

The following are the preliminary minutes from the April 28, 2022, OHSAA Board of Directors Meeting. The Board is expected to officially approve them at its June 9, 2022, meeting.

OHSAA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES (April 28, 2022)

The Ohio High School Athletic Association Board of Directors held a regularly scheduled meeting on Thursday, April 28, 2022, at the OHSAA Office in Columbus. President Scott Kaufman called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. The meeting began with the pledge of allegiance.

Board Members In Attendance: Scott Kaufman, president; Steve Watkins, vice president; Bo Arnett; Ryan Fitzgerald; Gina Franks; Bill Nye; Scott Reeves; Jeff Wheeler, and Scott Hunt (ex-officio) and Glen Gillespie (ex-officio). **Board Member Excused:** Gary Kreinbrink.

Staff Members In Attendance: Doug Ute, executive director; Kim Kiehl, chief operating officer; directors Bob Goldring, Kristin Ronai, Beau Rugg and Tim Stried; controller Laura Vermilya; and staff members Kate Barnett, Tyler Brooks, Alexis Holderman, Emily Mason, Ronald Sayers and Dustin Ware.

Others In Attendance: Incoming Board of Directors Members David Alvarado, Molly Feesler and Jay Selgo; Steve Craig, OHSAA legal counsel; Brian Timm, Ohio General Manager, Teall Properties Group; and Frank Gamble, Ohio High School Baseball Coaches Association; Joe Balogh, Ohio High School Basketball Coaches Association, and Dick Kerschbaum, Ohio High School Football Coaches Association.

I. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion by Gina Franks, second by Ryan Fitzgerald to **adopt** the agenda as amended for the April 28, 2022, Board of Directors meeting.

Motion passed 8-0.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Bo Arnett, second by Jeff Wheeler to **approve** the minutes from the February 17, 2022, Board of Directors Regular Meeting and the March 19, 2022, and April 4, 2022, Board of Directors Special Meetings.

Motion passed 8-0.

III. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

A. Operations Update and Financial Report

Chief Operating Officer Kim Kiehl provided the Board with an update on operations. She said the operations and finance teams continue to work on centralizing finances with the Executive Director's Office and six district athletic boards; continue to review various insurance policies that are due for renewal, with any updates to be brought to the Board in the near future, and will meet with the OHSAA Finance Committee later in May to finalize the proposed 2022-23 OHSAA budget. The proposed budget will be shared with the Board prior to formal action occurring at the June 9 Board of Directors Meeting. Dr. Kiehl also said the office has updated its cyber security and has added an H.R. hotline for staff to anonymously report concerns.

Controller Laura Vermilya provided the financial report through March. She said the OHSAA is currently \$3 million ahead of its projected budgeted revenue and has \$12.6 million of operating cash, which can cover 8.3 months of expenses. Ms. Vermilya said all winter tournament financial reports have been received, with the exception of the state wrestling tournament, and attendance was approximately 90-to-95 percent of that seen during the last "normal" winter season of 2019. The financial report is summarized as follows:

District	Checking	Savings	Cash Concentration	Board		Total Cash	Yr. to Date	Yr. to Date	Yr. to Date
				Designated	Investment		Gross Revenue	Gross Expenses	Net Profit/Loss
OHSAA Office	\$5,307,853	\$3,516,478	\$21,775	\$702,562	\$484,583	\$10,033,251	\$12,323,663	\$8,241,160	\$4,082,503
Central	\$345,206	N/A	\$200,171	N/A	\$484,583	\$1,029,960	\$1,013,316	\$763,052	\$250,264
East	\$255,391	N/A	\$98,297	N/A	\$533,041	\$886,730	\$434,632	\$299,929	\$134,703
Northeast	\$609,657	N/A	\$331,733	N/A	\$96,917	\$1,038,306	\$1,869,499	\$1,462,320	\$407,179
Northwest	\$557,984	N/A	\$225,011	N/A	\$678,416	\$1,461,411	\$1,622,558	\$1,171,454	\$451,103
Southeast	\$305,311	\$19,163	\$102,592	N/A	\$387,666	\$814,733	\$606,770	\$431,827	\$174,943
Southwest	\$430,085	N/A	\$313,443	N/A	\$726,874	\$1,470,403	\$1,562,551	\$1,184,849	\$377,702
Totals	\$7,811,487	\$3,535,641	\$1,293,022	\$702,562	\$3,392,080	\$16,734,794	\$19,432,989	\$13,554,591	\$5,878,397

Motion by Bill Nye, second by Scott Reeves to **approve** the financial report as presented.

Motion passed 8-0.

President Kaufman thanked the operations and financial teams for their outstanding work.

