

The following are the preliminary minutes from the August 27, 2020, OHSAA Board of Directors Virtual Meeting. The Board is expected to officially approve them at its October 1, 2020, meeting.

OHSAA BOARD OF DIRECTORS VIRTUAL MEETING MINUTES (August 27, 2020)

The Ohio High School Athletic Association Board of Directors held a regularly scheduled meeting virtually due to the COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic on Thursday, August 27, 2020. President Jeff Cassella called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Board Members Participating: Jeff Cassella, president; Scott Kaufman, vice president; Ryan Fitzgerald; Gary Kreinbrink; Dan Leffingwell; Leonard Steyer; Bill Warfield; Steve Watkins; Jan Wilking, and John Richard (ex-officio) and Glen Gillespie (ex-officio representing the OIAAA).

Staff Members Participating: Bob Goldring, interim executive director; senior directors Roxanne Price, Beau Rugg and Tim Stried; directors Tyler Brooks, Kathleen Coughlin, Emily Gates, Angie Lawler, Brenda Murray, Lauren Prochaska and Chris Walker; assistant directors Haley Dillon, Ben Ferree, Ronald Sayers and Jacki Windon; staff member Molly Downard, and part-time advisors or sport administrators Todd Boehm, Dale Gabor and Deborah Moore.

Others Participating: Steve Craig and Mindi Wells, OHSAA legal counsels; Greg Blate, OHSAA consultant; David Sheldon, Ohio High School Basketball Coaches Association; Greg Coullles, Ohio High School Bowling Coaches Association; Gerald Cooke, Ohio High School Football Coaches Association; Chris Cores, Ohio High School Golf Coaches Association; Mike Murphy, Ohio Girls Lacrosse Coaches Association; Mark Faber, Ohio Tennis Coaches Association; Doug Joy, Ohio Association of Track & Cross Country Coaches; Kim Metz, Ohio High School Volleyball Coaches Association; Dean Conley, Ohio High School Wrestling Coaches Association; Rick Lewis and Kathy McFarland, Ohio School Boards Association, and Tim Freeman, Ohio Association of Secondary School Administrators.

I. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion by Jan Wilking, second by Bill Warfield to **adopt** the agenda for the August 27, 2020, Board of Directors meeting.

Motion passed 9-0.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Scott Kaufman, second by Ryan Fitzgerald to **approve** the minutes from the following virtual meetings: June 10, 2020, Regular Meeting; July 31, 2020, Special Meeting; August 5, 2020, Special Meeting; August 7, 2020, Special Meeting, and August 19, 2020, Special Meeting.

Motion passed 9-0.

III. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

A. OHSAA Financial Report

OHSAA consultant Greg Blate provided the financial report for the OHSAA through July. The report is summarized as follows:

Available Funds — July 31, 2020		
Checking and Savings	\$4,359,050.03	
Certificates of Deposit	<u>\$392,966.36</u>	
Working Capital		\$4,752,016.39
Designated Funds — July 31, 2020		
Board Designated Savings	\$491,272.91	
Board Designated Certificates of Deposit	\$318,883.76	
Investments - Building Fund	\$365,322.97	
Durkle Scholarship	\$52,238.38	
Rossi/Denney Scholarship	<u>\$52,250.00</u>	
Total Designated Funds		<u>\$1,279,968.02</u>
Total Funds		\$6,031,984.41

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OHSAA Office and District Athletic Boards Financial Report

Consultant Greg Blate provided the Board with the OHSAA financial report through July broken down by the OHSAA Office and the six district athletic boards. The report is summarized as follows:

<u>District</u>	<u>Checking</u>	<u>Savings</u>	<u>CD</u>	<u>Total Cash</u>	<u>Yr. to Date Gross Revenue</u>	<u>Yr. to Date Gross Expenses</u>	<u>Yr. to Date Net Profit/Loss</u>
OHSAA Office	\$662,350	\$1,782,402	\$0	\$2,444,752	\$8,103,869	\$9,606,818	— \$1,502,949
Central	\$345,243	\$257,010	\$0	\$602,253	\$787,321	\$670,008	\$117,312
East	\$578,019	\$0	\$50,000	\$628,019	\$414,713	\$290,503	\$124,210
Northeast	\$751,461	\$0	\$0	\$750,625	\$1,634,805	\$1,292,593	\$342,212
Northwest	\$500,590	\$0	\$40,010	\$540,600	\$1,168,870	\$1,046,495	\$122,375
Southeast	\$82,430	\$63,181	\$198,494	\$344,105	\$323,387	\$294,426	\$28,961
<u>Southwest</u>	<u>\$171,016</u>	<u>\$341,664</u>	<u>\$208,951</u>	<u>\$721,631</u>	<u>\$1,260,002</u>	<u>\$1,049,864</u>	<u>\$210,138</u>
Totals	\$3,091,109	\$2,444,257	\$497,455	\$6,031,985	\$13,692,967	\$14,250,707	— \$557,741

Motion by Dan Leffingwell, second by Leonard Steyer to **approve** the financial report as presented.

