

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

Sleepy Ridge
March 22, 2018
9:00 a.m.

Those in attendance: Board Members: Marilyn Richards, Amber Shill, Allen Grunig, Dale Whitlock, Jeff Schena, Cory Anderson, Sam Jarman, David Brotherson, Jerre Holmes, Rob McDaniel, Dave McKee, Stan Young, Bryan Durst, Greg Miller and Laura Belnap. Staff Members: Rob Cuff, Jeff Cluff, Brenan Jackson, Jon Oglesby and Jan Whittaker. Minutes: Jeanne Widerburg.

Preliminary Meeting Activities: Chair Whitlock welcomed members to the meeting. He liked meeting in Utah County because it was a much shorter drive.

Reverence/Thought: Mr. McKee said he has been involved in athletics his entire life and many of life lessons were learned on the court and field. He played football for BYU. The most important thing he learned and cherishes from athletics are the relationships he developed. He believes in the UHSAA because of the experiences it provides students and their life development. He enjoys serving on the Board. He then offered a prayer.

Pledge of Allegiance/Patriotic Thought: Mr. Brotherson talked about responsibilities and what we learn from experiences. He feels athletics provide students focus and the opportunity to feel successful. Skills that are taught in extra curricular activities are respect, compassion, adaptability, honesty, trustworthiness, loyalty, responsibility, contemplation, initiative, perseverance, optimism and courage. All these qualities strengthen our mental health and help us to be better citizens. He feels educators' responsibility is to help a child learn. Every child needs to be a part of something. The UHSAA sponsors many events and provides many opportunities for these experiences with a united focus and consistent effort. He then led members in the pledge of allegiance.

1. **Regular Scheduled Meeting:** Mr. Whitlock called the regular scheduled meeting to order and noted that all board members were present.

A. Minutes: January 25 meeting (summary on the UHSAA website):

MOTION: Mr. McDaniel motioned to approve the meeting minutes of January 25. Ms. Richards seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

2. **Executive Committee Meeting Report:** Mr. McDaniel reported.

- Ready reference calendar
- Basketball endowment report
- Winter activities report
- Winter ejection report
- Tentative Calendar
- UIAAA Conference – April 18
- Battle of Fans – Maple Mountain HS won the contest
- Dare to Lead Student Conference – June 14 at Jordan HS
- Unified Sports – track and field and soccer
- Wrestling Divisionals

- Pitch count to avoid region sanctions
- The EC approved new format for drill team competition
- The EC recommended spring sport season to the BOT for both boys and girls lacrosse in 2020
- Articles reflecting high school education-based activities

3. **USBE Report:** Ms. Belnap said the legislative session was interesting. The State School Board is very concerned with the safety of children with coaches that are hired. The access to students by the coaches is of concern. Mr. Cuff said that area would be discussed at the next Constitution By-Laws (CBL) committee's agenda. The CBL committee will meet on April 4 at noon. Ms. Belnap said it is being discussed with superintendents as well. We all have a responsibility to protect the children. Mr. Cuff emphasized there has always been a working relationship between the UHSAA and the USBE. When there is a concern, it is hoped the USHAA will have a chance to be proactive and address the issue.

Ms. Belnap asked about the prior week's hearing. Mr. Cuff said there is an established appeals panel (HB 413). They review any hearing not approved if the involved party asks for an additional appeal. The appeal panel is determining if rules and procedures were followed. The panel includes: Chris Anderson, attorney; Martell Menlove, former state superintendent; and Mae Miya, former AD/coach.

4. **Winter Activities Reports:**

A. Luncheon Details: Mr. Cuff said this is the ninth annual luncheon held for the award winners. The staff will be introducing the winners of Super Fan; Spirit of Sport, Heart of the Arts and the Circle of Fame. The luncheon will be at noon.

B. Winter Results (pp. 103-104): Mr. Cuff congratulated the winners and provided a list of the results with the agenda.

C. Basketball Endowment Games Report: Mr. Cuff reported the Basketball Endowment Games produced \$21,500 in revenue. This is the highest amount in the last ten years. He thanked members for their support. The Association appreciated the great matchups to increase the revenue.

MOTION: Mr. McKee motioned to move the basketball endowment game revenue, \$21,464.29, to the UHSAA Foundation. Mr. Grunig seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

D. Basketball: Mr. Oglesby reported on the basketball tournaments. He reported many venues were utilized around the state to accommodate the increased number of tournaments. Mr. Cuff said the 1A tournament was successful with two sites (SVC and Richfield HS). The majority of the 1A Superintendents and Principals were very positive with the new format. The fans were charged one price and could see two games. The one negative was two schools had their girls and boys playing at the same time on Wednesday. The Executive Committee approved the format again for next year. Mr. Cuff felt the tournament did well financially. Mr. Anderson said streaming the games was very helpful and Richfield HS was a great facility. It was nice the boys and girls could cheer for each other. Mr. Schena said the 2A was very successful, too.