IV. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Introduction of Incoming Board of Directors Members

Executive Director Doug Ute introduced the incoming Board of Directors members whose three-year terms begin August 1, 2022. In attendance were David Alvarado (ethnic minority representative, Northwest District; Molly Feesler (Class AAA representative, Central District), and Jay Selgo (Class AA representative, Northwest District). Andy Bixler (Class A representative, Southwest District) and Paul Stone (7th-8th grade representative, Southwest District) were in attendance at the Board of Directors Work Session the previous day but could not attend this meeting due to a commitment with the Southwest District Athletic Board.

B. Update on Member School Dues for 2022-23 School Year

Executive Director Doug Ute informed the Board that no changes are recommended for member school dues for the 2022-23 school year. That means that the action taken by the Board of Directors at their May 3, 2021, Special Meeting will remain in place for the 2022-23 school year, which will be \$50 per OHSAA recognized sport.

C. Update on OHSAA Athletic Discussion Meetings

Executive Director Doug Ute informed the Board that five of the six in-person OHSAA Athletic Discussion Meetings have been held, with the final meeting taking place later today in Cambridge. The OHSAA is required by the Constitution to conduct these meetings in order to explain the upcoming referendum issues, so the majority of the meetings have been spent with Director Kristin Ronai reviewing those items. The five meetings that have been completed have been in Athens, Westerville, Clayton, Cuyahoga Falls and Bluffton. Mr. Ute said participation and feedback from the meetings have been positive.

D. Reminder of 2022 Referendum Voting Process

Director Kristin Ronai reminded the Board that on-line voting for the 14 referendum issues (one Constitution; 13 Bylaws) will begin on Sunday, May 1, and will be closed on Monday, May 16, at 4:00 p.m. Member school principals are required to vote but may abstain on any issue. Ms. Ronai also said the PowerPoint presentation that has been used at the Athletic Discussion Meetings will be posted on the OHSAA website.

E. Review of EMIS Process/Information

Since the Board of Directors approved enrollment (EMIS) data and school classifications via a special virtual meeting in April, Director Kristin Ronai took time to review the EMIS collection process, how appeals were handled, how schools are assigned to classes and the purpose of OHSAA classifications.

F. Reminder of 2022 District Athletic Board Election Process

Staff member Ronald Sayers reminded the Board that petitions for OHSAA District Athletic Board positions are due by 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 30, and that voting for the expired and unexpired positions will take place between May 1 and 15. It was noted that the Board previously approved a recommendation from the Executive Director's Office to modify a portion of the district athletic board election process this year. With five of the six district athletic boards having expiring and/or interim positions available in the same classification, it was determined that the person receiving the most votes in those situations will be awarded the longer term available on that board for that particular classification, while the person receiving the second-highest number of votes will be awarded the shorter term available. There are 13 other expiring and/or interim positions that will be voted upon that do not have duplicate classification positions available and will follow the normal election process.

G. 2022-23 OHSAA Board of Directors Meeting Dates

Director Bob Goldring informed the Board of the dates for the 2022-23 Board of Directors Meetings. Regular meetings will be held on Thursday, September 1; Friday, September 30; Thursday, October 27; Thursday, January 12; Thursday, February 16, and Thursday, April 27, with the June meeting tentatively scheduled for Thursday, June 8, in Akron. All meetings are scheduled to begin at 9:00 a.m. The Board will also conduct special closed meetings during the state football finals in December and state boys basketball tournament in March. Mr. Goldring also noted that the upcoming June Board of Directors Meeting will be held in Akron on Thursday, June 9. Exact details will be forthcoming.

H. Reminder of Process/Date to Approve 2022-23 General Sports Regulations and Sport-by-Sport Regulations

Staff member Emily Mason informed the Board that several members of the OHSAA Executive Director's Office have been meeting to discuss changes to the General Sports Regulations and sport-by-sport regulations. The recommended changes in the General Sports Regulations will be shared with Executive Director Ute in the near future before a virtual meeting will be scheduled in mid-May to obtain approval of the proposed changes from the Board of Directors, while the sport-by-sport regulations will be presented at the June Board of Directors Meeting.

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I. Reminder of Dates that Tournament Representation and Divisional Breakdowns will be Presented

Staff member Ronald Sayers reminded the Board that tournament representation and divisional breakdowns for the fall and winter sports will be presented to the Board of Directors for approval at their June meeting and the spring sports will be presented at their September 1 meeting. The competitive balance sports of football, soccer, volleyball, basketball, baseball and softball will be presented annually, while the non-competitive balance sports will be effective for a two-year period.

