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Florida High School Athletic Association
Board of Directors Meeting – Agenda Item

Site: Robert W. Hughes Building

Date: September 27-28,
2009

Check One: Action: **Discussion/Information:**

Topic (brief descriptive statement):

Minutes of the July 15, 2009, Florida High School Athletic Association Special Board of Directors Meeting

Detailed Information (background, observations, etc.):

Draft minutes of the July 15, 2009, Special Board of Directors Meeting are provided. Board members must, by majority vote, approve the minutes before they are official. Errors may be corrected during the board meeting and the minutes approved as corrected.

Recommendation(s):

Approve the minutes as submitted.

Rationale:

Alternative(s) to Recommendation(s):

Make corrections to the draft minutes before approving them.

Data Source:

Notes of recording secretary.

Impact (to be completed by FHSAA staff):

None

Roger Dearing, Executive Director
Name of Individual Submitting Item

Signature

THE FLORIDA HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION, INC.,
OFFICIAL MINUTES OF SPECIAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
JULY 15, 2009

The Board of Directors of the Florida High School Athletic Association, Inc., met in special session July 15, 2009, duly called at 1:05 p.m. in the Dorothy W. Brunson Conference Room, Robert W. Hughes Building, 1801 NW 80 Boulevard, Gainesville, Florida. Members of the Board and staff were present as noted.

Board Members Present:

Carlos Artime, Representative-At-Large, Miami
James Colzie, Athletic Director, Miami Christian School
Patricia Cooper, Superintendent, Okeechobee County Public Schools
Darrell Don, Athletic Director, The First Academy, Orlando
Joel Furnari, Athletic Director, South Dade High School, Homestead
Eric Hinson, School Board Member, Gadsden County School Board, Quincy
Bill Johnson, Representative-At-Large, Tallahassee
Mark Marsala, Athletic Director, Seacrest Country Day High School, Naples
John Newman, Senior Advisor, Legislative Policy and Budget, Florida DOE, Tallahassee
Keith Summers, Assistant Principal, Blountstown Middle School
Johnny Thornton, Representative-At-Large, Vero Beach
Russell Wambles, Athletic Director, Apopka High School
Bob West, Athletic Director, Bishop Kenny High School, Jacksonville
Tim Wilder, Superintendent, Gulf County Public Schools, Port St. Joe (President-Elect)
Greg Zornes, Athletic Coordinator, Pinellas Park High School, Largo (President)

Board Members Absent:

Steven Teuber, School Board Member, Lee County School Board, Fort Myers

FHSAA Staff in Attendance:

Roger Dearing, Executive Director/Chief Executive Officer
Michael L. Colby, Associate Director, Eligibility
Justin Harrison, Director, Athletics
Michael Herchel, Network Administrator
Paul K. McLaughlin, Assistant Executive Director, Educational Services
Gary V. Pigott, Senior Director, Athletics
Seth A. Polansky, Director, Membership Services
Laurel M. Ring, Director, Special Programs
Linda D. Robertson, Associate Executive Director, Financial Services
M. Denarvise Thornton, Associate Executive Director, Compliance & Eligibility Services
Shanell L. Young, Director, Athletics
Leonard E. Ireland Jr., FHSAA General Counsel

The Special Board meeting was called to order by President Zornes, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Zornes welcomed Board members, staff and guests to the special meeting and thanked them for arranging their summer schedules to attend.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion by Mr. Wambles Seconded by Mr. Wilder

Moved to adopt the July 15, 2009, special meeting agenda with the addition of the Commissioner of Education appointment to the Board of Directors as action item 1.a.

The question was called. Upon Vote: Motion passed 13-0

RATIFICATION OF FADSS AND COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION APPOINTEES TO BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Motion by Mr. Johnson Seconded by Mr. West

Moved to ratify the Florida Association of District School Superintendents appointment of Dr. Patricia Cooper, Superintendent, Okeechobee County Schools, to fill the vacant seat on the FHSAA Board of Directors, representing the southernmost administrative sections 3 and 4; and ratify the Commissioner of Education appointment of Mr. John Newman, Senior Advisor, Legislative Policy and Budget, Department of Education, to fill the vacant seat on the FHSAA Board of Directors, effective immediately.

The question was called. Upon Vote: Motion passed 13-0

POLICY 6, SPORTS SEASONS GUIDELINES

President Zornes noted the Board tabled in June a request by Board member Jeff Malloy to rescind or modify the reduction in the number of games adopted by the Board April 27, 2009, in all sports but football.

Motion by Mr. Hinson Seconded by Mr. Colzie

Moved that the request to rescind or modify the reduction in the number of games adopted by the Board April 27, 2009, in all sports but football be removed from the table.

The question was called. Upon Vote: Motion passed 15-0

Motion by Mr. Hinson Seconded by Mr. Wambles

Moved to approve the Executive Director's recommendation to rescind the action the Board took April 27, 2009, regarding Policy 6, Sports Seasons Guidelines.

Mr. Mark G. Alexander, of the Holland & Knight law firm-retained by FHSAA to evaluate the legal issues presented by the gender equity lawsuit filed against the association, addressed the Board and presented an analysis of the legal issues.

Board members expressed the following:

- Announce to member schools specifically the cost of this case.
- Feels the recommendation in April was appropriate and the Board did the right thing; it is not equitable letting districts make these decisions; cannot support spending funds for lawsuits.
- Believes these decisions should be local, hopes lawsuit ends today.
- Commended the Board for taking action in April; feels Board is prudent in rescinding that decision.
- Think of students first, athletes second; feels Board was prudent with decision taken in April; does not want to incur legal fees.
- Believes Board's decision in April was in the best interest of member schools to help with financial situations; supports this recommendation--motivation the same as in April.
- There was no intent in any inequity.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ms. Nancy Hogshead-Makar, representing Florida's Parents for Athletic Equity (FPAE), noted that when considering what's equitable in the state of Florida, you cannot do it in a way to be the same for all; her hope is this Board will consider length of seasons and a host of different things; make sure girls have access to same information as boys have; this needs to be a teachable moment; cuts have to be equitable.

The question was called. Upon Vote: Motion passed 15-0

BOARD OF DIRECTORS/ EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR COMMENTS/REQUESTS

Executive Director Dearing recognized and introduced the five new Board members: James Colzie, Patricia Cooper, Darrell Don and John Newman.

Mr. Wambles requested the deletion of his request that was tabled in June regarding Policy 6 for two additional games as long as they are participating in an FHSAA sanctioned tournament.

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In response to Mr. Wambles' concerns about nonmember schools, a presentation regarding nonmember status will be placed on the agenda for the September Board of Directors meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

The special Board of Directors meeting was adjourned at 2:04 p.m.