

Additional Information

1.0 ROLL CALL

(Ryan Casey)

- 1.0 The meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m. All members were present, except for Rep. Jim Wilson.

2.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- 2.1 Paul Cain made a motion to approve the minutes of CHSAA Board of Directors meeting of November 12, 2014. Sandi Weece seconded. They were approved unanimously.

3.0 ADDITIONAL ITEMS

- 3.0 CHSAA Legal Counsel Alex Halpern will discuss an on-going concussion lawsuit in Illinois. And Bert Borgmann will speak to a baseball proposal.

4.0 PRESIDENT'S AND COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS

- 4.1 President's Update

(Curt Wilson)

Mr. Wilson spoke to the mission of CHSAA: "It talks about seeking excellence, in this order: Academics, activities – activities next – and then athletics. ... It talks about diverse and equitable opportunities for all of our kids. ... Those things are what it's about. We worry about details. In sports, we run into two mentalities: One's the scarcity mentality, that there's only so much glory to go around, so you've got to do whatever you can to get that. This often leads to people trying to circumvent the rules. ... Then there's the abundance side, which says this is all good for kids, and that's what it's about. ... My point is that this body, and the type of people in this room, is living by those principles." Mr. Wilson also spoke of his appreciation of the CHSAA staff, and the Board of Directors.

- 4.2 Commissioner's Update

(Paul Angelico)

Mr. Angelico spoke to the plan of the next two days, including this meeting, tonight's Hall of Fame and tomorrow's Legislative Council meeting. Mr. Borgmann gave an overview of the Hall of Fame class. "This is truly a high school class," Borgmann said.

Mr. Angelico said that it feels like the winter can drag on. "We have spent lots and lots of time with some other basketball issues. It feels as though, 'No,' is just not a word people are able to hear."

- 4.2.1 Probation/Restriction Review for Action (enclosed)

Mr. Angelico said everyone on the restriction list have all met the requirements to be removed from restriction and moved to probation. Jim Lucas moved to remove those on the restriction list. Rick Mondt seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Those on the list will be moved to probation for one year.

Mr. Angelico said the staff has approved removing those on the probation list from probation. A motion was made by Jim Engelker to remove those on the probation list. It was seconded by Loren Larrabee. Mr. Thyfault noted the Green Mountain did not have a wrestling program this season. The motion passed unanimously.

- 4.2.2 Ticket Requests (enclosed)

Mr. Waterman asked for board members for their ticket requests for the state wrestling tournament.

4.2.3 Outreach Schedule (enclosed)

Mr. Angelico detailed the seven outreaches the CHSAA staff have been to recently. "Really, it's one of the better things we do as a staff. We get to hear first-hand what they think," Angelico said. He then said that these outreaches didn't provide much insight into how the membership will vote on proposals set to be discussed at Thursday's Legislative Council meeting.

4.2.4 Commissioner Goals (enclosed)

4.2.4a Commissioner Performance Review materials (enclosed)

Mr. Wilson encouraged board members to give specific feedback when they provided their reviews.

Mr. Angelico said his primary goal that he's spent the most time working on was reinforcing the philosophy of "Why we do what we do. ... We continue to say to people, 'We're about teaching kids life skills.'" He asked if that was helping.

Mike Schmidt said it was helpful, especially certain materials that had been sent out, and "allows us to disseminate that message further. ... The more people that read those things and understand it ... that's a positive for us."

The board will further discuss this performance during executive session.

4.3 Legislative Update (Jim Wilson)

Rep. Wilson was unable to attend the meeting, but Mr. Borgmann will provide an update later in the meeting.

4.4 Legal Update (Alex Halpern)

Mr. Halpern briefly spoke to the appeal scheduled for later in the day. He also said, "We have a pending situation coming out of Denver. It seems as though the following the coach rule, we really needed that rule. ... That's where we've been catching people." He added that the situation may continue to develop.

Mr. Halpern then talked about a lawsuit on-going against the Illinois association: "It's a class-action brought by the same attorneys that have prevailed in lawsuits against the NFL and the NCAA related to concussion issues. It's brought on behalf of all high school athletes who have participated in football. The claim is the statutes related to concussion prevention ... don't go far enough, and they aren't sufficient to protect students from injuries to concussions."

He added that the goal of the lawsuit is "the establishment of a fund ... for injuries that take place in the future." He said that the feeling from the national office is "Illinois is a test case for them, and if they prevail in Illinois, they will" move forward against other states. "Evidently," he said, "they're gearing up for a big fight."

Mr. Halpern asked the board for guidance on the issue. "Our option would be to say, 'We're on the side of (Illinois),' he said. "It's kind of a policy statement from our point-of-view."

