



U S S P E E D S K A T I N G

US SPEEDSKATING BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING Minutes

March 21, 2022

6:00pm MST

In attendance for the meeting on March 21, 2022 meeting of the USS Board of Directors (“BOD”) were President Mark Carleton, Vice President Susan Sandvig-Shobe, Treasurer Andy Kelly, Secretary Rusty Smith, Ryan Bedford, Don Mealing, Duncan White, Patrick Maxwell and Tony Lieu. The listed members in attendance constitutes a quorum of the Board. USS Executive Director Ted Morris, Director of Finance Dale Schoon and Jeff Castelaz were also in attendance. The minutes were recorded by Mr. Schoon.

1. Welcome

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Carleton at 6:02 PM MST. Mr. Carleton introduced Mr. Castelaz as a guest and independent director candidate.

2. Finance Report

Mr. Schoon summarized the current financial position of USS and reported that the organization has experienced favorable budget impacts particularly in fundraising activities (podium club and general fundraising). Staff anticipates a small surplus at the end of the fiscal year.

Mr. Carleton thanked Mr. Schoon for his eight years of service to USS and wished him the best on behalf of the organization as he moves on to new opportunities. Mr. Carleton also recognized Mr. Mealing for his eight years of service and support on the USS Board of Directors. Mr. Mealing will be stepping down from his position this spring. Mr. Mealing thanked his colleagues and expressed his tremendous pride in being part of the organization and all it’s accomplished over the last eight years.

3. USS Foundation report

Mr. Schoon shared the status of the USS Foundation (“USSF”) Fund. The fund is down approximately \$200,000 from year end due to market conditions but is still maintaining a balance of approximately \$3.9 million. Mr. Schoon indicated that USS recently requested the 2021/22 contributions from USSF which in years past, were paid out on a quarterly basis. With USS having a positive cash flow, funds remained with the USSF until needed to maximize earnings.

4. USOPC Update

Mr. Morris shared that current USOPC BOD Chair, Susanne Lyons, will be terming out at the end of 2022. A new Chair will be selected at the upcoming Olympic Assembly in June. Mr. Morris updated the BOD on SLC’ 2030 Winter Olympic bid. Three major candidates for 2030 and 2034 have emerged including SLC, Vancouver and Sapporo. The SLC Bid Committee is doing great work and focused on bringing the Winter Olympics back to the U.S. as soon as possible

5. AAC Report

Mr. Bedford reported that the election for USS' AAC will start shortly. Several great candidates have been nominated. Four positions are up for election.

6. ISU Update

Mr. Morris reported on the upcoming ISU Congress scheduled for June in Phuket, Thailand. A top priority is supporting Pat St. Peter's candidacy to become the next ISU President. Nick Thometz' potential nomination as the Long Track Technical Committee Chair (or Committee Member) is also important. The BOD discussed other U.S. Candidates for various ISU elected and appointed positions.

Mr. Morris discussed work being done by a group of ISU Members to develop a more productive ISU event agreement for Short Track World Cups. National Federations need additional marketing rights to create a more mutually beneficial partnership. The existing model does not allow for National Federation Partners to be sponsors of ISU Events in a meaningful way.

For the 2022-23 season, USS and the Utah Olympic Oval will host a Short Track World Cup and the Short Track Four Continents Championships on back to back weekends in early November 2022.

7. 2022 USS Congress

The 2022 USS Congress will be held in person for the first time in three years. The Garden State Speedskating Club will host the Congress which will be held in Newark, NJ. USS will continue to utilize zoom to encourage remote participation for some of the Congress sessions. Kip Carpenter (athlete) and Carl Foster (contributor) will be inducted into the USS Hall of Fame on Friday night, May 20. The BOD meeting will be held on Saturday, May 21.

8. 2022 Election

Mr. Morris reported that the election for the General Member and Olympian Director positions are proceeding as outlined. Voting closes on April 4. The Nominating and Governance Committee will ratify the results and then staff will inform the membership of the results through Member News.

9. Executive Director Report

o High Performance

Post Olympics, staff has quickly transition to planning for the 2022/23 season and the 2026 quad. Departments will present performance reviews this week and then work on 2022-23 plans. A High-Performance plan is due to the USOPC by April 27. Staff conducted an Olympic-specific review including surveys of outside experts, athletes, and staff to gain feedback. The Board discussed their own observations related to Olympic Performance including how USS athletes battled on the ice and how well they represented Team USA off the ice.

Mr. Morris reported that the ISU moved the Short Track World Championships back 3 weeks to April 7-10. Because of the postponement, most of USS' top athletes will not compete at the event.

o Development / Membership

Mr. Morris previewed the U.S. Short Track Age Group Championships being held in Lake Placid April 1-3. 160 skaters have registered so far, and everyone is looking forward to a great competition. Staff continues to push Lake Placid to put in a Short Track hybrid pad system ahead of the 2023 World University Games. The BOD discussed other options in the U.S. that could put in a hybrid or boardless pad system.

The USS Tour of Olympians powered by Toyota will be starting soon. The three-week road show will take place April 3-21 through the mid-Atlantic, New England and Midwest areas of the country. The Tour will visit 23 clubs. Athletes are excited to participate in the Tour.

o Marketing / Fundraising

Mr. Morris shared that there USS has several significant sponsorship renewals this year including Toyota, UnderArmour, KT Tape, Reign and Salesforce. Mr. Carleton discussed the potential negative impact LA28 may have on sponsor opportunities for NGB's over the next six years.

Mr. Morris indicated that staff is looking at potential dates this summer for the annual bike camp and will finalize in the coming weeks.

10. **Legal / Safe Sport Update**

No updates to report.

11. **BOD Composition Discussion**

There was a discussion regarding Independent Directors qualifications and BOD composition.

12. **New Business**

No new business items.

13. **Executive Session**

Mr. Castelaz, Mr. Morris, and Mr. Schoon were excused from the meeting at 7:23 PM MST and an Executive Session was convened.

ACTION TAKEN ON MARCH 31, 2022 BY USS BOARD OF DIRECTORS SUBSEQUENT TO MEETING

The BOD moves to allow for 1 or 2 ex-officio Independent Directors through changes to section (6) six of the USS Bylaws. The language in the bylaws would be changed as follows (underlined below is added):

Section 6.5 Number of BOD Members

6.5.1 The Board of Directors shall have two (2) or three (3) non-voting ex officio members as follows:

(G) One (1) or two (2) Independent Directors as designated by the Board of Directors

Section 6.6 (B) Independent Directors

There shall be three (3) voting Independent Directors and one (1) or two (2) ex-officio Independent Directors.

Motion by Susan Sandvig Shobe. Second by Rusty Smith; Approved.