

NMAA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Wednesday, September 27, 2006
9:00 a.m., NMAA Conference Room A



- I. The NMAA Board of Directors met on Wednesday, September 27, 2006 for their regularly scheduled meeting. Mr. Mike Phipps, Board President, called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

Ms. Linda Cde Baca, Executive Administrative Assistant called roll and the following Board members were: Ms. Zita Lopez (Small, Area A), Dr. R. L. Richards (Small, Area B), Mr. Dane Kennon (Small, Area C), Mr. Rick Ferguson (Small, Area D), Ms. Janel Ryan (Large, Area A), Mr. Mike Phipps (Large, Area B), Mr. Dick Pool (Large, Area C), Dr. Pete Campos (Large, Area D), and Mr. Lawrence Johnson (NMAA Commission Representative). Dr. Beth Everitt (Large School District I), Dr. Sonia Díaz (Large School District II), Mr. Pancho Guardiola (At-Large Member), and Mr. Joe Guillen, New Mexico School Boards Association Representative, were absent. Mr. Phipps stated that a quorum was present and business before the Board could be conducted.

Present from the NMAA were Gary Tripp, Executive Director, Mr. Mario Martinez, Associate Director, and Ms. Sally Marquez, Associate Director.

A motion was made by Mr. Ferguson and seconded by Dr. Richards to approve the agenda (see pgs. 1-2 of Attachments). A vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

The minutes of the June 22, 2006 Emergency Board meeting were presented (see pgs. 9-10 of Attachments). A motion was made by Ms. Ryan to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Johnson seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

The minutes of the July 19, 2006 Emergency Board meeting were presented (see pgs. 11-12 of Attachments). A motion was made by Mr. Pool to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Ferguson seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

- II. Mr. Tripp welcomed the Board and introduced Ms. Zita Lopez, the newest member of the Board. He gave his Director's Report. He stated the NMAA is continuing to progress with the Board's goals. He stated that to date, the NMAA staff has completed approximately 20 school visits, where they have had great conversations

with both school administrators and students. He stated that he is gathering very valuable information from these visits, and will be sure to pass it on the Board once a report has been compiled.

He stated the another goal was to promote positive student involvement and that he had received a letter from a woman in Clovis, thanking the Clovis junior high football team for their respect shown to her loved one. Clovis Junior High's football field faces a local mortuary, and whenever they are out practicing during a funeral procession, the team lines up against the fence, with their helmets off and stand at attention as a way of showing respect. Mr. Tripp stated that this woman was very touched by the respect these students displayed, and this is the kind of information that will be going out to the public, emphasizing the good things that happen in athletics.

Mr. Tripp continued with an update on "Pursuing Victory With Honor" presentations around the state. There has been presentations given in about 20 communities around the state, and he stated it has been a very productive beginning of the new school year to date.

Mr. Tripp reported information regarding petitions, and as of September 26th, there have been 239 petitions submitted, 12 hardship cases, and 15 appeals. He stated that he, Mr. Phipps, and Mr. Bud Mulcock, the NMAA lobbyist, met with Dr. Veronica Garcia from the Public Education Department regarding appeals. Together it was determined that it costs approximately \$8,000 to hear an appeal, figuring the amount of time and labor involved starting with NMAA staff and going through Dr. Garcia's office.

Mr. Tripp reminded the Board that there were four Board members whose terms expired in December of this year and he invited them to run again for another term on the Board.

Lastly, Mr. Tripp reported that the NMAA is really pushing the new site, www.nmaanetwork.com. This website is currently uploading all the championship games from the past that are on VHS/DVD, and will be live streaming this year's championship events on the web for anyone to view. He stated that a person must be a subscriber in order to view these. Mr. Tripp will be hosting a workshop designed to increase awareness of the new site in mid-October and will be inviting Athletic Directors, booster club parents and a technical person from different parts of the state. His hope is that the schools invited to the first workshop will then be able to take this message to other small communities in their area.