Mr. Engelker asked if the board were to do that then the plaintiff would then be more likely to target Colorado in a similar lawsuit. Mr. Halpern said his thought that most of the other associations were going to enter into an agreement to share information with Illinois. Mr. Angelico said he thought a large number had already done so.

Mr. Thyfault asked, "What are (the plaintiffs) looking to change?" Mr. Halpern said they were looking for "an expansion of the rule. ... More stringent than the existing protocol."

Mr. Angelico said, "They're kind of holding us responsible for 1972 based on what we know in 2015." Mr. Halpern said, "That's kind of what they need to prove, that the associations should've known more (in regards to concussion)."

Mr. Halpern said it would be good to get guidance. Mr. Angelico said he'd "rather be with the other states than not, just as a united front."

Mr. Wilson said his opinion is that concussion injury is based on "people trained in that area. ... I think people have gone the extra mile to prevent (concussion) with the extra information that we've have as new information has come up. I would say we sign it." Mr. Cain agreed.

Mr. Hartnett asked, "Would it be prudent on our behalf, since we don't have to decide this moment, to see if other states want to go forward and do that? ... If we have two months, why don't we make a decision in 30 days?"

Mr. Angelico said he believed 36 states have already signed the information sharing agreement.

The consensus was reached to vote on a position at the February board meeting.

Mr. Halpern then provided an update on a case in Durango, and said it was sitting in the Colorado Court of Appeals.

4.5 Tonight's Hall of Fame Banquet (Bert Borgmann)

Mr. Borgmann said he spoke to everything earlier in the meeting. He said 310 people were expected to attend.

5.0 OLD BUSINESS

5.1 Treasurer's Update (Paul Angelico)

5.1.1 Budget Report through Dec. 31, 2014 (enclosed)

Mr. Angelico said the transition to a new bookkeeper had led to some issues which needed to be "ironed out." He then went through and explained a few specific items to the board. Mr. Hartnett asked how the year will end up. "We'll end this year in the red," Angelico said. "I'm not worried about the income side, it's the expense side." He detailed that many big-venue state championship sites were charging more for rental fees. Mr. Harnett said it was possible the board, down the road, needed to look at things like dues for schools in order to compensate losses.

5.2 TV Update – NFHS National Network (Bert Borgmann)

Mr. Borgmann said Colorado continued to rank in the top-10 of referrals, subscribers and viewers nationally of the NFHS Network. He said CHSAA's promotion of the Network would continue to gain strength. He added that, "we need to continue to encourage schools to join the Network."

5.3 Corporate Update

(Jenn Roberts-Uhlig)

Mrs. Roberts-Uhlig said that she and the new national salesman from the NFHS Network were spending a lot of time working together on potential new corporate sponsors. "The hope is that we see some of that come through this spring," she said. Mr. Engelker asked if the conversations were positive. Mrs. Roberts-Uhlig said they were. She listed a number of companies they were looking at. The board discussed potential options that may be good corporate sponsors, and said they could bring potential leads to CHSAA.

6.0 **NEW BUSINESS**

6.1 NF Winter Meeting Report

(Paul Angelico)

Mr. Angelico reported on his trip to Ashville, N.C. He said a lot of time was spent on the Illinois concussion lawsuit. There were also "two very good NFHS Network meetings." He reported that the Network got more money from investors, "but has really figured out that they've got to start breaking even in the next few years."

6.2 CASB Meeting

(Paul Angelico)

Mr. Angelico said there wasn't a CHSAA workshop this year, but it would be good to do it again in future years.

6.4 Appeal

(Paul Angelico)

The board heard an appeal from Zachary Reece and Chaparral High School. Upon conclusion of the appeal, the board went into executive session to discuss the appeal. After coming out of executive session, Jim Lucas moved to uphold the appeals committee's decision on the appeal brought by Chaparral HS and the Reece family. It was seconded by Wendy Dunaway. The motion passed unanimously.

7.0 **APRIL 16, 2015 LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL**

7.1 Potential Bylaw Proposals – April 2014

(Harry Waterman)

Mr. Waterman asked if any board members knew of any bylaws coming forward for the April Legislative Council meeting. Mr. Thyfault said, "I think there's a lot of wait-and-see" what happens at Thursday's Legislative Council meeting. Mrs. Brookens said that if the CLOC bylaw passed, there would be potential to add classifications in certain sports.

