

West Elk Hockey Association

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Regular Meeting-May 21, 2025 by video conference

Call to Order at 0703

Confirmation of Quorum-No with 3 of 7 Directors on at start of meeting

Directors/Staff present: Bill Frame (Ex. Dir), Directors Gary Huresky, J Wenum, Rob Bramwell, Sarah Fuld-Jones (at 0710), Jena Greene (at 0715).

Members/Guests: Aime Bielak, Jennifer Willett, Hilary Gomez, Hailee Stanley, Joey Otsuka, Kara Fraser

Rink Updates: Neither Andy Eflin or Joey Carpenter on call

Director's Report: see separate document for additional details. Bill covered "end of year review" with City of Gunnison on April 24, 2025. City has Oct. 1 deadline for WEHA to notify them of ice needs and changes can be made after that based on variables. City willing to allow WEHA to place storage shed (Tuff Shed or similar, No shipping containers, shed must be reviewed/approved by city prior to placement) near SW corner of outdoor rink. See separate notes from that meeting for other info. Summer skates and date options provided by Bill. Some discussion on attendance and cost. These have generally been a money loser. Bill feels the board needs to approve given the financial lose. Discussion of allowing host community players to participate. That has been offered in the past but minimally attended. Home town players also have summer skates and use them. Only a few participate, not enough to offset costs, have attended.

Treasurers Report: Rob pointed out Sarah and Jena had joined meeting and there was now a quorum. Meeting minutes from 4-23-25 reviewed, motion by Rob, Second by Gary and approved by voice vote. Rob advised that WEHA was looking strong financially, ended year in black, have funds to increase the reserve a bit. Rob has a draft budget for 2025-26 and will run it by the board soon so it can be discussed/approved at next meeting. Bill advised that WEHA owes WCHL \$2460 but will be getting a refund from CGHL.

Old Business: review of registration fees, numbers of participants, discussion on late registration costs and upping those. Many people still signing up late which places significant burden on Bill and others (team selection volunteer committee, ref/scorekeeper scheduler), giving them less than 48 hours to have teams, schedules, refs, scorekeepers in place. HS still looking for head coach for fall. WCHL being proactive with changes to bylaws to stay ahead of CAHA changes when adding new communities wanted to join leagues, especially those

communities with new programs, outdoor ice and few local officials available. League scheduling meeting is first week of June. Hockey Moms funding down \$7500 this year. Clarification by Bill that Hockey Moms is a separate entity but included as a supporter of WEHA. They are not a separate 501-c-3 (non-profit). Bill plans to meet with new leaders to outline process and plans. WCU and their club hockey team-unknown if they will have a hockey team this coming year. Had team last year but injuries/illness/eligibility reduced numbers to point team ended season early. Also losing person who coordinated the club hockey. Bill still would prefer to include WCU and other entities in the scheduling process locally rather than just focus on WEHA and have to make mid-season changes if additional ice is needed for others. Officials-Bill advised USAH has changed their timeframe for coaches and officials to sign up. Start of sign up moved to May 1 and deadline for completion of all components is now 12-31 each year. He is hoping for 10 new officials between CB and Gunn. Community Foundation for Gunnison Valley accepting grant applications and Mt CB. Bill advised more entities applying for limited funds. CFGV last year had 51 applicants and this year has 56. So, more competition for grant funds. Four Board seats up for election this year. Rob willing to stay on board but not as President. Scott Reamer willing to be president. Stepping down are Josh, Jena and Sarah. Those interested and who have offered to serve on board include Rob, Chirs Mochulsky, Jennifer Willett and Tucker Brown. With 4 seats open and 4 candidates (at this point) no need for elections.

Memberships comments: Joey O. summer skates consider using Aspen-costs are higher by available and they have a more short-term notice cancellation policy. He suggests increasing the late fee for registrations to change behavior and provide incentive for players to sign up earlier. Hailee S. consider a shipping container for storage-no city won't allow them. Us parades as a fund raiser by selling water or other items rather than having them be a cost with just giving away pucks and candy. Could do same at Cattlemen's Days. Desire for more "friendly" games for younger players. Joey O. he as talked with Sam Reiman about coaching U14. Sam may be interested. Aime B. Justin mentioned having a shooting pad available for summer practice. Unfortunately, off season storage is an issue and the pad will not be available.

Meeting adjourned at 0754.

Board members stayed on call to discuss annual meeting in June. J not available but all others are. Keep meeting date of Wed. June 17, 2025 at 7:00 AM in CB, likely at chamber building.