



WYOMING HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION

MINUTES

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

April 28, 2026

President Max Mills called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 28th, 2026, in the WHSAA Board Room.

The following members were present: Aaron Abel, Matt Davidson, Lisa Durgin, Mark Fritz, Beau Garcia, Will Gray, Cody Hartung, Jason Horsley, Mike Lashley, Madison Lacey, Carl Manning, Max Mills, Bubba O'Neill, Dave Plendl, Jay Rhoades, Damien Smith, Ron Wagner, John Weigel, Larry Yeradi, Bob Despain.

Trevor Wilson, Chad Whitworth, and Brent Rose from the WHSAA office were also present.

AGENDA

President Mills asked the Board if there were any changes or additions to the agenda.

Agenda – no changes and/or additions. **Committee--Finance and Personnel** – Adding Universal Awards. Proposal **Committee--Handbook** – no changes and/or additions.

Committee--Calendar and Culminating Events – moved to the front of the meeting

Committee--Reclassification – no changes and/or additions.

MOTION: Mr. Smith moved and Ms. Durgin seconded the motion to add agenda item to the Finance Committee Agenda and to move the Calendar & Culminating Events Committee to the top of the agenda, for the April 2026, regular meeting.

MOTION PASSED: **

MOTION: Mr. Fritz moved and Mr. Wagner seconded the motion to approve the agenda for the April 2026, regular meeting.

MOTION PASSED: **

MINUTES

MOTION: Mr. Wagner moved and Mr. Smith seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the February 2026, regular meeting.

MOTION PASSED: **

REPORTS AND AUDIENCE

Commissioner Wilson introduced Bob Despain, WHSAA Board Attorney

COMMITTEES

CALENDAR AND CULMINATING EVENTS COMMITTEE

Chair Ron Wagner, Mike Lashley, Jay Rhoades, Will Gray, and Jason Horsley

Second Reading:

RULE 7.13.51 and 7.13.33 – Tennis Proposals

MOTION: Mr. Gray moved and Mr. Horsley seconded the motion to approve the proposal for Rule 7.13.51 and 7.13.33 – Tennis Proposals

MOTION PASSED: **SECOND READING

RULE 7.7.46 – Football Semi Final Date Proposal

MOTION: Mr. Rhoades moved and Mr. Gray seconded the motion to approve the proposal for Rule 7.7.46 Football Semi Final Date Proposal

MOTION PASSED: **SECOND READING

RULE 7.7.15 – Football Start Date for 1A, 2A, and 3A Proposal

MOTION: Mr. Gray moved and Mr. Rhoades seconded the motion to approve the proposal for Rule 7.7.15 – Football Start Date for 1A, 2A, and 3A Proposal

MOTION FAILS 8-9: **SECOND READING

RULE 7.14.81 and 7.14.81.5 – State Indoor Track Qualification Proposal

MOTION: Mr. Horsley moved and Mr. Smith seconded the motion to approve the proposal for Rule 7.14.81 and 7.14.81.5 – State Indoor Track Qualification Proposal

MOTION PASSED: **SECOND READING

First Reading:

NONE

Culminating Event Proposals -Boys & Girls State Swimming/Diving

MOTION: Mr. Gray moved and Mr. Rhoades seconded the motion to accept Gillette's Bid (2026-2030) for the Boys & Girls State Swimming/Diving Championships

MOTION PASSED: Lisa Durgin, Dave Plendl, Larry Yeradi, and Ron Wagner abstain.

2025-26 COMMITTEE GOAL

To ensure the event calendars meet the needs of students involved in activities while considering budgets, time out of classroom, travel and the health and safety of all involved.

FINANCE AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Chair Matthew Davidson, Mark Fritz, Dave Plendl, Carl Manning, and Aaron Abel

APPROVAL OF BUDGET ANALYSIS AND 3rd QUARTER REPORT 2025-2026

MOTION: Mr. Manning moved and Mr. Plendl seconded the motion to approve the budget analysis and third quarter report for 2025-26.

