

First State Military Academy Board Meeting Minutes

24 September 2024

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

Moment of Silence

Board Members Present: In-Person: S. Kidner, R Payus, K Yencer, K Palasia, H Contant, M Orlando. Via Zoom: R. Vascik, G Bailey. R Capitan

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

Motion to Approve Agenda, 2nd, Passed 8 to 0.

Induction and Motion to Accept LTC Mike Orlando (Ret) as a Board member of FSMA, 2nd Passed 8 to 0

Secretary's Report: Motion to Approve 27 August Minutes 2nd, Passed 9 to 0.

Public Comment: None.

Treasurer's Report: R Vascik. WSFS banking statements in packet. Ongoing USDA withdrawals totaling some \$24k each month continue. Transfer on monies from school's general account into WSFS account showing \$306,951 total. Escrow withdraw made. No movement money in or out, except for USDA payment. Motion to Accept Treasurers report, 2nd , Passed 9 to 0.

Moved Endowment and Trust discussion into Treasurers report.

Ron V reported two ways of creating an endowment fund for the school. Discussion around using same Board and EIN, but new bylaws and new checking account, or creating totally separate "Trust" board that is completely new organization. Will seek legal help and clarity as to the differences.

Principal's Report: B Newman. Submitted. Reported 435 total Cadets. Draft FY'25 budget and basic numbers in packet. Sept. 30th count will determine final revenues. Expenditures are about 18% which is tracking higher than last year. Ongoing need to raise some additional revenue for coming year. Discussion about Golf Tournament in October and asked for Board's help. Raised some \$29,000 so far. No room for anymore foursomes. Noted one loss of teacher but was replaced and that person starts in late October. Also noted more teacher absences than normal.

Motion to accept Web Report of 31 August as presented, 2nd, Passed 9 to 0.

"Dashboard". Report attached. Noted almost 100 cadets in Fall sports.

Discussion about receivables for uniforms, chrome-books and SOC now hitting \$95,000. A letter from Board Chair will be sent to all parents that owe money. Deadline of 31 October.

Discussed the “Special Education Processes and Procedures” manual that was updated.

Commandant’s Report. Submitted. Offered some additional comments on Induction Day and great visit by SMMC Ruiz on the 20th.

Committee Reports:

Strategic Planning and Development: H Contant - Reported seeking next date for Vision 30. Reminder for Board to bring 2 visitors for a school tour. Asked if FSMA Color Guard can support “Cigar for Warriors” event in Elkton, MD. Working the issue.

Marketing/Communications: R Payus - Brought forward the issues around Clayton considering allowing marijuana retails sales and other businesses in the Town. Board discussed and agreed to send a letter in opposition to any MJ business operating within town limits.

Finance/Treasurer: R Vascik - Discussed during Treasurer’s report above.

Academic: K Palaisa - Reported good start to school. Some discussion about finding some internships for her pathways and will speak to C Martin and K Yencer of the Board to help coordinate potentially with DSP.

Board Governance: R Capitan - No Report.

Facilities: K Yencer. He offered that concrete has gone up and will run the numbers on what a 100ft x 100ft concrete pad and a 80X80 concrete pad may cost. Estimates run from about \$45,000 for the large one and \$35,000 for the small one, excluding dirt moving.

CBOC: S Kidner - Reported new member of CBOC was onboarded and then discussed ongoing “very tight” fiscal position of the school.

Organizational Issues: S Kidner - No Report.

Final comments - moved the two Board meetings in Nov and Dec to 19 November and 17 December respectively. COL Wallace asked for Board support on the USMC Birthday Cake - Heather C will contact her bakers and see if the price can get reduced.

Motion to adjourn Board at 1900, 2nd Passed 9 to 0.

Next Meeting: 22 Oct. 2024 at 1730