

No public comments were offered.

The public comment period was closed, and the Committee proceeded to adjournment.

Adjourn

Facilitator - Jon Eichten (Co-chair)

The next METS ESC meeting is expected to be held February 24, 2026, at 10:00 a.m.

Jon adjourned the meeting at 11:45 a.m.