MOTION PASSED: **

APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL REPORTS

MOTION: Mr. Fritz moved and Mr. Abel seconded the motion to approve the financial reports as presented.

MOTION PASSED: **

APPROVAL OF CHECKS WRITTEN

MOTION: Mr. Plendl moved and Mr. Fritz seconded the motion to approve the checks written since the February Board Meeting.

MOTION PASSED: **

APPROVAL OF 2026-2027 Budget

MOTION: Mr. Abel moved and Mr. Manning seconded the motion to approve the 2026-2027 Financial Budget.

MOTION PASSED: **

COMMISSISONER CONTRACT EXTENSION

MOTION: Mr. Fritz moved and Mr. Manning seconded the motion to extend the Commissioner Contract at \$164,000 a year through 2027-2028.

MOTION PASSED: **

APPROVAL OF UNIVERSAL AWARDS PROPOSAL

MOTION: Mr. Manning moved and Mr. Plendl seconded the motion to approve the Universal Awards Proposal for the following three years.

MOTION PASSED: **

2025-26 COMMITTEE GOAL

To continue to stay in the black and to work with Mr. Wilson and Mr. Bennick on monitoring the WHSAA's investments.

HANDBOOK COMMITTEE

Chair Larry Yeradi, Bubba O'Neill, Madison Lacey, Beau Garcia, John Weigel, and Cody Hartung

Second Reading:

Rules 3.1.2 and 3.1.22 Football Classification Deadline Proposal

MOTION: Mr. O'Neill moved and Ms. Hartung seconded the motion to approve the proposal for Rule 3.1.2 and 3.1.22 Football Classification Deadline Proposal

MOTION PASSED: **SECOND READING

RULE 7.15.35 Volleyball Tournaments Proposal

MOTION: Mr. Garcia moved and Mr. Weigel seconded the motion to approve the proposal for Rule 7.15.35 Volleyball Tournaments Proposal

MOTION PASSED: **SECOND READING

RULE 7.11.5 Softball Proposal

MOTION: Ms. Lacey moved and Mr. Hartung seconded the motion to approve the proposal for Rule 7.112.5 Softball Proposal

MOTION PASSED: **SECOND READING

RULE 7.7.30 - 6 Man Football Tiebreaker Proposal

MOTION: Mr. Yeradi moved and Ms. Garcia seconded the motion to approve the proposal for Rule 7.7.30 – 6 Man Football Tiebreaker Proposal

MOTION PASSED: **SECOND READING

First Reading:

Rule 7.3.2 – Football Drone Proposal

MOTION: Mr. Hartung moved and Ms. Lacey seconded the motion to approve the proposal for Rule 7.3.2 Football Drone Proposal

MOTION FAILS: **FIRST READING

2025-26 COMMITTEE GOAL

Continually evaluate fair play and equity throughout all WHSAA events.

DISTRICT REPORT

Gold Card Requests

Southwest District

Gold Card for Clint Bromley

MOTION: Mr. Gray moved Mr. Garcia Seconded to approve a Gold Card for Clint Bromley from Encampment.

MOTION PASSED:

Gold Card for Duana Bruce and Ryan Thomas

MOTION: Mr. O'Neill moved Mr. Hartung seconded to approve a Gold Card for Duana Bruce and Ryan Thomas from Evanston

MOTION PASSED:

President Elect Nomination

MOTION: Mr. Yeradi moved Mr. Smith seconded to nominate Will Gray for President Elect of the WHSAA Executive Board of Directors

MOTION PASSED:

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

State Wrestling Press Access

Due to safety issues seen with wrestler safety at the 2026 State Wrestling Tournament, there will be no floor level access for any media of any kind at the 2027 State Wrestling Tournament. WHSAA Media Passes as well as professional media credentials will still grant photographers access to the event and we will continue to provide front row – reserved seating for photographers.