- III. Auditor's Report/Financial Reports – Mr. Nick Landers, of Hinkle & Landers, P.C., presented the Audit Report (see pgs. 13-27 of Attachments) for the year ending June 30, 2006. He very briefly reviewed the assets, liabilities, revenue, expenses, and scholarships for the year. Mr. Landers continued with the findings report. There were five minor findings: 1) Concentration of Credit Risk – This has been corrected by obtaining collateral from the bank for the uninsured cash; 2)

Restricted & Designated Funds – Hinkle & Landers recommended that restricted and designated funds be set up with the necessary revenue and expense accounts so that fund balances can be carried from year to year; 3) Cash disbursements – Several vouchers were missing either a GL number documented on the voucher or a missing receipt which is easy to correct; 4) Payroll – These were very minor issues (missing I-9’s and a missing signature) and also easy to correct; and 5) Vehicle Stipend – There was some confusion regarding the vehicle stipend and taxes that is currently being corrected. Mr. Phipps stated that he sees that the NMAA is very credible and that he appreciated everyone for a job well done.

Ms. Carol Daniels, NMAA Finance Director, reviewed the 2005-2006 Revenue and Expense reports (see pgs. 29-43 of attachments). She stated that tickets sales increased by 31% over the year before because last year was such a good year. She also reviewed the 3 CD accounts (see pg. 28 of attachments). The Operating 7-Day CD is currently earning 4.75%, and will increase to 5% once the balance is \$1 million. The interest from the checking account goes back into that account. Mr. Phipps asked that the financial information be posted on the website.

Lastly, Ms. Daniels asked the Board for a recommendation regarding outstanding invoices and membership dues from the 2005-2006 school year. There is approximately \$48,000 outstanding. She stated letters had been emailed to the Athletic Directors with little response back. Mr. Pool asked that a hard copy of this letter be forwarded to the appropriate superintendent. Mr. Phipps asked that a letter be sent to the School Board President if there was no response from the superintendents. He thanked the NMAA staff for all their hard work with putting together the financial information.

- IV. A motion was made by Mr. Johnson to go into closed Executive Session to discuss the legal, personnel and financial issues. Ms. Ryan seconded the motion and a roll call vote was taken as follows:

Ms. Lopez – Yes	Mr. Phipps – Yes	Mr. Pool – Yes
Mr. Kennon – Yes	Dr. Richards – Yes	Ms. Ryan – Yes
Mr. Ferguson – Yes	Mr. Johnson – Yes	Dr. Campos – Yes

The motion carried unanimously, and the Board moved into Executive Session at 9:51 a.m.

A motion was made to reconvene into regular session by Mr. Johnson. It was seconded by Mr. Ferguson, and a vote was taken. The motion carried unanimously and the Board reconvened at 11:04 a.m. Mr. Phipps stated that no action was taken during Executive Session.

- V. *General Action Items – (A4) Alternative School Eligibility for students placed in alternative schools for non-disciplinary reasons* – Mr. Tripp stated that this would become a legislative issue is not addressed and recommended the Board accept this proposal (see pg. 44 of Attachments). Mr. Pool made a motion to approve. It was seconded by Mr. Kennon, and a vote was taken. The motion carried unanimously.

General Action Items – (A5) Recommendation to continue to study the 180-day ineligibility period and discuss with the NMAA membership at the Annual Meeting on October 16-17, 2006 – Mr. Tripp stated that having recently met with Dr. Garcia, she asked if this rule could be studied and possibly revised. It was his recommendation to approve this (see pgs. 46 of Attachments). Dr. Richards made a motion to approve the recommendation. Mr. Ferguson seconded the motion and a vote was taken. The motion carried unanimously.

General Action Items –(A6) Recommendation(s) for defining “hardship,” and discuss with the NMAA membership at the Annual Meeting – Mr. Tripp stated that this was also discussed with Dr. Garcia, and that we needed to work on defining hardship for New Mexico (see pgs. 46-57 of Attachments). Mr. Pool made the motion to table this item so that further study could be done. Mr. Kennon seconded it. A vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously to table.

General Action Items –(A7) Approval for background checks on all officials – Ms. Dana Sanchez, NMOA Commissioner of Officials, stated that background checks on officials was recommended by the NMOA Board. She stated that they would go back to the last four years. She stated there was a couple of different options – using an online company for \$32 or going through a schools district’s human resources department (see pg. 58-60 of Attachments). Dr. Richards made the motion to approve. Mr. Pool seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

General Action Items –(A8) Eliminate petitions to the NMAA office for students who will participate at the sub-varsity level only – Ms. Marquez stated that the Bylaws Committee met on September 7th and recommended this process be taken care of by the schools’ Athletic Director’s office (see pg. 61 of Attachments). Mr. Ferguson made the motion to approve. Mr. Johnson seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

General Action Items – (A9) Deletion of the language “at the former member school” and “a student must have been attending an NFHS member school” in the Did Not Participate exception rule – Ms. Marquez stated that the Bylaws Committee had met and was recommending that the elimination of “at the former member school” and “student must have been attending an NFHS member school” from the rule regarding the did not participate rule in an effort to help students from private, parochial, and home school to get these kids back into public education (see pg. 61 of Attachments). Mr. Johnson made the motion to approve the changes. It was seconded by Mr. Kennon and a vote was taken. The motion carried unanimously.

