

**North Dakota Amateur Hockey Association
2006 Spring Board of Directors Meeting
Sunday, May 7th -- Williston, N.D.**

Vice President Peter Sonnesyn called the 2006 NDAHA Board of Directors Meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

Roll Call of the Board was taken by interim secretary Bob Gillen.

Present:

Vice President	Peter Sonnesyn
Girl's/Women	Gary Splichal
N.D. Leagues	Dennis Nybo
N.E. Director	Dave Duckworth
N.W. Director	Bruce Rostad
N.W. Director	Scott Ellis
S.E. Director	Greg Evenson
S.E. Director	Bob Gustafson
S.W. Director	Jeff Gustafson

Not Present:

President	Jack Kleven
Secretary	OPEN POSITION
Treasurer	Gary Almquist
Junior Gold	Phil Sedo
N.E. Director	Julie Howatt
S.W. Director	Randy Bina

Others Present: [Non-Voting]

Bob Gillen	Coach-in-Chief
Minnkota Director	Brad Bekkedahl
Montana President	Bruce Bekkedahl
Valley City Rep	Jay Marshall
Jamestown Rep	Scott Schafer
Devils Lake Rep	Terry Wallace
Bismarck Rep	Mike Wald
Crosby Rep	Keith Olson
Rugby Rep	Tim Melander

Approval of Minutes [Spring 2005, Winter 2006]

Motion by Evenson, Seconded by B. Gustafson to table the approval of minutes until corrections are made and we will approve at the fall meeting. MSC.

Introduction of Guests

Peter Sonnesyn introduced Bruce Bekkedahl of Montana Hockey and welcomed him back to the Board of Directors Meeting.

Reports

Motion by Evenson, Seconded by Ellis to approve all reports from the Community Meeting as presented yesterday. To see the individual reports, go to the Community Meeting Minutes. MSC.

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OLD BUSINESS

A. New USA Hockey District

Brad and Bruce Bekkedahl both wanted to revisit the information on the new district and wanted to say that they were both very surprised at the vote results from yesterday's community meeting. Brad made a note that he did not realize that so many of our affiliates were against this and/or did not have information as they stated? He said that we will look very bad in the eyes of USA Hockey and with the other states affected if we back out now right before the USA Hockey Annual Congress. Bruce Bekkedahl wanted to say again that yesterday he went over the advantages for Montana Hockey and maybe didn't talk about North Dakota Hockey advantages enough? Brad Bekkedahl was under the impression that our state was in favor of this move and was caught by surprise yesterday to the overwhelming lack of support to move on with the new district. Dave Duckworth stated that this issue is not a political issue but in the NE District at their district meeting earlier in the week all community reps felt even stronger to vote no. Why? All of our discussions on this new district are centered on Select Hockey which is 200 kids of our 4,000 players in North Dakota. Nothing is ever stated on how this move will help the other 3,800 players or communities in our state? If we want this to pass we need to have out to the communities on how this move will benefit the communities besides selects. Keith Olson from Crosby said that yesterday was the first time they heard a lot of the information brought out and thought that the lack of information may be the reason for the no votes. Brad Bekkedahl said the message he heard yesterday was to protect the select program especially from the S.E. District where they said they do not want to travel here and do not want to pay more for selects. Brad mentioned that he was gone to Iraq for most of the year and is not sure what Jack did or did not do while he was gone. He stated that four years ago we met in Rapid City, S.D. and the contingent of North Dakota delegates that went were in full support after we left Rapid City to pursue this move. Brad Bekkedahl said he put his whole life into this effort for North Dakota for the past three years and no matter who screwed this process up he said he feels a little stabbed in the back at this moment. He will look very bad at the June Congress if North Dakota pulls out at this late stage we will lose stature at USA Hockey. Bekkedahl said he had never heard from our state that they did not have the information or were not in favor of this new district. This is a one time opportunity for our state and we need to make a very intelligent decision and understand the repercussions this may impose our state. Pete Sonnesyn said maybe we should table this and see what happens in Colorado. Bob Gustafson said he found it hard to believe that Brad B. didn't feel the concerns earlier and Brad said he did yesterday? Bob Gustafson said he found it hard to believe he didn't hear any concerns over a year ago. Brad B. said he was gone during the last two state meetings but never once did any one call with questions or concerns and he said he relies on our community people to come to him if they have issues and this did not happen. Duckworth said our states problem is that 4-5 people get information and everyone else is left in the dark. Duckworth said as a district director he got two e-mails from our president over the past year and if he isn't getting e-mails how are the people in his district to be informed if he is not receiving the information from the state and he is a board member? Sonnesyn asked the board what they wanted to do? Splichal asked Brad what would happen at the Annual Congress if we tabled this today? Brad guessed they would drop it and it would be a done deal. This will not go forward if North Dakota is not on board. Sonnesyn said I do not think we can override the communities with the vote being so lopsided. Sonnesyn said lack of information is the big reason for the no vote and we need to get information out on the benefits besides the select program. Bob Gustafson asked for a ten-minute recess to go out and talk with the other board members on what was just heard. Vice President Sonnesyn gave the board a ten-minute recess.