Motion passed 9-0.

IV. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Competitive Balance Updates for Boys Basketball

After the OHSAA Board of Directors approved the 2021 girls and boys basketball tournament divisional alignments and representation at their June 10, 2020, meeting, it came to the attention of the Executive Director's Office that some schools may have not followed the procedures that were modified for the 2019-20 school year and erroneously submitted data reflecting their ENTIRE basketball roster(s) of students in grades 9 through 12. Instead, the only students who should have been rostered are those who were on the school's 2020 tournament roster(s) and any students who participated in a varsity regular season contest in 2019-20 but were NOT on the tournament roster. The Executive Director's Office utilized its authority under new Constitution Article 6-1-9 to temporarily suspend strict compliance of Competitive Balance Business Rule 2 only for those schools who entered their entire girls and/or boys basketball rosters (grades 9-12) in their roster counts to the OHSAA. The deadline to submit new data for consideration of making a modification to those schools' tournament division for 2021 was August 14, 2020.

At this meeting, Assistant Director Ronald Sayers reported that six schools that submitted new boys basketball roster data from the 2019-20 season for the OHSAA to review were approved to have their tournament division assignment modified for 2021. The six schools were Bidwell River Valley (from Division II to III); Cleveland Benedictine (from Division I to II); Cleveland Central Catholic (from Division I to II); Elyria Catholic (from Division II to III); Johnstown-Monroe (from Division II to III), and St. Bernard-Elmwood Place (from Division III to IV). It was noted that 2021 boys basketball tournament representation and divisional dividing lines were not redrawn and the six schools were simply moved to their modified division.

B. Revised of August 5, 2020, OHSAA Administrators' Virtual Workshop

Assistant Director Ronald Sayers provided the Board with an update on the OHSAA Administrators' Workshop, which was held August 5, 2020. Approximately 250 school administrators participated in the workshop, which was a face-to-face meeting held in Columbus in previous years before moving to a virtual format this year. The workshop included updates and reminders on several different topics that included compliance/student eligibility, officiating, sport management, membership services and competitive balance. Representatives from the Ohio Association of Secondary School Administrators and the Ohio Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association also spoke briefly to the participants.

C. Update on Appeals, Infractions and Legal Issues

Assistant Director Ronald Sayers provided the Board with a list of schools that have recently violated OHSAA bylaws or sports regulations. **West Carrollton High School** violated Bylaw 4-9-4 #3, Recruiting, when a coach engaged in conversations with a student who was not enrolled in their school. In accordance with Bylaw 11, Penalties, the Executive Director's Office has fined West Carrollton \$600, \$250 of which will be waived after West Carrollton completes a training workshop regarding Bylaw 4-9, and the coach was fined \$500. **Lowellville High School** violated Bylaw 4-9-2 and 4-9-4, Recruiting, when two separate Lowellville employees, a teacher and a coach, engaged in conversations with prospective student-athletes who were not enrolled in their school. In accordance with Bylaw 11, Penalties, the Executive Director's Office has fined the coach \$500, denied the opportunity of the coach to coach in the 2021 OHSAA boys basketball tournament, required Lowellville to complete a mandatory training workshop regarding Bylaw 4-9, with proof of completion being sent to the OHSAA office, and has deemed the student-athletes eligible for only pre-season scrimmages and the first eight varsity regular season basketball contests of the 2020-21 season. **Rossford High School** had a student-athlete in varsity girls cross country violate Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfer, during the 2018 season. In accordance with Bylaw 10-2-1, Forfeitures, the school must forfeit any victorious contest in which the ineligible student participated. **Mogadore Field High School** violated General Sport Regulation 11, Mandatory No Contact Periods - Coaches, when an assistant football coach met with a student-athlete dur-

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ing the Emergency No-Contact Period in March of 2020. The Executive Director's Office agreed with the school's self-imposed penalty of a written reprimand and a mandatory training regarding the rules and regulations with the Field football coaching staff.

Mr. Sayers also provided the Board with an update on appeals. He said the OHSAA Appeals Panel heard the first three appeals of the 2020-21 school year on August 20: one of the appeals dealt with Bylaw 4-7-7, Transfers; one dealt with Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfers, and one with a contest official who violated Officials Code X. 10, Unethical Behavior. He will provide a more detailed update at an upcoming Board Of Directors Meeting. In addition, OHSAA Legal Counsel Steve Craig provided the Board with an update on legal issues.