E. Wrestling: Mr. Jackson reported wrestling tournaments went well. The 3A, 4A, 5A and 6A tournaments were held at UVU and 1A and 2A tournaments were held at SVC. There were good crowds and SVC was packed. The one negative was the upper classifications could not watch the smaller classifications. Next year, the tournaments will be scheduled on two different weeks. Mr. Brotherson said there was a concern with hotels increasing their prices and some would only reserve for all three nights.

F. Drill Team: Ms. Whittaker reported three great days. There were only issues with the spectators. Some camped out for days. A committee met and created a proposal to help eliminate some of those problems in future years.

G. Swimming: Ms. Whittaker reported there were two sites used because BYU was unavailable. The state swim meet for 3A was held at Wasatch Aquatic Center and 4A, 5A, 6A were at the South Davis Recreation Center. There was limited seating so pre-ticketing for qualified swimmers was used for their parents. The staff is looking to return to BYU next year, but some have requested returning to the Wasatch Aquatic Center for 3A.

H. Ejection Report (pp. 105-107): Mr. Cluff reviewed the ejection summary report. There was a significant increase in ejection in boys' basketball. Overall schools are working on sportsmanship. There have been zero appeal hearings for coaches. Three weeks into the season, boys' soccer is already at 30 ejections.

I. Officiating Update: Mr. Cluff reported there is a nationwide decrease in the number of officials. Softball, baseball and soccer especially have a decrease in officials. The staff is trying to address the issues of retention whether it is the assigner, fellow officials or association leaders. He pointed out that pay is also an issue. He announced there is a new assigner for soccer. Please contact Mr. Cluff with any issues so he can work to correct the problem.

5. **Calendar:** Mr. Oglesby encouraged everyone to use the online calendar as it is the most updated. The online tentative calendar has been posted on the website.

6. **Staff Items:**

A. Sportsmanship Award Criteria: Ms. Whittaker reviewed the criteria for schools to earn their star for their Raise the Bar Banner. The application will be sent to principals in May and will be due June 1. Mr. Holmes said there are many good things happening that are not recognized. He has a young man who was one of their best basketball players that was diagnosed with cancer. Many schools rallied around him and raised money to help his family. Mr. Holmes was grateful for the kindness shown to this student and his family.

B. Battle of Fans: Each school was encouraged to send in a video displaying their student body as the best fans in Utah. Maple Mountain HS was this year's winner.

C. Student Leadership Conference: The Conference this year will be held on Thursday, June 14, at Jordan HS.

D. Drill Team Proposal (p. 115): Ms. Whittaker reviewed the proposal on page 115. Block presale tickets will be sold on the final day for 5A and 6A. There will be a random drawing for the block of seats. These seats will cost \$10 and will be referred to as premier seating. On the other side of the venue, a block of seats will be sold at \$5. There will be colored wrist bands with a bar code for their assigned block of seats. The 5A and 6A will be split into

two different days. This will add another day to the competition, but not an additional day for 5A/6A. This should help alleviate problems with overcrowded restrooms, long lines at concession stands and limited parking. Mr. Cuff pointed out the Executive Committee approved the proposal at their last meeting.

E. Special Olympics Utah – Unified Sports: Mr. Oglesby reported there are 15-16 soccer teams. Hillcrest and Murray each have two teams. The soccer championships will be on May 5 at Hillcrest HS. Unified track championships will be held May 16 at Copper Hills HS. It is not too late for schools to add unified track and field.

F. Technology Update: Mr. Oglesby reported this is a great time for training and resources for Register My Athlete or Register My Coach. Call their support teams. Mr. Cuff reminded members a registered coach can be attached to a new school and not pay the fee.

G. Communication Committee Report: Mr. Oglesby said there is the ability to have media partners with creative branding. Radio PSA's coproduced with NFHS are available on the website. He asked members to encourage local media to use the PSA's. An email blast went out to the UHSAA media list.

The Communication Committee created a crisis communication plan and it was implemented during basketball for weather delays and tournament information. It is intended to quickly notify schools, media partners and patrons of tournament changes or issues.

MOTION: Mr. Jarman motioned to leave the regular board meeting to begin the public hearing. Ms. Shill seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING:

Mr. Cuff reviewed the proposed policies and procedures for the upcoming 2019-2021 Realignment. This would be the second consideration. There were two changes from the last realignment. Item 1 states that the BOT has the power and authority to make determinations in the best interest of the Association. The recommended range for 4A was changed to 21-28.

Mr. Cuff reported on the online feedback regarding the policies and procedures for the alignment. One request was for at least six schools in a region, preferably 8, and to have same number of schools in regions where possible. A reminder of three large schools coming in 2020 during alignment.