General Action Items – (A10) Restructuring A and AA Regional Tournaments in volleyball and basketball to become first round of State with single games held at District Champion home sites (as per Advisory Referenda) beginning with the current two-year block – Mr. Martinez reported that an Advisory Referendum was sent out to Class A and AA member schools (see pgs 93-94 of Attachments). The

referendum carried by a vote of 65% for the change and 35% against. Mr. Martinez reiterated that this change would be a cost savings to the schools (see pgs. 62-64 of Attachments). Mr. Ferguson made the motion to approve. Mr. Kennon seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

General Action Items – (A11) Altering seeding criteria to include one district team cannot be seeded or selected higher than another who came out of district as a lower seed with regular season taking precedent over tournament play (as per Advisory Referenda) – Mr. Martinez reported that the advisory referenda (see pgs. 90-92 of Attachments) for this item passed by a vote of 59 to 26 and that as such, seeding from the regular season would take precedence over tournament games (see pg. 65 of Attachments). Ms. Ryan made the motion to alter seeding criteria as above and Dr. Richards seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

General Action Items – (A12) Changing the wrestling start date for junior high/middle school to allow more participation in both wrestling and basketball due to facility conflicts – Mr. Pino stated the NMAA is recommending the approval of this so that kids can be multi-sport athletes, and that by doing this, it would not lengthen the season (see pg. 66 of Attachments). A motion was made by Dr. Richards, and seconded by Mr. Pool. A vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

General Action Items – (A13) Officials (NMOA Recommendation) – Consider revision of the selection process for football officials in the post season by implementing the following procedures (effective beginning in 2008-2009): Allow officials to call a maximum of two post-season games for the same school – Mrs. Sanchez stated that the NMOA Executive Board recommended this change, and that the Commission had approved it (see pg. 67 of Attachments). She stated that this change would allow more officials to participate in post-season play and officials to get more exposure at different schools. The first motion was made by Mr. Ferguson and seconded by Mr. Kennon. A vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

General Action Items – (A14) Change the mileage rate in NMAA Policies Manual to “federal rate” vs. specific amount – Mr. Tripp explained that in the NMAA Policy Manual, a specific amount was included, when in fact, it should state “federal rate” as the rate changes each year (see pg. 68-69 of Attachments). Mr. Pool made the motion to approve. Mr. Kennon seconded the motion and a vote was taken. The motion carried unanimously.

- VI. *Sports-Specific Action Items - (A15) Soccer – Increasing the number of players that a soccer team can have on their roster for the state tournament from 22 to 24 –* Mr. Larry Waters, Athletic Director from La Cueva High School thanked the NMAA on behalf of his principal for the Principal’s Summit that was held during the summer, stating it was very beneficial to new principals. He stated that the Soccer Sports Specific Committee asked that the roster be increased to 24 players for safety

reasons (see pg. 70 of Attachments). He stated that soccer players run an average of five to eight miles a game, and that with the 12-team format, some of the athletics could potentially play four games during playoffs. He continued that some states have unlimited rosters, while some vary with 22 to 25 players on the roster. A motion was made by Mr. Pool and it was seconded by Mr. Johnson. A roll call was taken as follows:

Ms. Lopez – No	Mr. Phipps – Yes	Mr. Pool – Yes
Mr. Kennon – Yes	Dr. Richards – No	Ms. Ryan – No
Mr. Ferguson – No	Mr. Johnson – No	Dr. Campos – No

The motion failed by a vote of three in favor and six against.

Sports-Specific Action Items - (A16) Soccer – Adopting a World Cup format for the state soccer tournament starting with the 2008-2009 school year - Mr. Waters discussed the interest created in soccer by the World Cup. After meeting with the Sports Specific Committee, it was their recommendation that this format be used for the State Soccer Tournament (see pgs. 71-72 of Attachments). Mr. Waters pointed out that by using this format, all teams would play two games a piece, and that each Class would be able to release soccer athletes for winter sports. He also stated that it would increase revenue and interest at the event. Dr. Richards made the motion to approve and it was seconded by Ms. Ryan. A vote was taken and the motion carried 7 votes for and two against.

