

# First State Military Academy Board Meeting Minutes

28 February 2023

Moment of Silence - Quorum present, in-person and Zoom meeting called to order @ 1731

**Board Members Present:** In-Person: R Payus, K Stark; Via Zoom: S. Kidner; R Capitan, R Cote, C Martin, R Vascik, L Gratteri.

**Staff/Founding Committee Members:** In-Person: R Wallace Commandant; Via Zoom: L Auster

Motion to Approve Agenda 2nd, Passed 8 to 0.

Presentation by the FSMA Cadet Library Committee to include a video presentation describing the books (1500 to date) various needs, their future goals, and new FSMA Library Policy.

Motion to accept the "FSMA Library Policy", 2<sup>nd</sup> Passed 8 to 0.

**Secretary's Report:** Motion to Approve 20 Dec '22; 10 Jan "Special" 23; 24 Jan '23; 31 Jan "Special" 23 Board minutes, 2<sup>nd</sup>, Passed 8 to 0.

**Public Comment:** None, the Public Hearing was closed.

**Treasurer's Report:** R Vasick. WSFS banking statements presented. Ongoing USDA withdrawals totaling some \$24k each month continue. Ending balance in both accounts about \$212,157. One invoice paid to \$416 to Reggie C for reimbursement Marine Ball hotel (P Stoll). Discussion about creating the "Dave McGuigan Jr. Restricted Fund" to pay for new football stands - monies are being received now. Escrow accounts remain unfunded. Motion to Accept Treasurers report, 2<sup>nd</sup>, passed 8 to 0.

**Principal's Report:** L Auster. Reported significant progress by getting approved Federal dollars for the last three FY's totaling some \$87,000. Ongoing efforts to make routine coding and budget numbers inputted by contractors. Final FY'23 Budget presented. Discussion about various costs and noted some \$16,000 owed by families for the cafeteria. Transportation costs remain high. Noted budget will be tight, spend reflects 58% at this point in budget year, mostly increased salary expenses and OEC's related to first bonus pay in January. Currently estimating we will not make 75 days cash this June 30<sup>th</sup>. Expect some \$200k surplus. Motion to accept FY '23 Final Budget, 2<sup>nd</sup>, Passed 8 to 0. Web Report presented for Nov. Motion to Approve Web Report, 2<sup>nd</sup>, Passed 12 to 0.

Brief review of the Internal Control Procedures for FY'23, Motion to Accept, 2<sup>nd</sup>, Passed 8 to 0.

Next, reported Cadet count at 419, noting numerous withdrawals. 334 Applications for FY'24 school year. Discussion about Lottery requirements for the first time because of 151 applications for 135 seats before "choice" closed on 11 January '23. All 135 current acceptances must respond by 17 March, or FSMA begins waiting list selections. New cadet meetings have begun and will continue. Two more Open House dates scheduled.

Brief review of truancy issues/requirements.

Brief discussion about two J1 math teachers due to arrive in Country by 1 August/issues around housing and transportation for their families.

Commandant provided brief overview of various events to include coming trip to Quantico, and ASVAB test. Report Attached.

**Committee Reports:**

**Strategic Planning and Development:** H Contant - No Report

**Marketing/Communications:** R Payus - Requested updated photos and CV's from new Board members to update Board's website.

**Finance/Treasurer:** R Vascik - No Report.

**Academic:** K Stark - Noted reading levels in our surrounding districts is only 55% at grade level.

**Board Governance:** R Capitan - Reported making revisions to By-Laws and creating a new "Board Handbook", will present some draft changes at next meeting.

**CBOC:** S Kidner - Meet again in March 2023.

**Facilities:** K Yencer - No Report.

**Organizational Issues:** Asked Board members to finish background checks. Also noted Special Board Executive Session meeting for mid-March to discuss Teacher Retention issues. Next provided an update on Mr. Chuck Taylor seeking initial permission from Board to pursue restoration of the Church. He will report at next Board meeting.

Renewal documents are all due to DOE by 1 December 2023.

**Closing Remarks:** Katie Stark offered a document for the Board's consideration that was based upon one of our teacher's resignation letter from December. Will discussed at next Board meeting.

Meeting adjourned 1914. **Next Meeting:** 28 March 2023 at 1730.