

# First State Military Academy Board Meeting Minutes

23 July 2024

Quorum present, in-person and Zoom meeting called to order @ 1733

Moment of Silence

**Board Members Present:** In-Person: S. Kidner, R Payus, R Capitan, R Ott, H Contant Via zoom: K Yencer, K Palasia.

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

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

**Secretary's Report:** Motion to Approve 25 June Minutes 2<sup>nd</sup>, Passed 7 to 0.

**Public Comment:** None.

**Treasurer's Report:** S Kidner. WSFS banking statements in packet. Ongoing USDA withdrawals totaling some \$24k each month continue. Showing Escrow withdraws made. Ending total balance of approx. \$79k in WSFS accounts. No movement money or out, except for USDA payment. Motion to Accept Treasurers report, 2<sup>nd</sup> , Passed 7 to 0.

**Principal's Report:** B Newman. Submitted. Reported 304 applications for next school year. Higher than normal 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> grade applications. Current enrollment looks to be 440 Cadets. FY'24 final budget showed approx. 104.8% spend for the year. Expense numbers in teacher pay/OEC's at 105% tracked ahead for the year. FY'24 budget showed \$83,805.00 over-spending for the year, reducing us to some 70.9 days cash. Discussion of seeking additional outside revenues for the school to help cover significant transportation and technology costs, to include seeking donations directly from our school community.

Discussed seeking a change from DOE in established end-strength for the school from 475 to 452 cadets, which is below the 5% level, and therefore is not modification and can be sought with a letter. Motion to accept the reduction in stated end-strength with DOE to 452, 2<sup>nd</sup> , Passed 7 to 0.

Motion to accept Web Report of 30 June as presented, 2<sup>nd</sup>, Passed 7 to 0.

"Dashboard". No Report

**Commandant's Report.** Submitted. Discussion led by Principal as to the changes in USMC pay structures and leveling-up the scales across all JROTC programs, and impact to FSMA. Noted various camps. Note that SOC will be held this year from 12 to 15 August. Also noted the need for Executive Session to discuss MI issue.

**Committee Reports:**

**Strategic Planning and Development:** H Contant - Vision 30 Report submitted. Discussion about the top 4 Strategic Goals for the school. Reminder for Board to bring 2 visitors for a school tour. Next Vision 30 to be set.

**Marketing/Communications:** R Payus - No Report.

**Finance/Treasurer:** R Vascik - Absent.

**Academic:** K Palaisa - No Report.

**Board Governance:** R Capitan - Reported on efforts to communicate with the retired Marine community. Also noted his attempts to set-up a “Go-Fund -Me” account to get the parade deck funded and built this Fall. Spoke again about folks visiting the school, and expand FSMA’s visibility in the local community. Spoke about their past Rotary visit.

**Facilities:** No Report

**CBOC:** S Kidner - Reported Next CBOC meeting will be in September. However, a broader discussion about the school’s overall budget and the need to offset operational costs with outside resources. FY’25 budget will be extremely tight with no extra money remaining.

Motion to go into Executive Session at 1830 to discuss a Marine Instructor personnel matter, 2<sup>nd</sup>, Passed 7 to 0.

Motion to return to Regular Agenda at 1911, 2<sup>nd</sup>, Passed 7 to 0.

No action needed on MI issue.

Further discussion about the FY’25 Budget and to implement a “FSMA Sustainment Fund” to help offset operational costs, specifically around technology. Brief discussion as to targets and Board leads on the project. Motion to create a new “Sustainment Fund” to be implemented this school year of \$100 per year per cadet in school, 2<sup>nd</sup> Passed 7 to 0.

**Organizational Issues:** S Kidner - No Report.

Motion to adjourn Board at 1913, 2<sup>nd</sup> Passed 7 to 0.

**Next Meeting:** 27 August at 1730.