Sports-Specific Action Items - (A17) Swimming & Diving – Mandating district swimming and diving meets starting with the next two-year block (2008-2009)- Mr. Mark Koski, NMAA Assistant Director, discussed how currently there is only one district holding a district meet (see pg. 73 of Attachments). He stated the Sports Specific Committee would like to see all schools host district meets to give more students the opportunity of being recognized and receiving medals. A motion was made by Mr. Johnson to approve this request. Mr. Ferguson seconded the motion; a vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

Sports-Specific Action Items – (A18) Track & Field – Setting qualifying marks for two-year blocks starting with the current year - Mr. Koski stated he had sent out a survey to track and field coaches (see pg. 73 of Attachments). The results were split 87- 87. He continued that by doing this, it would cut back a tremendous amount of work every other year. Mr. Pool made the motion to approve and it was seconded by Mr. Johnson. A vote was taken and the motion passed eight votes for and one against.

Sports-Specific Action Items – (A19) Track & Field – Finishing the state Track & Field meets by 6:00 p.m. on both weekends (as per the Advisory Referenda) - Mr. Koski stated that per the Advisory Referenda (see pgs. 90-92 of Attachments), the time should be changed to allow the State meet to conclude by 6:00 p.m (see pg. 75 of Attachments). Dr. Richards made the motion to approve and it was seconded by Mr. Ferguson. A vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

Sports-Specific Action Items – (A20) Tennis – Allowing the state tennis tournament to start on Thursday evening during the “team” state tournament - Ms. Marquez stated that last year the team tournament concluded after midnight and that tennis is the only team sport with ten teams that requires a qualifying round (see pg. 76 of Attachments). She stated that Jerry Cline is adding lighting for 18 tennis courts. She proposed that the tournament start on Thursday evening, sometime between 5:30 and 6:00 p.m. Ms. Ryan made the motion to approve and it was seconded by Dr. Richards. A vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

Sports-Specific Action Items – (A21) Golf – Changing 7.16.3 #3 of the Bylaws to read as follows: Do not round off course ratings: Round the total to the nearest whole number in normal fashion after scores have been shot - Mr. Martinez stated that no one knew how this rule actually came about, but for some unknown reason, scores have been rounded down (see pg. 77 of Attachments). Dr. Campos made the motion to approve and it was seconded by Dr. Richards. A vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

Sports-Specific Action Items – (A22) Basketball – Increasing team rosters for post-season play from 12 to 15 - Ms. Marquez state that because most teams carry more than 12 players on their rosters during the season, teams up end making their extra players at team managers (see pg. 78 of Attachments). She stated that seating continues to be a problem at the state tournament because there are so many managers. She continued that two years ago, this request failed. She stated that if this were approved, she would set a limit for the number of managers a team could seat. Mr. Johnson made the motion to approve and it was seconded by Mr. Pool. A vote was taken and the motion failed by a vote of one for and eight against.

VII. *General Discussion/Information Items –(D1) The progress in establishing the NMAA Foundation – Mr. Tripp stated that he had contacted Diane Dennish about serving as President of the NMAA Foundation and that it looked as though she would accept. He met with the attorneys and it was recommended that the board consist of eleven members with interests in awarding athletic scholarships. He asked the Board for their recommendations of people that might be interest in serving on the committee. He continued that Articles of Incorporation are in the process of being drafted. He stated that the first fundraiser would be a golf tournament that will be held at UNM South on May 25, 2007 as a kickoff. He also asked the board to solicit players for the tournament. He continued that Mr. Koski is developing a timeline and would forward it once it has been completed. He welcomed any ideas from the board members for generating funds for the Foundation.*

General Discussion/Information Items – (D2) Legislative Issues & Efforts – Mr. Tripp stated that the effort to eliminate Gross Receipts tax (for officials), sponsored by Vernon Asbill, will be introduced again at the upcoming session (see pgs. 79-82 of Attachments). He stated that the gross receipts tax is very burdensome to the school. He asked that board members contact their area legislators (see pgs. 83-85) to help gain support with this bill. He stated he had been approached by Michael

Sanchez to look at pay increases for officials, stating that by paying them more, this might take care of the official shortage, it might also help the Gross Receipts Tax issue, and that officiating at the different levels (C-Team, JV, and Varsity) should not be determine the rate of pay.