J. Update on Appeals, Infractions and Legal Issues

Staff member Ronald Sayers provided the Board with a list of schools that have recently violated OHSAA bylaws or sports regulations. **Columbus Northland High School** had two transfer student-athletes who were eligible to qualify for full eligibility under Bylaw 4-7-6, Intra-District Transfer. However, the district failed to submit the request for eligibility to the Executive Director's Office prior to the 15th day of the school year, as stipulated in the Bylaw. The OHSAA has restored eligibility for the students retroactively and prospectively, but, in accordance with Bylaw 4-1-1, Administrative Error, the school has been fined \$100. **Hilliard Davidson High School** violated Bylaw 1-1-2 and General Sports Regulation 32.3, Participation by 7th and 8th Grade Students, when two 7th grade student-athletes participated in a girls basketball practice with the high school team. The Executive Director's Office hereby publicly reprimands Hilliard Davidson High School and has required the school to hold an educational seminar with their coaches regarding the aforementioned regulations. **Dayton Wogaman Middle School** had a track and field coach violate General Sports Regulation 4, Failure to Acquire a Pupil Activity Permit, when he coached during the 2021-2022 season without being properly credentialed. In accordance with GSR 4, the school has been fined \$250.00. **Dayton Wogaman Middle School** had multiple student-athletes in the sport of track and field violate Bylaw 3-5, Student Participation and Physical Examination Forms, when the students participated in practices with the team prior to providing the school with completed Preparticipation Physical Examination Forms. In accordance with Bylaw 11, Penalties, the students were required to cease participation until the appropriate forms were submitted to the school, and Wogaman Middle School has been fined \$100. **St. Paris Graham Local High School** had a volleyball coach violate General Sports Regulation 4, Failure to Acquire a Pupil Activity Permit, when he coached during the 2021-2022 season without being properly credentialed. The OHSAA has accepted Graham's self-imposed penalties of 1. Hosting an educational seminar for all coaches regarding OHSAA rules and regulations; 2. Hosting a specific 1-on-1 educational seminar for the head volleyball coach; and 3. A reduction in the volleyball team's "summer days" from 10 to 7. Additionally, in accordance with GSR 4, the school has been fined \$250.00. **Perrysburg High School** had a swimming and diving coach violate Bylaw 4-1-1, Eligibility, when they participated in an interscholastic contest as an ineligible person. In accordance with Bylaw 10-2-5, Forfeitures, the school must forfeit the contest in which the ineligible person participated. Individual eligible athletes, however, may keep their points, places and any awards earned during these forfeited contests. **Centerville High School** violated Bowling Sport Regulation 2 and General Sport Regulation 7.2.2, Non-Interscholastic Participation, when a student-athlete participated in a non-interscholastic bowling contest while remaining a member of the school team. The OHSAA accepted Centerville's self-imposed penalty of declaring the student ineligible for the next contest following the violation. Additionally, due to the fact that the self-imposed penalty only covered a single contest, and in accordance with Bylaw 11, Penalties, the student-athlete has been ruled ineligible for the first regular season contest during the 2022-2023 bowling season. **Sidney Lehman Catholic High School** had a transfer student-athlete who was eligible to qualify for full eligibility under Bylaw 4-7-7, Intra-System Transfer. However, the Archdiocese of Cincinnati failed to submit the request for eligibility to the Executive Director's Office prior to the 15th day of the school year, as stipulated in the Bylaw. The OHSAA has restored eligibility for the student retroactively and prospectively, but, in accordance with Bylaw 4-1-1, Administrative Error, the school has been fined \$100. **Brunswick High School** violated General Sport Regulation 7.3.1, 50% Limitation, when six student-athletes participated on a non-interscholastic boys soccer team. In accordance with Bylaw 11, Penalties, each student-athlete must serve a two-contest suspension during the 2022-2023 regular season. The OHSAA has accepted Brunswick High School's request to spread the suspensions over the first six contests of the season due to the number of students affected. **Gates Mills Gilmour Academy** had a transfer student-athlete who was eligible to qualify for full eligibility under Bylaw 4-7-2 Exception 1, Bona Fide Legal Change of Residence. However, the district failed to submit the request for eligibility to the Executive Director's Office before allowing the student to participate during the second half of the season and the OHSAA tournament, as stipulated in the Bylaw. The OHSAA has restored eligibility for the student retroactively and prospectively but, in accordance with Bylaw 4-1-1, Administrative Error, the school has been fined \$100. **Riverside Stebbins High School** and **Riverside Mad River Middle School** violated Bylaw 1-1-2 and General Sports Regulation 32.3, Participation by 7th and 8th Grade Students, when the Stebbins baseball team participated in a scrimmage against the Mad River baseball team. The Executive Director's Office hereby publicly reprimands both schools and has required each to hold an educational seminar with their coaches regarding the aforementioned regulations. **Cincinnati Withrow High School** violated Bylaw 9-2-1, Contests with Out-of-State Schools, when the track & field team competed in a non-bordering state without prior approval from the Executive Director's Office. The OHSAA has retroactively