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Board reconvened and resumed discussion. Sonnesyn asked to continue the discussion. Evenson stated that he heard yesterday's comments and has talked to people in our state that he respects and feel that this is a very important issue. Evenson said what he would like is to have one state wide meeting in Carrington in the next few weeks and have a chance to get all of the proper documents out to the communities for them to dissect at their board meetings and then invite all communities to a state wide informational meeting and then the board will vote at this meeting after the discussions and presentations have been made and heard. This will happen before the annual congress and that way we at least made an attempt to get the correct information out and at the same time hold a public forum to dispel any rumors or false information. Gillen said that power point presentation is very good and we have four years of documents out there and we invite everyone to the state meeting and if people do not show up then they can't say they didn't have a say or couldn't ask the questions they have. Schafer said we need to get the information out right away so the communities can meet with their local boards before this statewide meeting. Jeff G. said when people approach him about the new district he doesn't have anything to tell them as far as benefits and some say to him what is wrong with the district we are in? He said he would like to know what are the benefits for North Dakota and what we should tell people if they ask? Brad B. said for the grass roots player they would not see any changes good or bad if we go with this new district. Minnesota would like to be their own district as a prestige thing more so than any thing else as they have stated they like North and South Dakota and the Minnkota District as a whole. Bob Gustafson asked what Idaho thinks of this and they would be all by themselves if this new district happens. Bruce Bekkedahl said that their leadership does not want to leave the Rocky Mountain District and that they feel they would be better off going to the Pacific District if we do redistrict. Bruce said they have always been invited to the meetings but have never attended. Nybo recommends that we table this until June 3rd, 2006 and host a state new district meeting in Bismarck. Information will go out in the next week to all communities so they have a few weeks to look over the information before the statewide meeting. Sonnesyn asked for a show of hands to table this item until June 3rd and a statewide meeting be held June 3rd in Bismarck. Unanimous to table until June 3rd and information will go out this week to all communities. Duckworth asked if we could get in writing that the age change will not change if we move to a new district. Bekkedahl said he will do what he can but if USA Hockey wants to change they can change. Gillen asked that the information of North and South Dakota being moved to the Rocky Mountain District if and when Minnesota is granted to be their own district if we decline to go to a new district now. That information may be big as far as decisions go? Splichal said he was on the fence before this meeting but after what he has heard he would vote yes and thinks this is a huge opportunity to pass up on. Information will go out this week and a statewide meeting will be held in Bismarck on Saturday, June 3rd at a time and location to se sent out in the next week.

B. NB-K Article VI Section I Administrative Fees:

Community Reps held a voice vote and it failed.

NEW BUSINESS

A. New Affiliate Agreement [Almquist]

Community Rep vote was 140-Yes / 106-No. Motion by Splichal, Seconded by Ellis to pass. Motion passed [7-2] with no votes being registered by Duckworth and B. Gustafson.

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B. Donations to Special Projects – Line Item in Budget [Kleven]

D. Junior Gold Teams playing in High School Federation Tournaments

Nybo said that all teams need to do is get approval from Colter and send a letter to NDHSAA and as long as the High School team does not go over their game allotment then we will not have a problem.

E. Jamestown / Valley City Alliance [Evenson]

It was okayed by the board that as long as both are okay with this and they both have signed affiliate agreements than they have no objections to the alliance.

F. NDAHA Board Member and Community Representation [Almquist]

Community Rep vote was 158-Yes / 57-No / 20-Abstention. Motion by Duckworth, Seconded by Splichal to pass. Discussion. Clarification on the wording and intention is that if a person is on the board and also a community rep, they would not be able to vote as a community rep. Motion passed [8-1] with no vote being registered by B. Gustafson.

G. R & Rs, Section I, Article III: Administrative Districts [Gillen]

Item died for a lack of a motion at the community rep meeting.

