

The following are the preliminary minutes from the November 30, 2023, OHSAA Board of Directors Special Meeting. The Board is expected to officially approve them at its January 11, 2024, meeting.

OHSAA BOARD OF DIRECTORS SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES (November 30, 2023)

The Ohio High School Athletic Association Board of Directors held a special meeting on Thursday, November 30, 2023, that was called to order by President Gina Franks. The meeting was held at Shula's American Kitchen in Canton prior to the OHSAA State Football Finals.

Board Members In Attendance: Gina Franks, president; Jay Selgo, vice president; David Alvarado; Bo Arnett; Andy Bixler; Molly Feesler; Bill Nye; Paul Stone; Jeff Wheeler, and Glen Gillespie (ex-officio) and Scott Hunt (ex-officio).

Staff Members In Attendance: Doug Ute, executive director; Kim Kiehl, chief operating officer; directors Bob Goldring and Kristin Ronai; Laura Vermilya, controller, and staff member Ronald Sayers.

Others In Attendance: Steve Craig, OHSAA legal counsel.

I. ACTION ITEMS

A. Recommendation to Approve 2023-24 Tournament Travel Stipends

Controller Laura Vermilya reviewed with the Board the proposed travel stipends that schools would receive for participating in OHSAA team tournaments. The stipends would be as follows:

Football — Regional semis and regional finals: \$1,500; State semis; \$3,000; State finals \$5,000

Soccer, Girls Volleyball, Basketball, Baseball, Softball — Regional semis and finals: \$750; State semis and finals: \$1,500

Field Hockey, Ice Hockey, Lacrosse — Regional finals: \$750; State semis and finals \$1,500

Ms. Vermilya said the proposal is the same as what was paid in 2022-23 but includes an additional week in the sport of football so that all schools that traveled to neutral sites would receive a stipend. This would move the total expenditure for travel stipends to \$1.2 million, up from \$1.03 million that was paid last year. She said the Executive Director's Office recommended that the proposed stipends be approved.

Motion by Molly Feesler, second by Andy Bixler to **approve** the travel stipends as proposed.

Motion passed 9-0.

B. Recommendation to Approve Title Change for Laura Vermilya

With the pending retirement of OHSAA Chief Operating Officer Kim Kiehl, Executive Director Doug Ute recommended that Laura Vermilya have her title changed to Senior Director of Finance from Controller. This means that Ms. Vermilya will be taking on some of the duties that had previously been assigned to Dr. Kiehl, and she would be compensated accordingly.

Motion by Jeff Wheeler, second by Jay Selgo to **approve** the recommendation as presented.

Motion passed 9-0.

Bob Goldring, recorder.

FUTURE MEETINGS

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

2023-24 School Year: January 11, 2024; February 15, 2024; April 25, 2024, and June 6 or 7, 2024 (8:30 a.m. at Canal Park in Akron).