South Border Sports Co-op

Ashley Public School and Wishek Public School
Monday, March 15, 2021
6:00 pm
Wishek High School Conference Room

The March 15, 2021 meeting of the South Border Sports Co-op was called to order at 6:00pm by Wishek President Curt Meidinger with members present: Ashley School Board: Lyle Fey, Ross Litsey, Kevin Nitschke, Amy Schlepp, Kyle Thiery; Wishek School Board: Rocky Brown, Bruce Herr, and Melissa Kaseman-Wolf. Also present were Jason Schmidt, Shawn Kuntz, Chris Doane, Jeremy St Aubin, Gwen Schumacher, Evan Mellmer, Connor Hill, Kara Salzer, Cory Bader, and Alyssa Conitz.

Motion by Melissa Kaseman-Wolf, seconded by Lyle Fey, and carried unanimously to approve the agenda with the following additions: (4g) – golf, and (4h) – coaching summary.

Discussion held on athlete dual-sports agreement: any athlete participating in two sports in the same season would declare which sport was primary to avoid conflicting game schedules. Discussion topics included students changing their primary sport mid-season, coach communication, and practice/game/team commitment issues.

Trina Schilling joined the meeting at 6:18pm.

Motion by Rocky Brown, seconded by Bruce Herr, and approved by roll call vote: Melissa Kaseman-Wolf – Yes, Bruce Herr – Yes, Rocky Brown – Yes, Kevin Nitschke – Yes, Trina Schilling – Yes, Lyle Fey – Yes, Kyle Thiery – Yes, Amy Schlepp – Yes, Ross Litsey – Yes, Curt Meidinger – Yes, to approve the athlete dual-sports agreement with the following changes: procedure 2 now includes "the athlete may switch primary and secondary sports once per season" and procedures 4 through 7 will be removed.

Discussion held on the co-op paying for subscriptions to sports information systems for all sports. Currently the co-op only pays for a subscription to HUDL for football due to regional requirements. Some sports currently participate in sports information systems paid by booster groups, and other sports would like to participate but haven't had the funding.

Motion by Melissa Kaseman-Wolf, seconded by Kyle Thiery, and approved by roll call vote: Bruce Herr – Yes, Rocky Brown – Yes, Kevin Nitschke – Yes, Trina Schilling – Yes, Lyle Fey – Yes, Kyle Thiery – Yes, Amy Schlepp – Yes, Ross Litsey – Yes, Curt Meidinger - Yes, Melissa Kaseman-Wolf – Yes, to approve paying subscriptions to sports information systems for all co-op sports.

Discussion held on clarification of co-op bylaw 15: practice on Sundays. Wishek has always said no to practice on Sundays, but the bylaws state practice can be held as long as athletes are home by 8:00pm. This has created frustration between Ashley and Wishek.

Motion by Bruce Herr, seconded by Melissa Kaseman-Wolf, and failed by roll call vote: Rocky Brown – Yes, Kevin Nitschke – No, Trina Schilling – No, Lyle Fey – Yes, Kyle Thiery – Yes, Amy Schlepp – No, Ross

Litsey – No, Curt Meidinger – No, Melissa Kaseman-Wolf – Yes, Bruce Herr – Yes, to change bylaw 15 to no practice at all on Sundays including no open gym.

Motion by Trina Schilling, seconded by Bruce Herr, and approved by roll call vote: Kevin Nitschke – Yes, Trina Schilling – Yes, Lyle Fey – Yes, Kyle Thiery – No, Amy Schlepp – Yes, Ross Litsey – No, Curt Meidinger – Yes, Melissa Kaseman-Wolf – No, Bruce Herr – No, Rocky Brown – Yes, to change bylaw 15 to allow practice on Sundays if the team has a district, regional, or state tournament. Practice cannot start before 1:00pm and athletes must be home by 6:00pm.

Kuntz and Schmidt presented the co-op master agreement, including coaches salary schedule, athletic director job description, sportsmanship guidelines, parent-coach communications flow chart, coaches' responsibilities, and co-op bylaws.

Discussion held coaches' responsibilities item 6: coaches must write articles for the local paper, item 8: coaches must check visitors' locker room after home contests, and item 10-d: coaches must be excused in advance if they are not riding the bus with their athletes.

Motion by Kyle Thiery, seconded by Melissa Kaseman-Wolf, and failed by roll call vote: Trina Schilling – No, Lyle Fey – No, Kyle Thiery – Yes, Amy Schlepp – No, Ross Litsey – No, Curt Meidinger – Yes, Melissa Kaseman-Wolf – Yes, Bruce Herr – Yes, Rocky Brown – Yes, Kevin Nitschke – No, to remove item 6 entirely and change item 8 to remove the last sentence requiring coaches to check the visitors' locker room after home contests.

Motion by Trina Schilling, seconded by Lyle Fey, and approved by roll call vote: Lyle Fey – Yes, Kyle Thiery – Yes, Amy Schlepp – No, Ross Litsey – Yes, Curt Meidinger – Yes, Melissa Kaseman-Wolf – Yes, Bruce Herr – Yes, Rocky Brown – Yes, Kevin Nitschke – No, Trina Schilling – Yes, to remove item 6 entirely, change item 8 to remove the last sentence requiring coaches to check the visitors' locker room after home contests, and change the wording of item 10-d from "Coaches must ride on the player bus to and from all activities unless excused in advance by the Athletic Director" to "unless communicated to the Athletic Director."

Motion by Rocky Brown, seconded by Bruce Herr, and approved by roll call vote: Kyle Thiery – Yes, Amy Schlepp – Yes, Ross Litsey – Yes, Curt Meidinger – Yes, Melissa Kaseman-Wolf – Yes, Bruce Herr – Yes, Rocky Brown – Yes, Kevin Nitschke – Yes, Trina Schilling – Yes, Lyle Fey – Yes, to accept the athletic director job description as presented.

Motion by Kevin Nitschke, seconded by Rocky Brown, and approved by roll call vote: Amy Schlepp – Yes, Ross Litsey – Yes, Curt Meidinger – Yes, Melissa Kaseman-Wolf – Yes, Bruce Herr – Yes, Rocky Brown – Yes, Kevin Nitschke – Yes, Trina Schilling – Yes, Lyle Fey – Yes, Kyle Thiery – Yes, to approve the coaches salary schedule and remove the athletic director position from the co-op salary schedule.

Kuntz presented the South Border Mustangs Philosophies and Skills Manual. The manual outlines a progressive system through each sporting program establishing goals and skills to be accomplished at each age level. No board action required.

Schmidt informed the co-op that girls' golf is being moved to the fall season. This means the co-op will have to pay separate coaching contracts and greens fees. No board action required.

Schmidt presented the current coaching staff summary: varsity boys basketball, varsity girls basketball and JV girls basketball coaching positions are open. They hope to have the head coaches hired by the end of March, then get the assistant coaches in place.

The meeting adjourned at 8:13pm.

Curt Meidinger
Wishek School Board President

Lyle Fey
Ashley School Board President

Alyssa Conitz
Wishek Business Manager