H. R & Rs, Section I, Article VI: Class of Play, B (Jr. Gold Housekeeping) [Sedo]

I. R & Rs, Section I, Article VI: Class of Play A 5 (Housekeeping) [Splichal]

L. R & Rs, Section II, Article III: Sanctioned Leagues, B 6 (Jr. Gold Housekeeping) [Sedo]

M. R & Rs, Section II, Article III: Sanctioned Leagues, B 8 (Jr. Gold Housekeeping) [Sedo]

P. R & Rs, Section II, Article III: Sanctioned Leagues, C 7 Housekeeping) [Splichal]

Community Rep votes on H, I, L, M, P were to pass with amendments made. Motion by Duckworth, Seconded by Nybo to approve as voted on at the community rep meeting. Motion passed [9-0]. MSC.

J. R & Rs, Section I, Article IX: Game Officials, Line D [Rostad]

Community Rep vote was to pass. Motion by Duckworth, Seconded by Ellis to pass. MSC. Discussion. Gillen stated that the only change was in wording where District RIC would now read Supervisor of Officials.

K. R & Rs, Section I, Article IX: Game Officials, Line E [Rostad]

Community Rep vote was to pass. Motion by B. Gustafson, Seconded by Splichal to pass. MSC. Discussion. B. Gustafson stated that approve with amendment that was made yesterday.

N. R & Rs, Section II, Article III: Sanctioned Leagues, League Rules G & J [Gillen]

Community Rep vote was to pass. Motion by Splichal, Seconded by Evenson to pass. MSC.

O. R & Rs, Section II, Article III: Sanctioned Leagues, League Rules J [Gillen]

Community Votes was to pass. Motion by Splichal, Seconded by Nybo to pass. MSC. Discussion. Gillen said the Fair Play Program would remain the same except all penalty minute totals for all leagues will be increased by two minutes across the board and we will add item E. Mouth guard Misconducts – 5 minutes of fair play. Everything else will be run as this past season.

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O. R & Rs, Section II, Article IV: Tournaments, C 3 & 4 [Splichal]

Tabled till Fall Meeting! Amend so that run with 19u league with everybody 13 and up play in league during year and split east and west and play home and home. Comes state tourney time 14u tourney and every one else would be in the upper league and tourney seeding is on how you finished in the league. Splichal moved to table to fall meeting with the said amendment. Motion passed [9-0]. MSC.

R. R & Rs, Section II, Article IV: Tournaments, D Tournament Rotations [Colter]

Community Rep vote was to pass. Motion by B. Gustafson, Seconded by Splichal to pass. MSC.

T. R & Rs, Section II, Article IV: Tournaments, K Compensation [Rostad]

Community Rep vote was to pass. Motion by Splichal, Seconded by B. Gustafson to pass. Discussion. Gillen clarified that it was amended to read..”take out round trip” and add in “one way.” Splichal wanted to amend to have this worded so it is straight across the board to include all NDAHA travel and not just the Referees. Duckworth said to word it as...all mileage rates for NDAHA. Motion on amendment by Splichal, Seconded by Nybo. MSC.

U. R & Rs, Section II, Article IV: Tournaments, K Compensation [Gillen]

Gillen withdrew item yesterday. B. Gustafson wanted to have it brought back. Nybo said the per diem part for \$20.00 for out-of-town is fine but for in town officials they are at the rinks all day and usually eat at the concession stand and we should give them \$10.00 per day for in town officials twenty miles or closer. Bob Gustafson said that we should include this for our board members and state officials so it is the same.

V. By-Laws, Article VI: Directors, Board of Directors, 1a & b [B. Gustafson]

Community Vote was to pass. Motion by B. Gustafson to pass, Seconded by Evenson. Discussion. B. Gustafson said he forgot to split the section directors to odd/even years but it is probably too late now. Motion passed [8 to 1] with the lone no vote by Dave Duckworth.

W. By-Laws, Article XII: Amendments [Colter/Gillen]

Tabled till fall when Colter can be here to explain his thoughts on the proposal. Ellis said have a community rep meeting and we get their input and then Sunday we waste an entire day because we talk over the same items but do nothing different than what we discussed and voted on yesterday. Colter is correct in theory, as the Community Reps should have control over By-Laws and the Board should have control over the day-to-day rules and regulations and should have control to change when needed. Ellis said it is good to get the community reps input but we need to be able to have the board the ability to make sound and informed decisions without having the communities hold it against us. Duckworth said the community reps should go to the District meeting and the two-district directors vote on how the district wants them to vote. That is as far as it should go with the community reps and if they do not like how their district directors vote they can elect new directors. If you have an issue and it is split at the district level then they can come to the board meeting and stress their points and see if they can convince enough voting directors to vote in their favor if their district directors would be voting against them.