State Speech & Debate Update

The University of Wyoming has agreed to host the Wyoming Speech & Debate Tournament on March 11-13, 2027. The 2026 state events was hosted with great success for over 750 students at Central High School. Huge thanks to Laramie County School District #1 Administration for their efforts through inclement weather and closed schools to continue the efforts of the Speech Tournament.

Music Performance Assessment

6 regional sites hosted the State Music Performance Assessment including UW in Laramie, Kelly Walsh HS in Casper, NWC in Powell, Campbell County HS, CWC in Riverton, and Star Valley HS. Each event saw on average around 1,500 students per day. Huge thanks to our host schools for facilitating these events around both ACT testing, WyTopp Testing, and a very busy athletic schedule.

The WHSAA office facilitated the invoicing of 3 out of 6 of these events. This has been a big stress relief to the music directors hosting these events.

Several regions are looking at splitting the large ensemble and solo/small ensemble events. Currently, those events are held on back-to-back days, concurrent with the opposite performance medium. Splitting the event might relieve the pressure of running both events at the same time. The North Platte region in Casper has been splitting the event with success for two years.

NFHS Participation Survey

Currently 50/72 schools have completed the Participation Survey through Final Forms. The biggest issues has been helping people download their results, which is a big win. The next step is encouraging schools to complete the annual checklist with accurate contact information for coaches, sponsors, and administration.

ASSOCIATE COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

SPORTSMANSHIP / EJECTION REPORT

Ejections are lower than last year at this time. We are seeing an increase in soccer ejections in recent weeks. We are working through the soccer issue with officials and coaches.

HOME / VIRTUAL SCHOOL UPDATE

Report was provided with numbers of homeschool students was shared with the board.

OFFICIALS REPORT

Report shared with the number of officials participation numbers for the past 5 years. There will be continued conversation, but no action taken on how we schedule officials for events.

STUDENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

Final meeting will be May 26th. The new advisory council has been selected for the 26-27 school year, and notification has been sent out to those students.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

NFHS LEGAL MEETING UPDATE

Legal meetings with our attorney Bob Despain in Indianapolis earlier this year. We are grateful that we are where we are in Wyoming. We are going far better than most. Topics of conversation include private school, NIL, Artificial Intelligence, and gambling. Bob Despain included that transferring continues to be a legal issue. Bob also suggests that we are also seeing a lot more legislative interference than we have in the past.

ADJUSTED TICKET PRICE APPROVAL

MOTION: Mr. Garcia moved Mr. Yeradi seconded to approve the Adjusted Ticket Prices for the 2026-2027 school year.

MOTION PASSED:

307 COACHING ACADEMY UPDATE

Information was sent out with the new administrator training. We already have a good number of people signed up. Date is August 5th and November 19th for a follow-up.

NFHS SECTION 7 & 8 MEETING – SEPT. 20-22, 2026 IN CODY

Discussion about inviting the WHSAA Board to join us in Cody for the Section 7/8 Meeting. Let us know by August 1st if you want to attend.

ADDING HOSA AS A WHSAA SANCTIONED ACTIVITY

Discussion around the possibility of adding HOSA as a sanctioned activity. No action was taken at this time.

CONCUSSION INSURANCE

Report was presented regarding the amount of money spent on Concussion Insurance offered by the WHSAA. Board agreed to offer concussion insurance for the 2026-2027 school year.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING – TUESDAY, JULY 14, 2026 – WHSAA OFFICE

Information was presented for the Executive Council meeting in July.

ACTIVITIES FUNDING SHORTFALL DISCUSSION

Discussion was facilitated regarding the outlook of the funding shortfall for activities based on the new silo approach to the block grant from the Wyoming Legislature

OUTGOING BOARD MEMBER RECOGNITION

Cody Hartung, Mike Lashley, Beau Garcia were recognized as outgoing WHSAA Board Members

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, President Mills adjourned the meeting at 3:32 p.m. on April 28, 2026.

Respectfully submitted:

President _____
MAX MILLS

Commissioner _____
TREVOR WILSON