

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING**  
**UHSAA Office**  
**Thursday, August 17, 2023**  
**9:00 AM**

**Those in attendance:** Marilyn Richards, Amber Shill, Jeffrey Nielsen, David Warren, David Lund, Zack McKee, Paul Sweat, Luke Rasmussen, Jerre Holmes, Todd Quarnberg, Mike Mees, Jade Shepherd, Bryan Durst, Craig Morris, Brent Strate.

**Minutes:** Jennifer Thomas

1. **Welcome & Chair Business. Chair's general observations:** Mr. Jerre Holmes welcomed the board. He shared his experience dealing with three transfers at his school and reported that it is not an easy process. He pointed out that it isn't simple to just get a transfer approved. You must go through many steps. He appreciates the effort the office staff, committee and board members make to enforce this important part of the Association for fairness and equity.

He then welcomed the new Board of Trustees members for the 2023-24 year:

1. Amber Shill – Canyons SD – 5A School Board
2. Zack McKee – Rich SD- 1A School Board
3. Luke Rasmussen – Ogden SD – 3A/4A Superintendent
4. Todd Quarnberg – Herriman HS – 5A/6A Principal
5. Mike Mees – Pine View HS – 3A/4A Principal
6. Jade Shepherd – North Sevier HS – 1A/2A Principal

**158 member schools:** Mr. Rob Cuff shared that we have the same number of member schools as last year.

**New Staff Introductions and Office Staff:** Mr. Cuff introduced the two new assistant directors and gave them time to share their background and the activities they will oversee.

**Reverence/thought:** Mr. Paul Sweat discussed the death of his father about a year and a half ago. He shared a story about how his dad was a Union carpenter and was often laid off. He would come to Salt Lake and sign up at Union Hall and then not wait for a new job. He would go to job sites and find one. He encouraged the board to always show up early to their jobs, with their tools, ready to work. He emphasized that you can always be well known for hard work. It is an important factor of success. It can make up for many other attributes you might not have. He then offered a prayer.

**Pledge of Allegiance/Patriotic thought:** Ms. Marilyn Richards shared a quote from Ronald Reagan on what our American flag symbolizes. She then led the board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Minutes of May 2, 2023 meeting:**

**MOTION:** Mr. David Warren made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 2, 2023 meeting. Mr. Jeffrey Nielsen seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Approval of Board Agenda:**

**MOTION:** Mr. Brent Strate made the motion to approve the Board Agenda. Ms. Richards seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Executive Committee Meeting Report:** Mr. Cuff shared a summary of the Executive Committee meeting on August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

2. **USBE Report:** Mr. Strate shared that there has been a lot of political animosity. USBE Superintendent Dr. Sydnee Dixon emphasized that it is important to come together on the things we agree on: All want to see our children succeed. All want them to achieve their dreams. All want them to tap into their potential and contribute to the betterment of communities. All want a great education system. It is here, working with children that people can come together and find common ground. As the new school year begins, Mr. Strate hopes everyone can come together in cooperation to inspire the future generations. Mr. Strate then said a lot of time is spent talking about the strain and pressure that teachers face, but superintendents, principals and school boards also have a lot of pressure and strain. He then expressed appreciation for each board member and what they contribute to the different elements that make up education.
3. **Audit Report:** Haynie & Company joined the Board via telephone and provided an audit report. The report was distributed to the Board and reviewed. The audit opinion is an unmodified report (standard report). The audit went well and is now complete.

**MOTION:** Mr. Warren made the motion to approve the June 30, 2023 audit. Mr. Luke Rasmussen seconded the motion. Motion carried.

4. **UHSAA 2023-24 Budget:**

**MOTION:** Mr. Craig Morris made the motion to close the Board of Trustees meeting and to go into the public hearing for the UHSAA Budget. Mr. Zack McKee seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**MOTION:** Mr. Strate made a motion to begin the UHSAA Budget Hearing Meeting. Mr. Warren seconded the motion. Motion carried.

\*\*\*\*\***PUBLIC HEARING**\*\*\*\*\*

It was noted there was no public in attendance.

Mr. Cuff reviewed the 2023-2024 Proposed Budget and explained the individual categories for both revenue and expenses.

**MOTION:** Mr. Morris made a motion to close the budget meeting. It was seconded by Mr. Todd Quarnberg. Motion carried.

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**MOTION:** Mr. Quarnberg made a motion to approve the budget for the 2023-24 school year. It was seconded by Mr. Warren. Motion carried.

**MOTION:** Ms. Richards motioned to start the Board of Trustees meeting once again. Ms. Amber Shill seconded the motion. Motion carried.

## 5. UHSAA Procedures and Materials

**2023-24 meeting schedule:** Mr. Cuff referred the board to the meeting materials starting on page one. He pointed out that the meeting schedule was approved in May. The March meeting will be offsite at Sleepy Ridge. There are five meetings scheduled for the year for the Board of Trustees.