North Sanpete: Superintendent Sam Ray expressed his concern for their current region and classification. He reported not all private and charter schools provide teams at all levels. It makes it difficult to have a region schedule and to build programs at the lower levels. They have concerns with travel and would encourage members to consider travel when making determinations. He requested that Juan Diego and Summit Academy no longer be sent to his small rural community for football. Many of their athletes were injured after participation in games against those schools. It is a safety issue. He would prefer to be assigned a region in football and not divisions. He discussed and would provide to members a research study from three universities regarding private and charter schools in high school associations and how they are handled across the country. He discussed Wasatch Academy being independent for basketball. They don't beat up teams half their size because they recognize they can recruit internationally. He asked members to address the issue and make it reasonable and fair competition for his school.

Uintah: Bill Sivert, AD and vice-principal, feels geography needs to be a major player in the alignment process. Many of the rural schools have geographic isolation and that becomes a disadvantage. Students attend where they live. They are currently in Region 10 in the 4A classification with the south Utah County schools. These schools have students that can commute to play at a school of their choice. Parents can shop for schools. Uintah is willing to travel, but it is difficult when playing against schools that have a distinct advantage of population base. Rural schools should be aligned with rural schools.

MOTION: Mr. Anderson motioned to close the public hearing. Ms. Richards seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Regular Meeting continued with Staff Items:

H. Lacrosse: Mr. Jackson reported the Executive Committee has recommended the spring season for lacrosse for both boys and girls. He said there are many questions regarding costs and field markings. There will be more information coming. Mr. Cuff said there would be a lacrosse memo coming from the UHSAA including the decision of sport season and more information regarding costs and field markings. The staff is working with the NFHS lacrosse representative.

MOTION: Mr. McDaniel motioned to accept the Executive Committee recommendation to assign lacrosse to the spring season beginning in 2020. Mr. McKee seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

I. Coaches Certification: Mr. Jackson said Register My Coach (RMC) was implemented and it is taking time to get coaches registered. A report will be run at the end of the school year to see how many coaches registered. The Board of Trustees determined that all schools are required to track coaches on RMC. The staff will be covering coaches' certification at the UIAAA Conference in St. George and then again at the UHSAA Fall Summit.

J. Media Rights: Mr. Cluff reported the staff met with the media partners that contracts expire in July. DDM (Live.KSL.com) does the live digital streaming platform and Sinclair Media Group which has TV rights for post season football and basketball for 4A, 5A and 6A. The Executive Committee recommended that only one streaming platform be used. Mr. Cuff said it has been difficult to have two different platforms for streaming. For example, 1A boys' basketball would be on the free platform (DDM) and girls' basketball would be streamed on the pay for view platform (NFHS Network). The Association was accused of being discriminatory. It is difficult situation for the staff because the NFHS Network is part of NFHS, our national association. NFHS wanted to create a one-stop national high school sports network. Originally, the two platforms were both chosen because DDM said they could only stream 75%. For exposure, the staff wanted 100% and NFHS Network said they would stream what DDM did not. The NFHS said if there were current contracts or better contracts available to a state they would understand not participating in the NFHS Network. The staff hopes to have contracts by the end of March.

MOTION: Mr. Holmes motioned to accept the Executive Committee recommendation to use a single streaming provider. Mr. Jarman seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

7. **Legislative Report:** Mr. Dave Spatafore discussed with Ms. Belnap the process to follow to be reimbursed for the expenses incurred from the appeals panel that was created by House Bill

413. The Association will be asking for reimbursement and travel and stipend for the panel members. Also, for the costs incurred for transcription of the hearings being appealed. HB 413 stated that nothing in the bill changed the private nature of the UHSAA.

Mr. Spatafore discussed Senate Bill 28. It requires all agencies to register with the Lt. Governor's Office. In title, the UHSAA would need to register, but in terms of the funding requirement we may not need to register. Mr. Spatafore will research and keep the office staff aware of the requirements. He emphasized this was not aimed at the UHSAA, but to any entity that receives tax payer's dollars.

House Bill 175 failed. The bill was to create legislative oversight. It was felt as an overreach. The school boards, cities, counties and special districts opposed.

House Bill 356: Representative Paul Ray created a bill regarding youth sport safety amendments. The bill was encouraged by athletic trainers in their desire to require athletic trainers in schools. Representative Ray decided not to push the bill after conversations with the staff and Mr. Spatafore. Rep. Ray was interested in attending the next Sports Medicine Advisory Committee to discuss HB 356. Mr. Cuff said, this year, members approved the recommendation of SMAC to require cool-down tubs, a new physical exam expiration and the emergency action plan for all schools. Mr. Spatafore thinks a similar bill will be introduced again. He recently found out athletic trainers have paid lobbyists. Legislation could give them better opportunity for job placements and enhancements. Mr. Brotherson asked to proceed with caution because of the added costs to rural areas.

