

**WASECA HOCKEY ASSOCIATION
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES
JULY 8, 2026, 7:00PM
EL TEQUILA**

Members Present: Andrea Roemhildt, Jenny Ross, Max Fox, Ryan Landkammer, , Kendra Hansen, Josh Lynch, Angie Lawson, Kelly Goettl, Steve Hoppe, Samantha Wolle, Kellie Moseley, Rhianna Winter

Members Missing: Matt Schmidtke, Ayleen Bubak, Clint Selvik,

Minutes Recorded by: Andrea Roemhildt

Call to Order at 6:30pm

Girls Co-op Agreement:

The meeting addressed finalizing the team-name convention and related branding for the recently approved girls youth co-op, with discussion constrained to terms and implementation of the co-op agreement approved in April. The board voted verbally and by proxy, resulting in ten votes for adopting a neutral name and five for retaining the Blue Jays identity; one board member was absent and not proxied.

Participants debated identity, branding, and community buy-in. Faribault representatives requested a neutral option (South Central Hockey Club) and matching jersey colors (light Carolina/Panther blue, black, white) to visually align with the high-school program. Opponents expressed concern that abandoning Waseca's Blue Jays identity could weaken local support and sponsorship; proponents argued a neutral identity could broaden sponsorship and community participation across co-op towns. The two-year duration of the high-school contract was central to arguments both for temporary neutrality and against permanent name changes.

Roster, development, and financial viability were prominent issues. Current high-school roster numbers are tight (approximately 12 skaters cited) and some youth cohorts are u15 eligible and cannot be forced to play high school; the board noted risks from waivers or players leaving, and warned that losing a sustainable high-school program could create an estimated \$60,000/year financial burden for the association. Multiple members emphasized that sustaining a competitive high-school program is necessary to retain and develop younger players, and that single-team levels limit appropriate competition and player growth.

Practical implementation and timeline were discussed. The group considered interim administrative use of a neutral co-op name to retain approval from District 9 and tournament registration deadlines while finalizing mascots for youth programs. Suggested compromises included collecting name and mascot options from both communities, presenting finalists to players (girls) for a vote, using neutral game labels with mascot-branded warm-ups, and renegotiating a permanent name at or after the two-year mark. The meeting concluded with agreement to collect name suggestions, consolidate options, and distribute a short list to the association for a planned vote prior to the next board meeting.

Key Action:

Motion to adopt a neutral name, 10 in favor; 4 opposed.

Approved

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn the meeting made by Kellie Moseley, 2nd by Jenny Ross

Adjourned at 7:56pm