JOPLIN
SPORTS AUTHORITY

Minutes of the open session of the Joplin Sports Authority Board of Directors held at 2:30 p.m. at Joplin City Hall, 5th Floor Study, 602 South Main, Joplin, Missouri, 64801 on May 10, 2017.

CALL TO ORDER

President Phil Metz called the meeting to order at 2:37 p.m.
Present: Phil Metz, Roger Doman, Jeff Starkweather, Wendi Douglas, Patrick Tuttle, Heather Arnold, Christopher Beyer, Jim Frazier, Paul Bloomberg.
Absent: Jared Bruggeman, Mark Turpen, Taylor Brown, Gary Nodler, Shawn Klosterman, Cathy Welsh.
Staff & Guests: Steve Taylor, Brittnie Harter, Matt Hiatt.

Agenda Items

Review of previous meeting minutes
Heather Arnold made a motion to approve the April 12, 2017 board minutes as presented, seconded by Jeff Starkweather, motion carried on a 9-0 vote.
Patrick Tuttle made a motion to approve the April 26, 2017 board minutes as amended to include Paul Bloomberg as present at the meeting, seconded by Paul Bloomberg, motion carried on a 9-0 vote.
Treasurers Report for April 2017 (Presented by Steve Taylor)
A motion was made by Wendi Douglas to accept the April 2017 Treasurers Report, seconded by Roger Doman, motion carried on a 9-0 vote.

Jeff Starkweather introduced Matt Hiatt as the new athletic director for Joplin Schools. Mr. Starkweather said the Joplin Schools Board of Education recently approved Matt to take over for Mr. Starkweather who is retiring after 13 years as the athletic director. Matt has spent the past three years as assistant athletic director.

Event Discussion

National
I. Premier Baseball Junior Championships — Mr. Hull said an agreement is in place with North America Sports Foundation and JSA; JSA has begun paying the $5,000 installments for the event. Event will feature 48 teams, 157 games over five days at nine venues.
II. AAU National Qualifying Track and Field Championships, June 22-25, 2017 — Mr. Hull said the event would return to Fred G. Hughes Stadium at MSSU for the first time since 2014. In 2015, the event was held at Carl Junction High School due to the field turf renovation at MSSU and in 2016, it was held in Lawrence, Kansas. Numbers are expected to be lower this year since the AAU Junior Olympics are being held outside of the Midwest. A site visit will be scheduled for some time in early June.
III. USA Track and Field National Qualifying Track and Field Championships, July 6-9, 2017 — Mr. Hull said USATF returns with its national qualifying meet for a second year allowing Joplin to host both AAU and USATF meets in the same year. The participation numbers for this event are expected to be much higher since the USATF Junior Olympics will be held in Lawrence, Kansas this summer.
IV. AABC Connie Mack/Mickey Mantle Baseball Qualifiers, June 15-18, June 29-July2, 2017 — Mr. Hull said in conversation with Mike Greninger on behalf of North America Sports Foundation, the number entries for the AABC events are low and they are exploring options including moving the Premier Senior Championship to Joplin.

State
I. MCSAA Spring Festival, May 4-6, 2017 — Mr. Hull said the event took place with no issues with eight girls' soccer teams and 12 games at two venues, 12 boys' baseball teams with 12 games at two venues

and track and field at Junge Stadium Friday and Saturday night. The weather cooperated and thanks to Paul Bloomberg and the staff of Joplin Parks and Recreation, the venues were in great shape.
II. NJCAA Region 16 Baseball Championship, May 11-14, 2017 — Mr. Hull said a coaches meeting will be held tonight. The four teams participating earned their spot in Joplin by winning best of three series last weekend. Games are scheduled, weather pending, for Thursday, Friday and Saturday, however Sunday is available in the event the tournament needs pushed back a day.
III. MIAA Baseball Championship, May 11-14, 2017 — Mr. Hull said Missouri Southern is hosting the MIAA Baseball Championships this week as teams arrived today for practice and the tournament begins tomorrow morning. MSSU has requested JSA's assistance with hospitality. Eight teams participating including MSSU.
IV. MSHSAA Class 4 State Boys Golf Championship, July 13-16, 2017 — Mr. Hull said eight schools and 80 individual players qualified last weekend at district tournaments. Sunday is the practice round; Monday and Tuesday will be the first and second rounds. Twin Hills is the host venue; JSA is assisting with manpower, equipment, supplies and hospitality.
V. Junior Babe Ruth 15-under State Baseball Championships — Mr. Hull said this is the first time Joplin has hosted a Babe Ruth state championship event and was the result of attending the Babe Ruth/Cal Ripken State meeting last November. Four-day tournament, featuring 16 teams from Missouri at Joe Becker and Wendell Redden Stadiums. JSA is responsible for umpires, baseballs and facilities, but will get to keep the gate and program revenues.
VI. Cal Ripken 8-under Midwest Plains Baseball Championships, July 27-30, 2017 — Mr. Hull said this is a first time event, in the past Cal Ripken Baseball (a subdivision of Babe Ruth Baseball for ages 12-under) Cal Ripken has sponsored district and state level competitions. Now, the national office is offering multi-state regional tournaments. This event will feature state champions from Colorado, Kansas, Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Manitoba and Saskatchewan, Canada, plus as many teams from Missouri who decide to participate. JSA is responsible for umpires, baseballs and facilities, but will get to keep the gate and program revenues.

Local
I. USSA Baseball Tournaments, March-July — Mr. Hull said weather cancelled two of the largest weekends of USSSA tournaments in April with 36 softball teams scheduled for April 22-23 and April 29-30 25 baseball teams. Last weekend, 19 baseball teams were entered into the tournament. Presently, both state baseball championship events in June are over 20 teams entered.
V. Mid-America Baseball Tournaments, May-July — Mr. Hull said he spoke with Mike Greninger and all four events have at least 20 teams registered at this time. The first tournament is taking place over Memorial Day weekend has 25 teams entered.

Old Business
A) Joplin CVB Tourism Master Plan — Mr. Tuttle said the independent tourism study was approved by council to move forward. He said a timetable will be set in the coming months, presently he is seeking 12-14 stakeholders including one sports stakeholder to provide input.
B) Joplin Area Sports Hall of Fame — Mr. Hull reminded board members to make reservations for the Hall of Fame Banquet scheduled for Friday, May 19 and the golf tournament on Saturday, May 20. Brittnie Harter said the banquet has over 150 RSVP's and the golf tournament has 12 teams at this time.
C) Becker/Redden Turf Project Funding — Paul Bloomberg said Joplin City Council approved the project on the first reading on a 6-3 vote. The project is scheduled to begin in August.

New Business
A) JSA Checking Account Signatures — Board chair Phil Metz said it is JSA policy employees cannot sign checks, therefore all checks must be signed by two board members as approved by the board of directors and this does not go into effect until the board nominates, votes to approve the board members and then it is

recorded in the minutes and approved at the next board meeting. Jeff Starkweather resigning as athletic director, it is time to identify new board members to sign checks.
Wendi Douglas made a motion to authorize Jim Frazier, Roger Doman, Matt Hiatt and Phil Metz to sign Joplin Sports Authority checks on all JSA bank accounts and to remove Jeff Starkweather from the authorized signature list. Patrick Tuttle seconded the motion and the motion carried on a 9-0 vote.

Any Other Business

Next board meeting will be held at Joplin City Hall Fifth Floor Study Room, Joplin, Missouri 64801 on June 14, 2017 at 2:30 pm.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Phil Metz, seconded by Christopher Beyer, motion carried on a 9-0 vote. Meeting adjourned at 3:28 p.m.

Craig Hull
Director

Phil Metz
Board Chairman