Mr. Spatafore appreciates the opportunity to serve the UHSAA. He reported that the Speaker and President are not seeking reelection. He speculated who may take their leadership positions.

8. Realignment 2019-2021: Mr. Cuff said the current timeline for realignment is the second consideration for format and procedures. He told members they could finalize today or send back to the Executive Committee for further discussion. Mr. Cuff was interested in reading the study Superintendent Ray talked about in the public hearing. If finalized today, the next item on the timeline is the October 1 counts to begin the process of school placement. Mr. Whitlock was pleased with the changes made on the format and procedures. Ms. Belnap asked if the changes made would help with the rural, private and charter school issue that was presented in the public hearing. Ms. Shill felt six classifications helped the ratio to stay under 2%. Ms. Belnap felt that deals with size but not the urban/rural issues. The committee had discussions of using a success factor and enrollment. Mr. McDaniel said that brought it into perspective that we need to have more conversations so decisions are not made merely on enrollment size. All schools are not created equal. Mr. McKee said the survey on out-of-boundary students will provide true data for discussions. He feels Uintah is unique because they are a large rural school. He doesn't feel it fair they play smaller schools. Mr. Oglesby said beginning with the next participation survey, schools will be asked for the out-of-boundary student/athlete information. The data will then be available for realignment considerations.

Mr. Schena voiced his concern for charter schools that provide the ability to build an athletic academy with state monies. This is a bad example going forward. If it works for them, there will be more to follow. Mr. Cuff reminded members the Constitution By-Laws Committee will be discussing requirements for membership. Mr. Durst said most charter schools' focus is not on athletics. Mr. Schena recognized there are some good actors.

MOTION: Mr. Durst motioned to accept the recommendation of the Executive Committee to accept the second consideration of the format and procedures for the 2019-2021 realignment. Mr. McKee seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

9. Legal Report: Mr. Cuff informed members that Mr. Van Wagoner was summoned to court with another court case and was unable to attend. He was going to discuss the Girls' Tackle Football lawsuit. Mr. Cuff sent out a previous email from Mr. Van Wagoner for members to read. Mr. Van Wagoner would like to meet with the three districts named in the law suit, Jordan, Granite and Canyons School District. He would like to create a litigation committee to discuss the strategy regarding the lawsuit. Ms. Richards thinks this affects every school district not just those named in the lawsuit. Mr. Van Wagoner is willing to help the districts as much as possible along with the Attorney General's Office.

MOTION: Mr. Brotherson motioned to create a Litigation Committee. Mr. McKee seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. McKee said he is interested in serving on the committee. He is concerned that the door has been opened because of the legislation last year. He is concerned for the Association. Mr. Cuff said Mr. Van Wagoner has that same concern. Stan Young will serve on the committee. Mr. Anderson said this is bigger than just Utah. Mr. Cuff said there is no high school or collegiate girls' football.

Mr. McKee wanted to know how we are going to close the door. Mr. Cuff said he is open to suggestions. It was proposed to have another joint meeting with EC and BOT. Members were interested in still finding out who the Association is and if it is a private entity. Mr. Holmes felt no one was against defining the Association. The lawsuit went beyond that question. He does not want to create a divide in the Association. Ms. Shill suggested trying to work with the new legislative leadership. Mr. Cuff said this could possibly be discussed with the litigation committee. Mr. Brotherson said to be careful what we ask. It could impact retirement for staff members if determined we are private. Are Board members willing to take care of staff members? Mr. Cuff said if anyone else is interested in serving on the litigation committee or have thoughts or concerns to please email him.

10. Terms: Mr. Cuff reviewed the information on Board of Trustees terms. The 1A/2A Superintendent representative will be determined by the superintendents. The Executive Committee determined Tom Sherwood would be the 5A/6A principal representative. The Private School election will be held on May 7 at noon at the UHSAA Office.

The Executive Committee terms could be found on pages 117-118. Mr. Cuff expressed the importance of BOT members to work with the EC for realignment.

11. For the Good of the Order: Mr. Cuff included articles of interest. The first article was regarding the Parkland HS shooting. Two of the three faculty members who were killed were coaches and they put themselves in the line of fire to protect kids. The next article was about the importance of hiring coaches who will contribute to education-based experiences for students and be great role models.

Ms. Whittaker announced Kenzie Hutchings was given the Section 7 Award for Heart of the Arts. Section 7 includes California, Arizona, Nevada, Hawaii and Utah.

Mr. Schena said he and his wife were discussing the recent shooting in Maryland. The resource officer was the hero, but he still had to kill a child to protect other children. Mr. Schena suggested that members thank their resource officers for what they do.

Ms. Belnap motioned to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 11:45.

Next meeting: Thursday, May 3.