X. By-Laws, Article XII: Amendments [B. Gustafson]

Table till Fall Meeting

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Y. By-Laws, Article XIII: Disputes, Protests & Appeals (New) [Splichal]
Withdrawn by Splichal

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

President: Peter Sonnesyn

Vice-President: Greg Evenson

Treasurer: [President to appoint vacancy]

Secretary: Bob Gillen

ND Leagues: Scott Schafer [1-YEAR TERM]

Jr. Gold: Tim Melander [1-YEAR TERM]

Girl's/Women's: Keith Olson [1-YEAR TERM]

Player Development: Brett Stockert

NE District: Dave Duckworth

SE District: Bob Gustafson

SW District: Mike Wald

NW District: Bruce Rostad

SE District: Jay Marshall [Fill in for Greg Evenson who moved into VP]

Motion by Ellis, Seconded by Duckworth to approve the installation of new officers for 2006-07. MSC.

*****Rostad brought up that we had some money owed to the officials? Discussion was held and Splichal said this was discussed at the Winter Meeting in Rugby. Gillen read the winter meeting minutes and it was stated in there that a check would be cut on the first day that the officials association was formed and Sedo and Splichal made the motion and seconded the motion.**

FOR THE GOOD OF ND HOCKEY

*****Pete Sonnesyn read a letter from Gary Almquist [See attached letter enclosed] that states he resigns his position immediately but will help with the transition of the new treasurer. Motion by Rostad, Seconded by Duckworth to accept Gary's Resignation upon appointment of a new treasurer. MSC.**

*****Selection Committee ND Sports Hall of Fame**

Bob Gustafson, Dennis Nybo and Dave Duckworth along with a rep from the NW District will work on this committee and will have a rep in place by the June Meeting.

*****Coaches Symposium Financial Request**

Gillen withdrew his motion request yesterday since the NE District was against it at their district meeting and after Gillen heard the NDAHA Financial Report, he decided that 39 coaches did not need \$2,000 for a social to be sponsored by NDAHA. He can raise the coaching clinic fee and look for a sponsorship to cover this cost.

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*****Fall and Winter Board Meetings**

Fall Meeting will be in Devils Lake on Saturday, September 16th, 2006

Winter Meeting will be in Carrington on Sunday, January 7th, 2007

Spring Meeting will be in the Southeast District next Spring 2007

****Greg Evenson said we need to get the Spring Meeting back to the Central part of the state to make it convenient for all communities in our state.**

*****Audit of our Books**

Dennis Nybo said we need to do an immediate audit of our books since we have a new administration coming in as well as a new treasurer. Motion by Nybo, Seconded by Evenson.

*****Dennis Nybo wanted to thank the board and NDAHA for all of their help during his years of service as an NDAHA Board Member. Nybo also wanted to publicly recognize Ron Seely from the NW District who was the NW District League Secretary for many years even without a child playing and did an excellent job. Finally he wanted to remind Scott S. that he will need to set up a date and time for August for the "A" League Scheduling Meeting but he has already mentioned this to Scott.**

*****Evenson said he wanted to thank Dennis and Gary for all their years of service and also give the title of Director Emeritus to Jack Kleven for his service to NDAHA as President and as a long time NW District Director. Motion by Evenson, Seconded by Duckworth. Bob Gustafson stated in our By-Laws that at the end of a term the President would be presented a gavel plaque, which will need to be done. MSC.**

*****Sonnesyn said he will be asking for volunteers to start sitting on the various committees and we have not done this for several years. Interested individuals should contact Pete S. if they would like to serve on any type of NDAHA Committee.**

*****Duckworth brought up that we need to get 4th place trophies back into our state tournaments as we have had a team that takes 5th place get a trophy and lost in the first round to the team who takes 4th place. This has been already voted and approved by this board back when Lloyd was still around.**

*****Duckworth said that the votes yesterday are a strong consideration that the communities want a change and we need to have more communication from the top down and with today's technology we need and should be able to keep everyone informed.**

*****Splichal said we need to have a committee to look at our web site. Sonnesyn said he would work with Gary on this issue.**

*****Bob Gustafson said he would like to research the idea of moving our annual meeting to the second Saturday in September and this would give us a final financial report to work off of and we could start our meeting at 10:00 am and not one hour after that meeting we could handle our board meeting. We can look over if this is feasible.**

Motion to adjourn by Nybo, Seconded by B. Gustafson at 11:37 AM
