

First State Military Academy Board Meeting Minutes

27 Jun 2023

Quorum present, in-person and Zoom meeting called to order @ 1735

Board Members Present: In-Person: H Contant, K Stark, K Yencer, G Bailey; via zoom: R Payus (Acting Chairman), R Capitan, L Grateri, C Martin

Staff/Founding Committee Members: In-Person: B Newman, Principal

Guests: Two guests present, **not** requesting to address the Board

Moment of silence observed

Motion to Approve Agenda with amendments to remove Mr. Taylor and Mr. Hughes from the agenda @ 1737, 2nd, Passed 6 to 0.

Secretary's Report: Motion to Approve 23 May Board Minutes @ 1739, 2nd, Passed 7 to 0.

Treasurer's Report: All present reviewed the WSFS bank statements. Ongoing USDA withdrawals totaling some \$25k each month continue. Ending balance in both accounts about \$91k. No invoices paid or due. There were no receipts or payments this period. Escrow accounts remain unfunded. Motion to Accept Treasurers report @ 1740, 2nd, passed 7 to 0.

Principal's Report: B Newman. Reports 281 applications; Current count is 456, but will vary slightly with late graduations, withdrawals, additions; final student count is expected to settle at approximately 440; Brief review of resignations and appointments; Review of summer programs in which cadets are involved; Strategic plans as developed by FSMA school staff was briefly reviewed, H Contant commended the quality and character of the work done by the staff on this strategic plan; C Martin inquired about the sufficiency of manning on the military side, and was advised that a combination of internal backfill and external interviews are likely to keep the staffing viable; Proposing a golf outing as school fund raiser. Motion to accept Principal's Report as presented @ 1750, 2nd, Passed 7 to 0.

Committee Reports:

Strategic Planning and Development: H Contant - Indicated intent to follow up with Principal regarding the staff generated strategic plan. Intends to discover any opportunities/leverage that the Board can bring to this plan.

Marketing/Communications: R Payus - Made remarks to encourage Board members to review the strategic plan as presented and to use it as a springboard to partner more thoroughly with the staff, and to bring forth resources as the Board may have. R Payus seeks to partner with G Bailey for industry skill in marketing. R Payus remarked on continuing monthly reporting requirements to DOE, particularly relative to renewal.

Finance/Treasurer: R Payus/B Newman - FY23 finances are closed for FY, \$1.3mm carryover; Intending to move \$200k more into a reasonably healthy contingency fund; 75 days cash will be met; FY23 was a transitional year that demanded a substantial review/recoding of cost

centers, which are now reflected in FY24 budget. Motion to accept the Web Report at 1806, 2nd, Passed 7 to 0.

Academic: K Stark - Contributor to the strategic plan, previously referred; Seeking to partner with local businesses for internships/vocationally related job opportunities; seeking ideas to unburden the freshmen academic load; seeking more career pathways.

Board Governance: R Capitan - Will be presenting update Bylaws prior to next board meeting with vote in July.

CBOC: No report.

Facilities: K Yencer - Provided recommendations and resources for replacement of backstop netting. Proposed new netting will be slightly taller than current, will require a self-help installation for significant cost savings, and will be removable when not in use for aesthetic and stewardship considerations. Cost of materials is approximately \$6600. Structural review of Chapel with Mr. Chuck Taylor will be accomplished before next meeting. Motion to approve action on the backstop netting as presented by K Yencer at 1811, 2nd, Passed 7 to 0.

Organizational Issues: R Payus - Reminder to get CBI (fingerprints) accomplished; B Newman has provided S Kidner with the list of items for Board action prior to renewal, asks Board members meet obligations required by application process; R Payus recommends contacting Mrs. Katie Kubota for access to board required training, B Newman reports deadlines are being met enroute to renewal.

Closing Remarks: B Newman presented the curriculum map as posted on the school web page. Commented on the need to refresh school and board web page.

Motion to adjourn at 1820, 2nd, Passed 7 to 0.

Next Meeting: 25 Jul 2023 at 1730.