

Action Items

Motions Voted On

Minutes for OHSET State Board Zoom Meeting October 10, 2021 9:00 AM

In Attendance: Candi Bothum – State Chair, Scott Chauncey – State Vice Chair, Denise John – State Treasurer, Jan Harer – State Secretary, Bill Weir – Co-Op's & Eligibility, Carolyn Kronenberg – State Raffle

Guests – LuAnne Boettiger, Angie Wacker, Tryn Espelien

Sena Conn – SV, Sherri Henry – SV, Jay Bramball – SV Youth, Jaime Dickey – W, Lisa Zollinger – W, Chris Dinsmore – NE, Rosie Pridey – NE, Jenny Tackett – NE, Kim Ries – S, Kristen Schweitzer – NV, Kari Salzberg – NV, Launa James – NW, Donna Espelien – NW, Heather Zumwalt – C, Christina Bates – C, Tiffanie Epperson – TRV, Denise Grief – TRV

Vote Count – 16 (Those underlined above are voting members for this meeting. One member arrived late after the only motion and vote.)

SV – 3
W – 2
NE – 2
S – 1
NV – 2
NW – 2
C – 2
TRV – 2

Hermiston Team –

- Team would like to be part of WASHET.
- Hermiston is located in Northeast Oregon close to the WA boarder.
- Candi has talked to Brandon (WASHET state chair) at length.
 - He is not an advocate for the Hermiston team joining WASHET.
 - The WASHET state board has not voted on this yet.
- Some other sports teams do participate in WA districts.
 - This is due to travel issues.
- Discussion on whether to allow Hermiston to stay in OR or be allowed to ride with WASHET.
- Heather moved to deny the request to move to WASHET. Jenny seconded the motion.
- No additional discussion.
- Vote: 14 Yes, 1 No. Motion passed. Hermiston will stay in OR.

COVID and Mandates –

- Candi had sent out OHA mandate prior to the meeting.

- Mandate required volunteers that work with student athletes need to be vaccinated and show proof of. Or provide an exemption (medical or religious).
- Need to figure out how to handle this for the season and a process.
- We know there are volunteers that have chosen to not be vaccinated and those that have chosen to be vaccinated – at all levels within the organization.
- Questions –
 - How are we going to manage this?
 - What about our contractors? Judges, cattle, etc.
 - Who takes care of the exemptions for our contractors?
 - What will be the process for obtaining the necessary information that is needed?
 - How do we handle exemptions?
 - Have to go through the school.
 - What if a school doesn't want to handle this?
 - Medical has to be approved by a doctor.
 - Religious can be more difficult.
 - How do the facilities fit into this mandate?
 - How do we keep people separated during a meet?
 - Identify those that are the work force/volunteers.
 - Maintain a healthy environment.
 - Masking and social distancing.
 - Can we add vaccination status to our registration forms?
 - Do we need a "Covid" release form for everyone to sign?
 - Some schools will not handle the exemptions and/or obtaining the proof of vaccine, how do we deal with this issue?
- Some teams are vaccinated, and some are not.
- Because we represent and are tied to the school, we must follow what is required of the schools. We have to follow the mandates.
- Current mandate is set to expire at the end of February; however, this could change.
- Some are not comfortable being the ones asking for the proof of vaccine.

LuAnne –

- She has worked as a camp nurse for a number of years and was involved with running a successful camp this past summer with a large number of youth participating. (This was prior to the current mandate from schools that staff/volunteers had to be vaccinated.)
- Her observations and suggestions –
 - Make sure all procedures and policies are out prior to the event so everyone knows.
 - Identify someone to handle the challenges.
 - Ask non-biased questions.
 - Have every person volunteering screened before working the event.
 - Don't have a choice not to ask.
 - Exemptions should go through the school.

Can we change the Mission Statement of OHSET?

- To be a non-profit have to have a mission statement.
- Need to work within the parameters of our mission statement.
- Would need to form a new non-profit if wanting to change the current mission statement and how the organization is run.

- Is it possible to change OHSET to run like High School Rodeo?
 - Would have to start a new non-profit organization.
 - Would have to change the mission statement.
 - Would take time and will be difficult.
 - Have already passed that timeline that are outlined in our By Laws.
 - Would have to change the rules, SOG'S, etc.
 - Funds might not transfer to a new organization.
 - Not have an organization tied to a school.
 - Might not get the recognition from the school if not tied to it.
 - Need to do what is best for the athletes – even if that means pulling away from the schools.
- Why not to change the organization –
 - Association with the schools.
 - Opposition to changing the organization as a result of not wanting to follow the mandates.
 - Is this the best thing for OHSET?
 - Have worked through other challenging issues that have come about in the years of OHSET.

Grades, OSAA, Suggestions Committee Comments –

- May need to pull out of the schools.
- A mission statement can be changed.
- Take the school reference out of the mission statement.
- High School Rodeo can be recognized at the schools – just need to ask.
- Passing grades are still required to participate in High School Rodeo.
- May need to adapt to keep kids in the OHSET organization.

This year season –

- Could divide the organization if we have to follow the mandate about volunteers having to be vaccinated.
- Have a survey to ask if coaches/advisors/parents/volunteers/contractors/board members would comply with the mandate to volunteer.
 - Collect the data to see if there are enough volunteers to actually run a meet.
- Needs to be a board decision.
- Could have meets in March and April with a state meet in May – if the mandate is lifted.
- Do we want to change the entire structure of the organization to have a season?
- Discussions are good for the organization to figure out how to make a process work and move forward.

Moving forward –

- Candi will develop a survey to be sent out to all coaches/parents/athletes/state board/contractors based on the current mandate in place.
 - Will need to be completed by October 18th.
 - This data will be looked at to see if districts have enough vaccinated volunteers to run a meet.
 - Will be discussed at the next state board meeting.
 - **It is very important to get this survey out to your team as soon as you receive it.**

- Our next state board meeting will be Thursday, October 21st at 6:30.
- Could adjust the season with regards to the mandate (starting in March for example).
- Opportunity to reach out into the community (vaccinated individuals) to help/volunteer at a meet.
- WAHSET would also like to meet to discuss their challenges. We could be facing the same and how can we deal with them.

Exemptions –

- Should go through the school.
 - What if the school will not handle?
 - Candi will look into the options.
 - Candi will also reach out to school superintendents.
- What about our contractors – how and who will handle these?
 - Candi will look into this.
 - Candi will reach out to the governor's office on this.

Other –

- Registrations –
 - Can we accept registrations?
 - Yes.
 - Should we accept fees for this year?
 - Up to each district on how to handle this.

Ethics –

- Coach with a conflict of interest.
- Schools will need to make those approvals.
- Candi is working with our attorney on a template that can be used for this purpose (conflict of interest).
 - This will be shared at the coach's trainings.
 - We will need to comply.
- If a school will not approve or take care of it –
 - The state board will approve/disapprove on as needed basis.

Next meeting –

- State board Zoom meeting Thursday, October 21st at 6:30 PM.
- Followed by Work Session.

Meeting adjourned at 10:50 AM.