

# First State Military Academy Board Meeting Minutes

**25 August 2026**

Quorum present, in-person and Zoom meeting called to order @ 1730.

Moment of Silence

Pledge to US Flag

**Board Members Present:** In-Person: S. Kidner, P Hughes, K Yencer, G Bailey, M Orlando, R Payus, B Killen,  
Via zoom: C Martin

**Staff:** In-Person: Mr. Blair Newman, Principal. MAJ Dave McCombs SMI

Motion to Approve Agenda 2nd, Passed 6 to 0.

Induction of Bob Killen as the new Teacher Representative on the Board. Motion to accept Bob Killen as a Board Member, 2<sup>nd</sup> passed 6 to 0.

**Public Comment: None**

**Secretary's Report:** Motion to Approve 28 July '26 Minutes 2<sup>nd</sup>, Passed 7 to 0.

**Treasurer's Report:** P Hughes. Presented WSFS statements from July. Reported USDA withdrawals occurring without issue. Ending Balance of \$68,436 as of 31 July '26. Noted the front-load of the USDA loan payment with escrow was made and will be reflected in the next month's statement..

Motion to accept Treasurer's Report, 2<sup>nd</sup> Passed 7 to 0

**Principal's Report:** B Newman. Submitted. Total Enrollment for September looks to be 443. Applications at 326, with 150 students signing first year agreements (FYA). We still have a waiting list.

Noted SOC ran well with over 60 cadets running the entire program. Classes have begun. Induction Day is 18 September. Asked for continuing support for the FSMA Golf Tournament scheduled for 2 October/ Jonathan's Landing. Concerns about getting enough sponsorship, some lacking this year. Noted ProV golf ball sponsorship this year is \$1200. Board will again commit to a full sponsorship of \$100 member.

Discussion about Pole Bldg – bid packages will be required. Dave McGuigan will help prepare for school. Crystal Trust visited the school that morning... will be submitting grant application by 15-18 September.

FY'27 proposed budget presented. Expenses are below normal since the "front-loads" of the USDA loan and Chromebook purchases are not posted yet. FSMA spent 6.41% of budgeted funds with 8.33% new school year completed. Carryover was significant this year at approx. \$2.6mm. Sept 30<sup>th</sup> Count will fix student numbers.

Motion to Accept Web Report for July '26 presented, 2<sup>nd</sup>, Passed 7 to 0.

"Dashboard" First Report in September.

SMI. Reported the instructors have changed the Company make-ups to include all grade levels. Noted MI's are stable. Overall in good shape. Working Induction Day taskings now.

**Committee Reports:**

**Strategic Planning and Development: Open** – No Report.

**Marketing/Communications:** R Payus – Reported he has been functioning as the Secretary and needs to hand-off the recording and “Owl” set-ups to someone else since his schedule is more hectic. Will not be here for Sept Board.

**Finance/Treasurer:** P Hughes – No Report

**Academic:** B Killen – Discussion about the AI survey results. Noted about half support the use and half want AI banned from school. Discussion about how the Math Dept is using AI. May need to set a Beta Test in one Dept first. Will be on agenda for September.

**Board Governance: Open** - No Report

**Facilities:** K Yencer – Reported earlier on Pole Bldg.

**CBOC:** S. Kidner – July meeting occurred in August. Overall school financial position is strong.

**Organizational Issues:** S Kidner – Noted we still have a number of grant applications outstanding. On-Boarding three more Board members – two in September and one in October.

**Closing Remarks: None**

Motion to Adjourn the Board meeting, 2<sup>nd</sup> Passed 7 to 0 at 1841.

**Next Meeting:** 22 Sept 2026 – 1730