

MINNESOTA STATE HIGH SCHOOL LEAGUE

BOARD OF DIRECTORS, MEETING SYNOPSIS

THURSDAY, APRIL 7, 2016

MSHSL Office

2100 Freeway Boulevard

Brooklyn Center, MN 55430

- *Opening reflection presented by board member Dave Swanberg*

The minutes from the board meeting on Feb. 4, 2016 were approved.

LOBBYIST REPORT

- Lobbyist Roger Aronson discussed the MSHSL sales tax initiative. He urged board members to share information with colleagues and local legislators. It is in regard to \$1.6 million of funding for the MSHSL Foundation over a two-year period.
- The process was shared how the MSHSL was selected for a legislative program audit. Lobbyist Aronson shared that it wasn't a negative discussion at the selection committee level.

LEGAL COUNSEL

- No claims have been filed against the MSHSL.
- There are two pending matters: mediation and a motion to dismiss.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Swanville High School was the Section 5 recipient of the NFHS Heart of the Arts award.
- Assistant Director Rich Matter was part of a feature story on adapted athletics in the High School Today magazine.
- Board treasurer Bob Grey was selected president of the MnIAAA at the association's recent meetings.
- Executive Director David Stead and Associate Director Kevin Merkle met with the Minnesota Vikings, who have an interest in hosting prep football, soccer and lacrosse games at their training facility in Eagan. Possibilities will continue to be explored.
- The MSHSL Foundation distributed \$233,000 to member schools in need this past winter season. For the school year, \$687,000 has been distributed. The Foundation has distributed \$6.3 million since its inception in 2007.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

- The Representative Assembly will be Monday, May 16.
- An Executive Committee workshop is planned for Sunday, May 15.
- Approved a request by Northern Freeze to play Nine-Man football during the regular season and 11-man during the playoffs.
- International students residing in the dormitories at The Marshall School, Duluth, were granted one-year of eligibility.
- Extended the eligibility of two students from Great River School.
- Approved a reception for Eugene “Lefty” Wright at the NFHS Summer Meetings following his hall of fame induction.
- Approved Associate Director Jody Redman to continue her partnership with Joe Ehrmann in the coming year to implement the “Why We Play” initiative to a growing national audience.

ACTION ITEMS

- Approved future meeting dates as presented.
- Approved future state tournament dates as presented.
- Approved a policy on the use of non-registered officials. The policy includes a requirement for photo ID cards for officials and monetary penalties for schools hiring non-registered officials for varsity contests.
- Approved a Constitutional Amendment that would guarantee representation on the board of directors by superintendents as submitted by the Minnesota Association of School Administrators. It will now be presented to member schools.

DISCUSSION

- Staff shared reviews of winter state tournaments.
- At the Spring Area Meetings, surveys and group discussions will take place on cooperative sponsorships, tournament classification/format and Bylaw 111 (Transfer and Residence).

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

ELIGIBILITY COMMITTEE

- The Eligibility Committee minutes were approved as presented.
- The board approved minutes from the committee’s meeting on March 16, 2016

AUDIT/FINANCE COMMITTEE

- The board approved the January financial statement.
- The board approved the February financial statement.
- The League’s investment portfolio was reviewed.

- Attendance at state tournaments between fall and winter increased approximately 30,000 fans over last year during the same period.

MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS

- The daily online recaps of winter state tournament play were very well-received and appreciated by statewide media.
- The introduction of postgame news conference centers for boys and girls basketball was a success.
- The debut of an online results system at the state wrestling tournament saved more than 38,000 sheets of paper during the three-day event.
- Staff will continue to review the media credentials process.
- Ball agreements have been updated with Spaulding, Baden, and Wilson.

TECHNOLOGY/COACHES AND OFFICIALS EDUCATION COMMITTEE

- The number of new registered officials is 871. That is a 40 percent increase from last year at this time. Ninety percent of those officials say they will return.
- The board approved registration fees of \$15 for new officials and \$30 for second-year officials.
- A “Survival Skills for Officials” course made its debut on Wednesday, April 6, 2016.
- A “Why We Play” conference is Monday, June 20, 2016 at Minnetonka High School. There will be three tracks: Activities Directors, Head Coaches, Professional Development.

LOOKING AHEAD

- The Representative Assembly meeting is Monday, May 16, 2016.
- The next board of directors meeting is Monday, June 6, 2016.
- Submitting letters of intent for 2016-2017 Officers of the Board: Northfield’s Tom Graupmann (President-Elect), Troy Urdahl of St. Anthony Village (Vice President) and Jordan’s Deb Pauly (Treasurer).