

WAYHA Board Meeting Minutes

2/12/2025 - 7:00PM - Bud King Ice Arena

Those indicated in **bold** were present at the meeting.

Board members: Brent MacLennan, **Marty Moran, J.J. Pettit, Laura Slavey, Alex Tipton, Cassie Stratton, Drew Krings, Erika Vail, Lindsey Posey, Marcus Burnham, Stephen LaValla**

Others Present: **J. Reska, Brian Russell, Erin Benson, Bill Rickoff**

Meeting called to order at: 7:00 pm

Grievance Committee Closed Session (Drew Krings)

Public Comments:

- Erin is looking for assistance to purchase new jerseys. RFQ was sent out. Looking for higher quality jerseys. Would like to explore volunteering options in addition to financial assistance.

Motion to approve January minutes

- Motion to approve virtual votes and minutes
 - Motion - Drew Krings
 - 2nd - Erika Vail
 - Motion **carried**/denied
 - Abstain

Russell and Associates Audit

- Reviewed with the board. Motions made to approve.

Gambling report:

- Report: Blackhorse burning down led to loss of cash. Submitting to gambling board. Sad situation, hoping for the best. Revenue is expectedly down due to the fire and loss of good site.
- Motion to approve December Gambling Report
 - Motion: Drew Krings
 - 2nd: Erika Vail
 - Motion **carried**/denied:
 - Abstain:
- Motion to approve allowed expenses:
 - Accounting up to \$200
 - Cost of games up to \$12,000
 - Payroll taxes up to \$1,000
 - Rent up to \$40,000
 - Manager/payroll audit up to \$6,000

- Combined receipts up to \$80,000
- Motion:Laura Slavey
- 2nd: Lindsey Posey
 - Motion **carried**/denied
 - Abstain:

Committees Chaired by Non-Board Members Reports:

Equipment Manager (Ben Gordon)

- Report: Titlewave won the New Jersey Committee RFP. Files available to the board in New Jersey Committee folder under the Marketing Committee Folder. Working through many designs with Chris (owner of Titlewave). Social media tease had good engagement.

Tournament Committee (Kate Hazelton)

- Report:
 - 12UB - all 8 teams have signed up, schedules are finalized and shared, high school girls helping to set up, Visit Winona cart will be set up, custom hats booth will be at tournament, trophies complete and in equipment room, need volunteers
 - PWC - all 12 teams signed up, trophies complete and in equipment room, schedule and bracket/pool being worked on, once schedule is complete will share with teams, Austin for refs, Kristin for medical, Bud King/City
 - Aaron Slavey is helping with GameSheets

Hockey Operations Committee (J Rezska)

- Report: Met twice this week. Met with head coaches, some assistant coaches. Theme is players need improvement in compete level and skills. Attitudes of players is highlight for most. Gave update on all levels. Skating, shooting, stickhandling.
 - Feedback
 - Mites
 - Need more support. More ice time
 - Squirts
 - Commit to smaller rosters per team
 - close talent gap on teams
 - PeeWees
 - Fundamental skills gap. Needs to be done over the summer
 - Parent buy in, off season training, physicality,
 - Bantams
 - Requested more goalie training at practice
- A discussion over level selection.
 - Need to get to three teams at every level
 - Discussed the committee's desire to default to the A level at every age level's top team moving forward.
- Ideas, cost analysis, recruiting.
- LTS session two is at capacity

Finance Committee:

- Report: Year end money coming in. Likely need new software
- Motion to approve December finance reports
 - Motion: Cassie Stratton
 - 2nd: Lindsey Posey
 - Motion **carried**/denied
 - Abstain

Executive Committee Comments:

- City Contact Update - (Brent/Marty) -
- Board Elections (J.J.)
 - Last year applications were due April 8th, and started accepting applications about a month prior. Virtual voting was held up to the start of the annual meeting.
 - Lindsey Posey and Alex Tipton
- Annual Meeting (J.J.)
 - Last year was April 17th at 7pm, SMU
- Key Volunteers and Committee Chairs (J.J.)
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Actionable Items:

Old Business

- Last Month Motion Update
 - Hockey Director job description (Drew/Brent)
 - Door stop solution (Alex)
 - HS Girls Donation (Laura)
 - Google Suite Consultant (Marcus)
- Motion
 - Motion:
 - 2nd:
 - Motion carried/denied:
 - Abstain:

New Business

- Motion for bank reconciliations be sent to treasurer monthly
 - Motion: Drew Krings
 - 2nd: Cassie Stratton
 - Motion **carried**/denied
 - Abstain
- Motion to approve \$250 donation to MN Masterpiece Hall in honor of Bob Kerlin. (Erika Vail)
 - Motion: J.J. Pettit