7.1a Coaches Clinic Requirement

(Bud Ozzello)

Mr. Ozzello reported on this requirement. "The most asked question was, 'What do we do on the off year?'" Mr. Ozzello said if this proposal was defeated at Thursday's meeting, it is possible it would be rewritten for April. Mrs. Leiding said that the feedback she received was that this requirement may be too stringent of a requirement for coaches, and may cause some to not coach. A discussion ensued on the purpose of the proposal, and what it aimed to do.

8.0 **JANUARY 29, 2015 LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL REVIEW**

(Note: Bring Your Legislative Council Packet)

8.1 Orientation (Paul Angelico)

Mr. Angelico passed out an email to board members regarding teams going to other states and playing against eighth graders. He asked the board for their thoughts on allowing teams to play against eighth-graders in other states. A discussion ensued, and a consensus was reached to revisit this ahead of April's Legislative Council meeting.

8.2 Proposals for Board of Directors Comment (Bud Ozzello)

Mr. Ozzello asked board members if there were any proposals they wanted to speak to.

8.2.1 CON 1 – Definition of a School Eligible for Membership (Board of Directors)

Mr. Wilson said he would speak to this, if needed.

8.2.2 CON 2 – Board of Directors (Board of Directors)

Mr. Schmidt said he would speak to this, if needed.

8.2.3 ADM 1 – Classification of Schools (Western Slope)

Mr. Cain said he would speak to this, if needed.

8.2.4 ADM 2 – Coaches Required to Attend Rules Meetings (Board of Directors)

The feeling was this would be handled by the group.

8.2.5 ADM 3 – General Eligibility Requirements (CS Metro 4A)

The feeling was there was no need for the board to speak to this. Mr. Cain said he would, if needed.

8.2.6 ADM 4 – General Eligibility Requirements (CS Metro 4A)

The feeling was there was no need for the board to speak to this. Mr. Cain said he would, if needed.

8.2.7 ADM 5 – Transfer (Denver Public Schools)

Mr. Halpern said this would totally eliminate a way to give athletes eligibility via hardship waivers. Mr. Angelico and Mr. Wilson said they would speak to it.

8.2.8 ADM 6 – Transfer (Board of Directors)

Mr. Schmidt and Mr. Waterman said they would speak to this.

8.2.9 ADM 7 – Transfer (Board of Directors)

Mr. Ozzello said he would speak to this.

8.2.10 ADM 8 – Sunday Contact (Board of Directors)

Mr. Harnett said he would speak to this.

8.2.11 ADM 9 – Registered Officials List (Board of Directors)

Mr. Robinson said he would speak to this.

8.2.12 ADM 10 – Officials’ Conduct (Board of Directors)

Mr. Robinson said he would speak to this.

8.2.13 S 1 – Maximum Quarters Individual (Pikes Peak Athletic Conference)

Mr. Waterman said he would speak to this, along with football chair Mike Krueger.

8.3 Nominations, Board of Directors Openings (4 year terms) (Curt Wilson)

Mr. Wilson indicated to the board that replacements were needed for the following positions on the board.

8.3.1 Representative for District 3 (High Plains, Lower Platte, Mile High, North Central, Patriot, Union Pacific, YWKC) from the North Central League as per the rotation schedule to replace Kathleen Leiding.

Mrs. Leiding nominated Doug Pfau, the superintendent of Weldon Valley.

8.3.2 Representative for District 7 (CS 4A Metro, CS 5A Metro, Pikes’ Peak, Tri-Peaks, West Central) from the Tri-Peaks League as per the rotation schedule to replace Sandi Weece.

Mrs. Weece nominated Troy Baker, the athletic director at Buena Vista.

8.3.3 Colorado Commissioner of Education Representation to replace Wendy Dunaway.

Mrs. Dunaway said she was appointed again by the CDE.

8.3.4 Colorado Association of School Executives Representative to replace Jim Lucas.

Mr. Lucas said the said the nominee was Wendy Ruben, the principal at Chatfield HS.

8.3.5 President election

Mr. Hartnett put in for the CHSAA board presidency in December. "It was quite a humbling experience to basically look at myself to represent such quality people in this room," he said. "I've never, ever worked with people who've influenced so many lives.

"It's an amazing group of people to work with, in this room, as well as the schools, the communities, the coaches, the athletes," Hartnett added. "To write a letter saying, 'I would like to represent all of you,' was quite humbling.

"I am asking to represent you as president," he said.

Mr. Lucas spoke in support of Mr. Hartnett, and moved to nominate him. The board went into executive session, dismissing Mr. Hartnett and the CHSAA staff.

9.0 BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND DISTRICT REPORTS

9.1 President's Update (Curt Wilson)

9.2 District Reports

District 1 - San Juan, Southwestern, Western Slope (Paul Cain)

Mr. Cain reported that the baseball pitch count rule has caused "quite the stir" on the Western Slope, and said there wasn't a lot of support from that league. Some discussion ensued on that proposal. Mr. Cain asked why the rule wasn't a separate bylaw proposal. "If this passes," he said, "this could easily change year-to-year, because it's not a bylaw."