V. OLD BUSINESS

None

VI. NEW BUSINESS (CONSENT)

- A. Recommendation to Approve OHSAA Membership List for 2020-21 School Year
Director Brenda Murray provided the Board with information regarding the number of school districts/ systems that have returned the required membership form to the OHSAA for the 2020-21 school year. The form (OHSAA Board Resolution Card) affirms that the board of education or similar governing board of each member school has adopted a resolution authorizing continued membership with the OHSAA and, in doing so, agrees to conform with all OHSAA bylaws and regulations. All OHSAA Board Resolution Cards were returned prior to the June 30 deadline. In addition, the Board was asked to approve continued membership for 811 high schools as full members and 749 7th-8th grade schools.
- B. Recommendation to Approve Use of Investigative Services
OHSAA Legal Counsel Steve Craig recommended that the Board give approval of the OHSAA's continued use of outside investigative services as deemed warranted by the Executive Director's Office to investigate schools and/or individuals who violate Association regulations.
- C. Recommendation to Approve the 2020-21 OHSAA Officials Handbook
Senior Director Beau Rugg provided the Board with the final draft of the 2020-21 OHSAA Officials Handbook and asked that the document be approved. Among the major updates includes expanded information describing what constitutes unethical behavior in Section 10 D. Mr. Rugg also noted that more details will be provided at a later date regarding officials tournament fees as it relates to the expanded OHSAA football tournament in 2020.
- D. Recommendation to Approve Proposal for 2021 Friday Night Fútbol
Director Kathleen Coughlin provided the Board with a proposal to modify the 2021 OHSAA Friday Night Fútbol (soccer) program. Part of the recommendation is to move the date a week earlier in 2021 (August 13) since the football season will begin a week earlier. In addition, and in conjunction with the OHSAA's Sportsmanship, Ethics and Integrity initiative, the contest would not count toward the 16-game regular season maximum, with the caveat that each team participating (home or away), must complete a service project leading up to the contest.
- E. Approval of Recommendations to Fill One-Year Interim Positions on OHSAA District Athletic Boards
Interim Executive Director Bob Goldring informed the Board that three OHSAA District Athletic Boards have recommendations of administrators to serve in one-year interim positions on their respective boards following vacancies for unexpired positions. The East District Athletic Board has recommended that Angelita Forté, youth services coordinator for the Steubenville City Schools, fill the ethnic minority position; the Northeast District Athletic Board recommended that Rich Berlin, assistant principal at Wadsworth High School, fill a Class AAA position, and the Northwest District Athletic Board recommended that Geoff Palmer, head of school at Sandusky St. Mary Central Catholic High School, fill a Class A position. The interim representatives shall serve until the newly elected representative, elected during the next regularly scheduled election next May, takes office. Mr. Goldring said each district athletic board advertised for the positions and conducted interviews before making their final recommendations.
- F. Ratification of OHSAA Insurance Carriers and Plans
Interim Executive Director Bob Goldring informed the Board that the Columbus Office utilized newly hired Hylant Group as the Association's broker of record, and bids were secured from companies for the OHSAA's various insurance needs, including liability, property, automobile, directors and officers (D&O), officials liability and student catastrophic. The OHSAA's two legal counsels, incoming Board President Cassella and various OHSAA staff members reviewed the proposals with Hylant, and Mr. Goldring made recommendations on who would be the carriers of the various policies and the plans, which began on August 1. At this meeting, Mr. Goldring asked the Board to ratify the selections of the carriers and the plans. He noted that the bid process saved the OHSAA over \$100,000 from the 2019-20 school year.

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G. Recommendation to Approve Standardized Job Description for District Athletic Board Treasurers and to Modify the OHSAA District Athletic Board Handbook

Interim Executive Director Bob Goldring said that, following the recent retirement of longtime Southwest District Athletic Board Treasurer Bob Huelsman, OHSAA Legal Counsel Mindi Wells and Financial Consultant Greg Blate modified the job description for District Athletic Board treasurers prior to the Southwest board moving forward to advertise for Mr. Huelsman's position. With the modified job description, that means the OHSAA District Athletic Board Handbook must also be modified. Mr. Goldring recommended that the new job description and modification to the DAB handbook be approved.

Motion by Scott Kaufman, second by Gary Kreinbrink to **approve** New Business Consent Items VI. A., VI. B., VI. C., VI. D., VI. E., VI. F. and VI. G. as presented.

Motion passed 9-0.

VII. NEW BUSINESS (OTHER)

None

VIII. ONCE AROUND

Board President Jeff Cassella thanked the OHSAA staff and Interim Executive Director Bob Goldring for their work with the Governor's Office and Ohio Department of Health in getting the fall sports seasons underway. Mark Faber of the Ohio Tennis Coaches Association also gave thanks.

Interim Executive Director Goldring thanked his staff for their hard work and dedication during this unprecedented and ever-changing time. He also thanked the members of the various coaches associations and allied professional educational service organizations for their support and asked that they continue to remind their memberships to have patience with the OHSAA as it awaits final approval of many procedures from the Governor's Office and Ohio Department of Health. In addition, Mr. Goldring thanked the Board of Directors members for their guidance and support and noted that the OHSAA Referendum Item that was approved in May which extended the Board members' terms an extra year came at a good time since having consistency during such an unpredictable time with the pandemic is positive.

Motion by Ryan Fitzgerald, second by Bill Warfield to adjourn the meeting at 9:34 a.m.

Motion passed 9-0.

Bob Goldring, recorder.

FUTURE MEETINGS

(All meetings are subject to change.)

2020-21 School Year (note that 2020-21 dates may be modified, and times are to be determined): October 1; October 29; January 14; February 18; April 22, and June 9.