- 2nd: Marty Moran
 - Motion **carried**/denied
 - Abstain
- Motion to approved the 990 report
 - Motion: Drew Krings
 - 2nd: Laura Slavey
 - Motion **carried**/denied:
 - Abstain:
- Motion to approved the Minnesota Attorney's General Report
 - Motion: Laura Slavey
 - 2nd: Drew Krings
 - Motion **carried**/denied:
 - Abstain:
- Motion to accept \$100,000 from gambling
 - Motion: Drew Krings
 - 2nd: Alex Tipson
 - Motion **carried**/denied:
 - Abstain:
- Motion to submit a proposal to the MN Wild for the Skate it Forward initiative (J.J./Alex)
 - Motion:
 - 2nd:
 - Motion carried/denied:
 - Abstain:
- Motion to approve \$250 per team for year end parties squirts and above (Laura)
 - Motion: Laura Slavey
 - 2nd: J.J. Pettit
 - Motion **carried**/denied:
 - Abstain:
- Motion to add \$1000 annually to the marketing budget for try hockey free events
 - Motion:
 - 2nd:
 - Motion carried/denied:
 - Abstain:
- Motion to select Titlewave as WAYHA's jersey supplier with the intent to retain the chosen design for a period of 6 years. (J.J)
 - Motion: Marcus Burnham
 - 2nd: Drew Krings
 - Motion carried/denied:
 - Abstain
- Motion to approve up to \$600 for a boardroom webcam
 - Motion:
 - 2nd:
 - Motion carried/denied:
 - Abstain
- Motion to pursue Skate it forward with J.J. Pettit lead

- Motion:Marty Moran
- 2nd: Erika Vail
- Motion **carried**/denied:
 - Abstain

Board Member Chaired Committee Updates:

Long Term Planning / Facilities Committee (Alex Tipton)

- Report: Narrowed focus of facility type per ISG
- ****Good Option:**** - Cover/canopy and additional locker rooms for the ODR (This could potentially be funded by the association itself if no public support is identified).
- ****Better Option:**** - Ice plant upgrade and comprehensive renovation of the existing BKIA, including the full enclosure of the current ODR into a full-service indoor ice arena (possibly with a walking track around one rink). This renovation would also include upgrades to the surrounding site, such as expanding the parking lot and enhancing the green space (including ball fields or other recreational areas) and playground.
- ****Best Option:**** - A multi-functional municipal athletic facility that includes one full-sized ice rink, a second full-sized or 3v3 rink, a walking track, a turf field, a fitness center, a dryland area, and multiple retail/restaurant spaces.
- Based on these considerations, we are currently exploring options 1 (covered), 2, and 5 of the concept drawings. 📄 Tasks 1-5
- ISG to develop promotional material based on our three options for interested parties.
- Continuing community member meetings.
- Planning for City Council meeting (Spring?) - WAYHA general introduction first?
- Door stops are in-hand - waiting on installation
- Facility-
 - Identified a need for updated whiteboards in locker rooms (placed in BK5K grant)
 - Considering synthetic ice/skatable tile for shooting range with borders (BK5K grant)

Marketing Committee (J.J. Pettit)

- Report:
 - Skate It Forward, by Minnesota Wild Foundation, announced at HDM 2025. Committee created to work with MN Wild. Committee is J.J. Pettit, Alex Tipton, Marty Moran, J. Reska, Michelle Rugotzke
 - Meet with Mike Snee, VP of MN Wild Community Foundation and Community Relations.
 - Projects and Events Coordinator - seeking board input and to add as key volunteer under the marketing budget and team. Qualifies for volunteer hours.

- Offseason opportunities communication - need board direction.
 - Hockey Operations Committee will help Marketing with creating a list of opportunities within 1 hour of Winona to provide to families.
- Social Media Highlights
 - Content interactions are up 57%
 - Follows up 45%
- Hockey Day Minnesota 2025 was in Shakopee. J.J. attended for the Winona LOC.
 - 2026 is in Hastings
 - 2027 is in Brainerd
 - 2028 has not been selected
- End of year surveys

Fundraising Committee (Lindsey Posey)

- Report: Most sponsorship checks are in. Digital sponsorship is popular among current sponsor.

Volunteer Committee (Cassie Stratton)

- Working on Thank you Notes to give out to valuable volunteers and city workers
- Going to formulate a plan for off-season work to better prepare for in-season task management, i.e. LRM, Team Manager Training, ect.
- Will be updating Volunteer Committee Plan and create a Task Timeline as well as define roles within our Committee, i.e. Chair, Secretary, Volunteer Hours Coordinator, Concession Stand Manager, Volunteer Appreciation Coordinator
- Tanya Knutson will be training as registrar under Cassie.

New Family Mentor Committee (Erika Vail)

- Report:

Other Items:

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Virtual Votes:

- Motion to approve up to \$2,200 for the end of the season party for 8U and the printing of yearbooks. Motion by Brent MacLennan, second by Erika Vail. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at:

- Motion to Adjourn at 10:06PM
 - Motion: Drew Krings
 - 2nd: Marcus Burnham
 - Motion **carried**/denied:
 - Abstain: