JOPLIN
SPORTS AUTHORITY

Minutes of the open session of the Joplin Sports Authority Board of Directors held Wednesday January 14th, 2026, at 2:00p.m. at Joplin Sports Authority Conference Room, 3301 W 1st Street, Joplin, MO 64801

CALL TO ORDER

Patty Vavra called the meeting to order at 2:04p.m.
Present: Patty Vavra, Chuck Copple, Dave Compton, Patrick Tuttle, Hunter Perry, JT Weber, Paul Bloomberg, Matt Hiatt, Ryan Cline (MSSU Associate Athletic Director for External Relations)
Absent: Mike Clark, Darieus Adams, Jhan Hurn
Staff & Guests: Jared Bruggeman, Lauren Johnson, Steve Taylor

Review of previous meeting minutes

JT Weber made a motion to approve the December 10th, 2025, board minutes as presented, seconded by Paul Bloomberg. Motion carried on an 8-0 vote.

Reports

A) **Executive Directors Report**— Jared discussed the progress of the planned Indoor Sports Venue. Shaun Buck has started the Sports Tourism Strategist program this past fall. The line of credit with Peoples bank still exists but will expire naturally in a couple more years, when all debt is paid. Summe baseball with Parkwood and others is good. JSA financials will be changing regarding support for the summer baseball tournaments moving forward. An MOU has not been signed for those tournaments, but JSA will be able to finish HOAT payments this month. The JSA Reserve Fund is up and running. The Missouri Department of Economic Development Amateur Sporting Tax Credit Program is still being tweaked. The first of the year JSA filed some of the reports and should expect some reimbursement in two or three months. Ben Miller met with JSA on December 3rd, a process was lined out, and the audit review was received. The Audit report was presented earlier today to the Budget and Audit Committee. The City Council Presentation will be in February; the focus will be the audit if approved by the Board. JSA Employee Compensation Committee meeting was postponed based on waiting results from City tax checks. There will be a discussion of elections of officers in the next few months. Meetings with the City Manager are continuing with discission making. JSA is continuing to grow the events schedule for FY 2026.

B) **Treasurers Report for November and December 2025 Financials (Presented by Steve Taylor)**— A motion was made by Matt Hiatt to approve the November 2025 financials, seconded by JT Weber. Motion carried on an 8-0 vote.

A motion was made by Patrick Tuttle to approve the December 2025 financials, seconded by Hunter Perry. Motion carried on an 8-0 vote.

C) Employee Compensation Committee Report—No report
D) Bylaws & Administration Policies Committee Report—No report
E) Budget & Audit Committee Report—Dave Compton presented the Budget and Audit report from Ben Miller and associate CPA Caleb. It was discussed that JSA has good management and accounting practices, internal controls are strong and there were no recommendations on training or modifications.

Event Report—

A) **Freeman Lady Eagles Classic**— There was nothing discussed on this event, waiting on numbers
B) **Neosho Classic**— There were 13 of 24 teams that stayed in Joplin for this event

C) **Kaminksy Classic**— 5 out of town teams stayed in Joplin and generated 72 room nights. JSA worked with SEQL for the athlete photos. JSA is waiting on more information about that.

Old Business—

A) **Peoples Bank of Seneca JSA Reserve Account Documentation**—It was discussed that the approval of Steve having access to the transfers between the accounts has been successful.

B) **Conflict of Interest forms and Board Packets**—Jared just reminded that board, for anyone who hadn't signed their COI to do so and turn into Lauren.

New Business—

A) **Turf Projects**—Paul Bloomberg discussed the replacement of the turf on Wendell Redden and Joe Becker baseball fields and the addition of turf at Gene Bassman softball complex. The project's completion if projected to be done by the end of February 2026. There will also be a rebid coming up for event scheduling for the ball facilities.

Patty Vavra adjourned the meeting at 2:56p.m.

Jared Bruggeman
Executive Director

Jhan Hurn
Board Chairman