General Discussion/Information Items –(D3) Home School Eligibility Issues – Mr. Tripp reminded the Board that home school students may participate in any activity

their school offers, and would like to see changes so that home school students would only be required to attend half time, instead of more than half time.

General Discussion/Information Items – (D4) Rule that prohibits member schools from playing non-member schools – Mr. Tripp stated that it is mostly the junior high schools that are playing non-member school. He continued that he would like to put this out to the member schools in the form of an advisory referendum. He stated that the two issues here were the liability issue and a level playing field. He informed the Board that the NMAA continues to solicit these non-member schools to join the NMAA.

General Discussion/Information Items – (D5) NFHS rule on track and field that New Mexico does not presently adhere to – Mr. Koski reported that New Mexico is one of six states that are not following NFHS rules, allowing students to compete in four events (see pg. 86 of Attachments). This was based in information provides by the National Sports Medicine group and therefore adopted by the NFHS. He continued that under the current NFHS rule, if any athlete sets a record in New Mexico, it would not qualify because we are not following the rules. He stated coaches would not like this. Mr. Koski advised the Board that Track and Field is the only sport in New Mexico not following NFHS rules.

General Discussion/Information Items – (D6) Exclusion system for officials in basketball and football – Ms. Sanchez stated this went to the Commission and they recommended that a committee be formed to look at different ways of handling officials being excluded. She asked the Board for support by recommending any changes they think might be beneficial. Mr. Tripp stated this issue keeps getting pushed to the back burner and it does need to be addressed. He stated that when kids make mistakes, they get a fresh start after a year, so why shouldn't adults have the same opportunity. He said that by not changing this rule, "Pursuing Victory With Honor" is not being followed. Mr. Phipps stated that the 5% rule should be changed to 2%, and stated he will be appointing an ad hoc committee to address this issue.

General Discussion/Information Items – (D7) Editorial Changes to Bylaws – Ms. Marquez stated that the Bylaws Committee had met and was recommending that the elimination of "at the former member school" and "student must have been attending an NFHS member school" from the rule regarding the did not participate rule in an effort to help students from private, parochial, and home school to get these kids back into public education (see pg. 61 of Attachments). Ms. Marquez

informed the Board that editorial changes were made to order to clarify rules better as follows: In rule 6.3.2, the word “chooses to” was eliminated. In rule 6.2, State Statute requires at least a 6-week grading period, so that schools with four and a half week grading period will now have to comply. Lastly, Rule 6.3.2 B.e.2) the words “or abandoned” would be added to the end of that sentence.

General Discussion/Information Items – (D8) Results of Referenda and Advisory Referenda – Mr. Tripp stated the results of the last three referenda were attached (see pgs. 87-93 of Attachments). He stated that he saw a trend of increased voting

for a short while, but that it is declining again and would really like to see more schools voting. Mr. Phipps stated he would present this at the next Superintendent’s Forum.

General Discussion/Information Items – (D10) Mr. Robert Zayas, NMAA Assistant Director, stated that things were progressing well with the new website. It was supposed to have been complete by now, but stated there were still a few glitches to be worked out. He continued that the good news is we are still on track with the budget because the NMAA negotiated a one-time fee instead of an hourly fee. He informed the Board that currently there were 2,900 MVP users and 14,000 students posted to date. He said the new website is very user friend, and does not require much training. He stated that hosting the district clinics on-line had been very successful, and had saved the schools much time and expense by cutting out travel to attend them. Upon completion of the NMAA website, this same company will be designing a new website for the NMHSCA, and the two will be able to cross over, thus saving coaches time by using NMAA databases.

Mr. Zayas also reminded the Board about the upcoming Annual Meeting for all member schools. It will be held October 16th and 17th at the Albuquerque Wyndam Airport Hotel, with a luncheon and guest speakers, including NMAA Board President, Mr. Mike Phipps, NFHS Executive Director, Mr. Bob Kanaby, and new UNM Athletic Director, Mr. Paul Krebs.

VIII. The next meeting of the NMAA Board of Directors is scheduled for November 30, 2006, at 9:00 a.m. at the NMAA.

IX. A motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Ryan. It was seconded by Ms. Lopez and a vote was taken. The motion carried unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 1:07 p.m.