Mr. Cain also said some of the smaller schools in his area had concerns about the proposed quarter limits in football.

District 2 - Centennial, Frontier, Northern, Tri-Valley (Mike Schmidt)

Mr. Schmidt said the smaller schools in Frontier League is concerned about the CLOC proposal in terms of the enrollment splits in Class 2A. "The concern is that, in football schools, there's a line about at 250 (kids), who can platoon – whereas schools with smaller populations cannot. ... They feel there may be a competitive advantage because of that (new) enrollment number."

Mr. Schmidt also brought up the location for the state cross country state meet. He said the Tri-Valley and the Frontier League specifically addressed a concern. Mr. Schmit said they feel the course is unsafe relative to other courses, though he said that's only what was reported to him and "is not fact." Schmidt added: "I know some of that is fuzzy at-best. ... I'm a football guy, not a cross-country guy, but it seemed OK to me." Finally, Schmidt continued, "My feeling from them is that they want to re-open that discussion."

In response, Mr. Angelico said that state tournament sites are up to the board, so it was their decision to approve it or not in June. "This is going to fall to you, not the Legislative group," Angelico said.

Mrs. Roberts-Uhlig explained the process of selecting the site, or in this case, extending its stay at Norris-Penrose. She said a sub-committee was formed of people "who could see both sides," and included a coaching representative. This sub-committee went out and visited potential sites twice. "Every one of them was great ... but when it comes down to (things like) parking, and accommodations for hotels" Norris-Penrose stood out, she said.

"The committee was charged with trying to find something for the next four years. Never was (a rotation set in stone)," Roberts-Uhlig said. "We didn't even have bids come from (every region)."

Roberts-Uhlig said the group spent six hours "going back and forth" over the potential sites. "Norris-Penrose was our best option," she said.

"What people don't understand is the reason you have to do this so far in advance is you have to have volunteer man-power," Roberts-Uhlig said. "It is 100-plus people volunteering their time to put this meet on. You need to have plans for that."

Mr. Macias, who is part of the cross country committee, said that "there was plenty of representation there. There were plenty of coaches there. ... One coach came out there and said, 'Guys, let's just go out and run. It doesn't matter where it's going to be.' ... Jenn did a great job of going out there and looking at these bids. That took a lot of time."

Mr. Lucas said that the response he got was that coaches felt like they weren't heard in the process. He said Pine Creek's cross country coach was planning on speaking at the Legislative Council meeting.

Mr. Cain said "the long-term projection" of having the site stay the same for four years is a concern for coaches.

Mrs. Roberts-Uhlig said when the sub-committee was formed, it was to find a site for four more years as a host after the 2015-16 season. Ultimately, Norris-Penrose was selected — with an option to change that selection after two years.

Mr. Macias said that eight years ago, cross country coaches were looking for "a long-term site" where a meet would be held at the same site for 15-20 years. "We're looking at a long-time site right now, but not 15-20 years," he said.

Mr. Angelico said that the option to change the site after two years should probably be emphasized.

Mrs. Leiding said the sub-committee came to Lyons, "and we can't host it right now. ... Lyons is a beautiful course, and it's spectator-friendly ... but if it were there, people would be complaining, too."

"All these coaches keep saying 'they did this' (meaning CHSAA) — 'they, they, they.' And I keep saying, 'No, it's we,'" Leiding said.

"Football coaches don't get to choose where they play, basketball coaches don't get to choose if they're going to Air Force or Mines," Leiding said. "But the hope is that (the) Penrose (course) gets changed."

Mr. Angelico said that Mrs. Leiding brought up a good point. "Committee reports don't determine sites, or even list where they are," he said. "It's not the committee's decision on where those go. We get input from committees, but it's (the board's) decision."

"How do we assure the cross country coaches that (their concerns) have been heard?" Leiding said.

Mrs. Roberts-Uhlig said they have the opportunity to speak at committee meetings, they've run surveys. She said the majority of the feedback that feels they're not feeling heard are those who voice their opinions online — but don't actually contact the CHSAA office, or speak at the committee meetings, to voice those concerns, as well.

"I'm not saying that we need to move (the meet), because I don't know where you're going to move it to," Leiding said.

"This (cross country) group is heard more than anybody else," Roberts-Uhlig said. "I will tell you that they don't like the answer."

Mr. Angelico said that at the Legislative Council meeting, it should be reinforced that this group has been heard.

