

First State Military Academy Board Meeting Minutes

24 October 2023

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

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

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

Motion to Approve Agenda 2nd, Passed 7 to 0.

Motion to Approve Reggie C as Acting Secretary for the purpose of nominations and vote of the Executive Board, 2nd Passed 7 to 0

The following motions were individually presented and affirmed by the Acting Secretary for the individuals and positions for the FSMA Board: Chair – Scott Kidner; Vice Chair – Ryan Payus; Secretary – Heather Contant; Treasurer – Ron Vascik . Motion to relinquish Acting Secretary duties and to return to normal meeting, 2nd Passed 9 to 0.

Secretary's Report: Motion to Approve 26 September Board Minutes 2nd, Passed 9 to 0.

Public Comment: Parent Candace Decker presented her thoughts as to documents that are available for the public prior to the Board meeting. Discussion, Ryan P and Heather C will review which docs should be public facing.

Treasurer's Report: R Vascik. Presented the WSFS banking statements. Ongoing USDA withdrawals totaling some \$24k each month continue. Noted frontload of USDA funding of approx. \$299,000 completed. Ending balance in both accounts about \$291,141. No invoices paid or due. Motion to Accept Treasurers report, 2nd , passed 9 to 0.

Principal's Report: B Newman. Submitted. Reported 416 cadet count. Draft FY'24 budget showing an approx. 24% spend for the year. Discussion around CSAC presentation and financial position of school with updated budget reflecting improved cash position for June '24. Noted coming loss of one staffing position in November. Motion to accept Web Report as presented, 2nd , Passed 9 to 0.

"Dashboard" presented. Discussion around discipline, numbers, and severity of actions for various offenses. Vaping continues to be an issue for some cadets.

Commandant's report. Submitted.

Committee Reports:

Strategic Planning and Development: H Contant – No report.

Marketing/Communications: R Payus – No Report.

Finance/Treasurer: R Vascik – Discussion about the escrow accounts and CSAC concerns, and whether USDA may modify our loan agreement and will contact USDA. Noted he is prepared to move money into interest bearing accounts at 4.4% when ready.

Academic: K Palaisa – Noted “HOSA” club is moving forward as is the student athlete reports. Noted much improvement in the new math department. Heather C offered the DAFB Honorary Program may be open for tours for the Forensics Pathways.

Board Governance: R Capitan – No Report.

CBOC: S Kidner – No Report. Next Meeting in November.

Facilities: K Yencer – Brief discussion about comparison in costs and useable square footage between “S” Q-Hut structure and “pole” barn slab on grade structure. \$200k estimated for both type of products.

Organizational Issues: Discussed our first public hearing as part of renewal – this Thurs 26 Oct at 1700 DOE Bldg. Have asked for some public members to speak in support.

Discussed change in date for Dec Board – NOW Tues 19 Dec “Chairman’s Dinner”

Discussed public speaking rules... will send to Reggie C and Ron V for review.

Meeting adjourned 1910. **Next Meeting:** 28 November 2023 at 1730.