

# First State Military Academy Board Meeting Minutes

**19 December 2023**

Quorum present, in-person and Zoom meeting called to order @ 1734

**Board Members Present:** In-Person: R Payus, S. Kidner, K Palaisa, G Bailey, K Yencer, H Contant, R Ott, C Martin, R Vascik, R Capitan

**Staff/Founding Committee Members:** In-Person: B Newman Principal, B Wallace Commandant, K Kubota, and K Swierzbinski

Motion to Approve Agenda 2nd, Passed 10 to 0.

**Secretary's Report:** Motion to Approve 28 November Minutes 2<sup>nd</sup>, Passed 10 to 0.

**Public Comment:** None.

**Treasurer's Report:** R Vascik. WSFS banking statements in packet. Ongoing USDA withdrawals totaling some \$24k each month continue. Brief discussion about escrow accounts and USDA. No other issues. Motion to Accept Treasurer's report, 2<sup>nd</sup>, passed 10 to 0.

**Principal's Report:** B Newman. Submitted. Reported 416 cadet count. Draft FY'24 budget showing an approx. 42.5% spend for the year. Numbers are tracking. Renewal completed, approval by Sec of Education on 14 Dec. Expectation of DOE requiring FSMA to report progress on escrow accounts each month.

Brief discussion over FY '24 draft budget with improving cash position. Motion to accept Web Report as presented, 2<sup>nd</sup>, Passed 10 to 0.

"Dashboard" presented.

Commandant's report. Submitted. Noted the Sen Chris Coons visit and the selection of FSMA Cadet Johns to the AF Academy next year.

## **Committee Reports:**

**Strategic Planning and Development:** H Contant – Again thanked the school on the great response supporting the USS Mesa Verde which is on deployment in the Med. School packed over 1000lbs of stuff, 100 cards in 62 boxes for the crew in "Eagle Elves". Brief Facebook video produced thanking the school.

Reported on Facebook advertising for the 5 Dec Open House event with some 24,000 opens, and 584 click throughs to school's website. Discussed when to use it again... for the January and Feb dates.

**Marketing/Communications:** R Payus – Reported monthly updates to Board website and various requirements... also in need of updated photos.

**Finance/Treasurer:** R Vascik – No Addl. Report.

**Academic:** K Palaisa – Noted Forensics Pathway is submitted. Thanked the Board for the Staff Christmas Party.

**Board Governance:** R Capitan – No Report.

**CBOC:** S Kidner – Reported next meeting in January Ryan P will produce the minutes.

**Facilities:** K Yencer – Discussion about 40x80 “pole barn” constructed building out by Q hut. Waiting for cost projections. \$250k estimated for this type of building still expected.

**Organizational Issues:** Chair again thanked the Admin Team for the great work on the Renewal. Noted the Milford Chamber of Commerce presented a \$500 check to thank FSMA and our Cadets for their help with the Duck Regatta event a number of weeks ago.

Motion to go into Executive Session to discuss finance issues at 1830, 2<sup>nd</sup> Passed 10 to 0.

Motion to return to regular meeting at 1920, 2<sup>nd</sup> Passed 10 to 0

There are no actions/votes required from the Executive Session. Discussion about next steps and fundraising – 10 Names project and a Marketing Company to tour.

Motion to adjourn regular Board Meeting at 1921, 2<sup>nd</sup> Passed 10 to 0.

**Next Meeting:** 23 January '24 at 1730.