### **Reimbursement claims for meetings and tournament supervision:**

1. **Mileage:** Each board member can be reimbursed for expenses. The reimbursement for travel is currently .66 cents per mile. There are yellow sheets on the front counter that can be filled out and turned into Ms. Jennifer Thomas, the UHSAA Office Manager and she will pay reimbursements.
2. **Meals:** Breakfast and dinner can also be reimbursed if you are still traveling. Lunch is provided at each meeting.
3. **Lodging:** If a board member needs to leave before 7 am on the day of the meeting, they are approved to get a hotel on the Association. Contact the front office to let them know a room is needed.

**Committee assignments:** Each board member is on at least one committee. Mr. Cuff went over each committee and explained its function.

**Hearings and appeals:** The board will be asked to participate on hearings panels each year. Mr. Cuff will contact them a few days prior to see if they are available to participate.

**UHSAA Legislative Process:** Ms. Jan Whittaker explained the process. ADEC polls the schools and then presents it to the executive committee and then it comes to the BOT.

**Personal information sheet:** Ms. Jennifer Thomas asked new board members to fill out the provided sheet and give it back to her before the end of the meeting.

**State Passes:** State passes were handed out at the beginning of the meeting. As long as you are a member of the board you will get a pass each year.

## 6. UHSAA Items:

**Super Fan nomination form due November 1:** Each member school can nominate someone for this honor.

**2023-24 Classifications and Regions:** The UHSAA website has a list of each member of the executive committee. You are always welcome to go to their Region meetings. There also is a list of the Board of Trustees members.

7. **Visits to Region Boards:** The UHSAA staff will be attending at least one of the region meetings this year.

8. **UHSAA Participation:** Ms. Whittaker shared that forms were sent to each school to see how many students are participating in sports activities. Numbers are up due to Cheer and Girls Wrestling. Cross Country, Football and Drill were also up. Unified basketball was added and this contributed to the increase also.

9. **Sportsmanship Committee:** Ms. Whittaker explained that it is the fourteenth year of Sportsmanship campaign “Raise the Bar.” Banners and stars can be earned for each school if the Sportsmanship criteria is met.

**Student Leadership Conferences:** These are held at the region level. A training for the regions will be held on August 28.

10. **Promoting High School Activities:** Mr. Brennan Jackson provided an article that shows the benefits of high school sports for students. The article embodies all that the Association is trying to accomplish.
11. **Academic All-State:** Mr. Chris Shipman explained that the Academic All-State award encompasses the entire student population. Mr. Shipman encouraged schools to get their activities on Aktivite so students can receive the honor.
12. **UHSAA Items:** Mr. Jeff Cluff shared that the UHSAA Website is being updated daily. Please visit it to see how it is being changed and updated.

**Social Media:** Twitter, Instagram and Facebook are all being used. We just hired a new social media manager.

**Aktivite:** It is being used for the certification of the coaches. It is also used as our transfer portal. It also contains school information that needs to be updated by each school as changes occur.

**Yearly Results/Record Book:** Mr. Curt Pettingill has been updating this. He has been working hard to get all those records. If you know of any records you can fill out a form and send it to Mr. Pettingill.

13. **UHSAA Calendar:**

**2023-24 calendar:** The calendar for the year is constantly changing. It will be updated regularly on the UHSAA Website. It can be customized for what you are looking for. If you see any needed corrections reach out to Mr. Pettingill or Mr. Cluff.

**2024-25 tentative calendar:** This calendar is usually completed around March 2024.

14. **Coaches Training:**

**District/School Responsibility:** By board rule all coaches must go through certifications to work with students. Schools have done a good job taking on this tremendous task.

**UHSAA Certification Checklist:** These are filled out and then signed by principals at every school.

**NFHS Learning Center:** This is a great resource for coaches and the courses are free.

15. **Coaches Credentials:** All coaches will receive a credential when they complete their certifications. Officials have been added as well as administrators at each school. The fall order has been submitted.

## 16. Officials:

**Online registration and background checks:** Mr. Cluff shared that there is a nationwide shortage of officials. A raise has been given to the officials to try to encourage more to register. UHSAA has also gone to high school and college fairs to encourage more registration.

The ejection process has changed. The requirement has been added so that the official and an administrator must both submit the report.

## 17. Staff Items:

**Compliance Training:** Mr. Cuff conducted compliance training with board members. Meeting minutes and agendas must be on the UHSAA website. The posting of the Board of Trustees agenda will be on the UHSAA website and the Public Forum website. Mr. Cuff went over the seven reasons for a closed meeting and the process and procedures.

**UHSAA Summits:** The first Summit is August 29<sup>th</sup> at Salt Lake Community College from 9-12. The second Summit will be held in Richfield on September 21<sup>st</sup> from 9-12.

**Competitive Equity Committee/Realignment:** The next meeting will be Friday August 25<sup>th</sup> via Zoom.

**Competitive Cheer Update:** The first year of sanctioned cheer has been completed. Many lessons have been learned from the past year. This year the classifications will be divided up for state competition.