Mr. Cain asked, "Would we be wise to reiterate that we've heard the specific concerns to coaches?"

Mr. Wilson said, "There's a lot of work that's gone on behind the scenes that isn't being recognized by those voicing these concerns."

Mrs. Leiding added, "You can't create a spot that's not there. You did everything in your power to find another spot."

Said Mr. Robinson, "We have to agree to disagree, and move on."

District 3 - High Plains, Lower Platte, Mile High, North Central, (Kathleen Leiding)
Patriot, Union Pacific, YWKC

Mrs. Leiding said she spoke to her report during the District 2 report.

District 4 - Colorado 7, East Metro, Jefferson County (Jim Thyfault)

Mr. Thyfault said that Jeffco had one of the cross country sites under consideration, and appreciated the opportunity to be considered.

He said Jeffco had its sportsmanship summit, and it was successful. "I thought it went well," he said.

"Really, the rest of the talk was about" the Legislative Council meeting on Thursday, he said.

District 5 - Confluence, Denver, Metropolitan (Loren Larrabee)

Mr. Larrabee said he didn't hear much from his districts.

District 6 - Continental, Front Range, 5280 (Eddie Hartnett)

Mr. Hartnett said there was a lot of discussion on the bylaw proposals in the Front Range. Among that discussion was the pitch-count rule in baseball. He said "they wanted to make sure the coaches were heard in regard to concerns."

Mr. Hartnett said the Continental League had no major items, and neither did the 5280.

District 7 - CS 4A Metro, CS 5A Metro, Pikes Peak, Tri-Peaks, West Central (Sandi Weece)

Mrs. Weece said the 5A Metro League was considering a proposal coming in April that would seek sanctioning for girls rugby.

She said 4A CSML was curious to see what happened with the CLOC report on Thursday.

District 8 - Black Forest, Fisher's Peak, Intermountain, Southern Peaks (Joe Garcia)

Mr. Garcia said the big issue in his area was the pitch-count rule, and the football quarters proposal.

In the Fisher's Peak League, Mr. Garcia said, there were some concerns about officials traveling. The Southern Peaks League had some questions on playing eighth-graders out of state.

District 9 - Arkansas Valley, Santa Fe, South Central, Southeastern (Rick Macias)

Mr. Macias said the South-Central League was approached by the rugby people about potentially sanctioning the sport for boys.

Mr. Macias said the pitch-count rule was also much discussed in his area.

9.3 Association Reports

9.3.1 School Board Association Update (Jim Engelker)

Mr. Engelker said he thought it was going to be an interesting year, "and I would suggest you fasten your seatbelt and hang on." He said there were a few changes that may be coming.

9.3.2 State Department Update (Wendy Dunaway)

Mrs. Dunaway said there is a new state board leadership. "I think assessment will be an issue. So wherever your district is, pay attention to it. It's really confusion," Dunaway said. "I think this assessment, how they react to it, will impact a lot of things."

9.3.3 CADA Update (Eddie Hartnett/Jim Thyfault)

Mr. Thyfault said they're working on finalizing the conference in Breckenridge. Mr. Hartnett said that there were some questions on the counting of quarters in football, and who was responsible for it. "Which was healthy and eye-opening to a number of people," Hartnett said. "It was very good discussion."

9.3.4 CASE Update (Jim Lucas/Rick Mondt)

Mr. Lucas said the CASE conference was set for next week. There is a recommendation to adjust tests that 12th- and 9th- graders take.

Mr. Mondt said that his feeling from superintendents was "they don't have a clue how CHSAA works," in terms of how rules are set (through the Legislative Council). "That could really be a problem," he said.

Mr. Mondt asked if there's "a point in time" where 4A/5A and 1A-3A have different sets of rules, citing the example of 4A/5A wanting a longer baseball season, but 1A-3A not wanting that. Said that this is already being done in large part in football, specifically 6-man and 8-man versus 11-man teams.

9.3.5 Current Bill Status (Bert Borgmann)

Mr. Borgmann said Steve Durham has resigned as CHSAA's lobbyist and has been appointed to the Colorado State School Board. He relayed that CHSAA is trying to push a bill through "to eliminate arbitration as part of" the appeals process in the state statutes.

Mr. Borgmann also spoke to a House Bill which seeks to segregate locker rooms based on their "actual, biological sex." This would be in conflict with CHSAA's transgender policy. He said "it's a bill which is likely in violation of state statutes, and is likely to die on the floor."

He said CHSAA is also tracking various other bills in the works.

10.0 ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:35 p.m. following a unanimous vote. Mrs. Weece made the motion, which was seconded by Mr. Schmidt.