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approved the school's participation in the contests after receiving the appropriate documentation. However, in accordance with Bylaw 4-1-1, Administrative Error, the school has been fined \$100. **Mentor High School** had a wrestling coach violate General Sports Regulation 4, Failure to Acquire a Pupil Activity Permit, when he coached during the 2019-2020 season without being properly credentialed. In accordance with GSR 4, the school has been fined \$250.00.

Mr. Sayers also provided the Board with an update on appeals. He said the OHSAA Appeals Panel has heard 47 appeals on 17 dates this school year; 29 of the appeals have dealt with the transfer bylaw, and eight appeals have either been granted or referred back to the Executive Director's Office for consideration to grant eligibility. In addition, OHSAA Legal Counsel Steve Craig provided the Board with an update on current legal cases.

V. OLD BUSINESS

None

VI. NEW BUSINESS (CONSENT)

A. Recommendation to Approve 2022-23 Tournament Entry/Withdraw Dates and Tournament Draw/Seed Dates

The Board was provided with proposed tournament entry and withdraw dates and the dates for the draw/seed meetings for each sport for the 2022-23 school year, and Director Bob Goldring said the Executive Director's Office recommended that the dates be approved. The dates will be published as part of the General Sports Regulations in the 2022-23 OHSAA Handbook.

B. Recommendation to Approve Self-Supporting Requirements for 2022-23 School Year (Bylaw 4-7-2, Exception 4)

OHSAA bylaws require that the Executive Director's Office annually establish requirements for transfer students who do not live in the same school district as their parents or legal guardians but are financially self-supporting (Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfers, Exception 4). Director Kristin Ronai reviewed the requirements and said the Executive Director's Office recommended that the requirements remain the same as those approved for 2021-22, with the minimum monthly income earned remaining at \$500.

Motion by Scott Reeves, second by Gina Franks to **approve** New Business Consent Items VI. A. and VI. B. as presented.

Motion passed 8-0.

VII. NEW BUSINESS (OTHER)

None

VIII. ONCE AROUND

Board of Directors members welcomed the incoming Board members and thanked their fellow Board members for their work and President Kaufman and Vice President Watson for their leadership. Board members also thanked the Executive Director's Office for their interactions, kindness and positivity, thanked them for guiding us through the COVID-19 pandemic and for doing what's best for students. President Kaufman thanked the staff for organizing and conducting the meeting with the presidents of the various state coaches associations the previous day and said it was great to hear the different perspectives on various issues. He congratulated the staff on a phenomenal winter, and echoed the previous comments by saying there was no playbook for COVID-19, but Ohio did it right and it could not have happened without everyone in attendance.

Executive Director Ute thanked the Board members for their kind words. He said the staff appreciates all the work that they do and the working relationship that we have.

Motion by Ryan Fitzpatrick, second by Bo Arnett to adjourn the meeting at 9:38 a.m.

Motion passed 8-0.

Bob Goldring, recorder.

FUTURE MEETINGS

(Unless noted, all meetings are on Thursdays and begin at 9:00 but are subject to change.)

2021-22 School Year: A closed June meeting is tentatively being planned for June 9 out-of-town.

2022-23 School Year: September 1, 2022; **Friday**, September 30, 2022; October 27, 2022; January 12, 2023; February 16, 2023; April 27, 2023, and a June date TBA.

IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION (April 27, 2022)

There was a unanimous motion to go into executive session at 4:31 p.m.

Board President Scott Kaufman asked for nominations for the position of president of the Board of Directors for the 2022-23 school year.

Bo Arnett nominated Bill Nye to serve as president of the Board of Directors for the 2022-23 school year. Ryan Fitzgerald seconded the motion. There was a unanimous motion to close nominations.

Bill Nye was unanimously elected president of the Board of Directors for the 2022-23 school year.

Board President Kaufman asked for nominations for the position of vice president of the Board of Directors for the 2022-23 school year.

Jeff Wheeler nominated Gina Franks to serve as vice president of the Board of Directors for the 2022-23 school year. Mr. Nye seconded the motion. There was a unanimous motion to close nominations.

Gina Franks was unanimously elected vice president of the Board of Directors for the 2022-23 school year.

There was a unanimous motion to come out of executive session and adjourn the meeting at 4:35 p.m.