**Boys Volleyball Update:** Ms. Whittaker explained that we have over 100 schools participating in the first year of sanctioned boys' volleyball. Almost every 4A-5A-6A school is participating.

**Emerging Sports Process:** The Board of Trustees will ultimately decide when a sport is sanctioned, but the process starts with a survey going out to schools. The survey asks what number of students are participating in an activity not sanctioned by UHSAA. Once there is a certain number of students, it is added to the emerging sports list and other factors come into play at that point.

**Committee Volunteers – Esports and Sports Seasons:** This board voted not to approve the sanctioning of Esports, but a committee was formed to prepare for the next time it comes up for consideration. Volunteers were requested for the committee.

Another committee that needs to be formed is one to look at sports seasons and if sports would be better placed in another season.

**Summer Moratorium:** Mr. Jackson informed the board that the summer moratorium dates are June 28 – July 4. Schools can request an adjustment date, but it must include the 4<sup>th</sup> of July and the entire school must make the adjustment their moratorium.

**Sports Medicine Advisory Committee Report (SMAC):** Mr. Jackson introduced Dr. Karl Weenig and shared that he was instrumental in allowing the Association to have fall sports in the year 2020 during Covid. Mr. Weenig shared items from two meetings that were held recently. The leading cause of death in sports are all H's: Heart, Heat, Head and Hemoglobin.

**Heart:** He shared a video on sudden cardiac arrest. It is important to have AEDs within a couple minutes of every location. The AED is critical in the training process for CPR.

**Heat:** Monitoring is important. If steps are taken to treat heat issues, there can be a 100% survival rate. The Wet Bulb Globe is helpful to monitor the heat and adjust as needed.

**Head:** Concussion protocols are critical to a return to participation.

**Hemoglobin:** Students with Sickle Cell Anemia have issues if they get too exhausted and need to be monitored.

The menstrual cycle question is very important for the health of the athlete. There was a push back on it being too invasive, but the Sports Medicine Advisory met with the Legislature and explained why it is so important to help monitor the health of the female athletes.

Air quality index is being worked on in conjunction with the state of Utah. They are working on standardization throughout the state and attempting to get monitors for each school through a grant.

The Weight Management for Track Wrestling has had some people concerned that the weight of female athletes is being monitored. This again, is for the health of the student. The pediatrician on the SMAC board has explained that tracking this is important to allow them to participate safely. They are also trying to educate coaches on doing skin checks that allow the wrestlers to participate.

In regard to lightning, make sure the schools are doing a pre-game check. If you see it and you hear it, you clear it (the field). Track my Lightning or Weather Bug are options for apps that you can use.

Mental health is the most common thing athletes suffer from. We need to be aware of that and make athletics a positive experience for them.

**Boys Soccer Probation:** The Soccer Association met with Brennan and Jeff and gave some recommendations. Mr. Jackson shared their potential recommendations with the board.

**Football Items:** Mr. Jackson shared the new NFHS rule regarding overtime. At the beginning of the third overtime, the ball is put on the 3-yard line and a two-point attempt is made.

18. **Corporate Sponsorships (PlayFly) UHSAA Sports Properties:** We are in our second year with PlayFly. They are working hard to fit the mold of what UHSAA has done in the past. Some contracts have been renegotiated and new contracts are being explored.
19. **Constitution and By-Laws Second Consideration:** Mr. Cuff provided the agenda from the last Constitution and By-Laws meeting. He went over the items that are being considered for changes. This is for second consideration by the Board of Trustees.

**MOTION:** A motion was made by Mr. Sweat to add the changes to the constitution and by-laws and to add the following text in the breach of contract section: "UHSAA highly recommends a written contract be made." Mr. Luke Rassmussen seconded the motion. Motion carried.

20. **UHSAA Foundation:** Mr. Cuff shared the names of the Foundation committee members: Jerry Bovee, Chair; Marilyn Richards (BOT). Other committee members are Chris Neddo, Belinda Johnson and Rex Thorton.

**Catastrophic Insurance:** It is due September 15: The Board agreed to give 50% of the premium back the last couple of years. In addition, there is an endowment fund. The only way to continue to grow that

fund is to hold endowment games. Basketball was dropped for the future. Electronic ticketing will now come into play by using GoFan. Mr. Cuff went over the new process for how the money is handled for this year.

**21. Finance Committee Items:** Chair Marilyn Richards

**Finance Committee Report:** The finance committee met at 8 am today. The audit and budget were discussed. One more part of that committee is to present recommendations for the UHSAA staff compensation for the new year.

**Staff Considerations:** Ms. Richards shared that a decision was made to increase the full-time staff salary by 3.5 percent.

**22. Legal report:** Mr. Mark Van Wagoner reported that there are no serious legal issues. The transgender case is proceeding slowly. He proposed that there may need to be some changes made to the transfer system to better meet the needs of current students.

**23. For the Good of the Order:** Mr. Cuff referred the board to the included article: “Creating Trauma-Informed Settings” and encouraged them to read it. He also encouraged them to read the provided High School Today Magazine.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting.