**These Minutes are not official, they need to be approved by the Board at a meeting**

**Florida Amateur Wrestling Association, Inc.**

**Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**

**Virtual via Zoom**

**Wednesday, August 7, 2024 at 8:30 PM EDT**

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**8:41 PM EDT**

**Announcement of Quorum Call to Order/Welcome:** John Lawton, Secretary, indicated that a quorum was present so Bill Crum, President, called the meeting to order at 8:34 PM EDT.

**Present were**: Steve Mocco, Bill Crum, John Lawton, Steven Price, David Mason, Daisy Santos, Chris McNealy, Zach Deaton, Kathryn “Kate” Mocco, Jamey Ketler, Conor Beebe, Roy Wolgamuth, Travis Laxton, Jeremiah LaFountain, JD Ramsey, Humberto Miret, Tom McMath, Erik Manning and Josh McIntosh,

**Absent were:** Mervin Ford, Jonathan Taylor, Joshua Grube, Brian Abdon, Chris Kelly, Shawn Sheldon, Michael DiGrigoli, Mike Palazzo, Art Mosley, Dwight Spence, Alfonso Rojas, Matt Avramidis, Hunter Hill and Eric Lamazares.

**Guest present**: Doug Bartelt, Fox Baldwin

Meeting Etiquette – Reminder – USA Wrestling Cards and SafeSport which is Annual are required to hold Board positions and to vote. New Cards are required for all for the 2024-25 Season.

John Lawton made a motion, 2nd by Steven Price, to approve the Minutes of FAWA Board of Directors Meeting on June 26, 2024. The motion was passed without objection.

Filling Board Vacancies – no action, will be filled at Area Meetings.

A – Directors

1 - Southeast

C – Alternates

1 – East

2 - Northwest

3 – Southeast

4 – Southwest

Membership Figures as of August 6, 2024 – John Lawton

A- Athletes – 4,233 +18% 63% new

B- Leaders – 487 +17% 43% new

C- Clubs – 105 +12% 31% new

D- Events – 54 +42%

F - Income $72,995 +20%

Financial Report: FAWA Financial Status as of July 31, 2024 – John Lawton for Jonathan Taylor

Checking $80,374.89

Venmo $0.00,

Savings $8,117.80,

Total Monies $88,492.69

Net Income to Date $?

Zack Deaton made a motion, 2nd by everybody, to approve the Financial Report. The mostion was passed without objection.

New Business:

1. Executive Board Member Reports

A – State Chairman, Steve Mocco make a motion, 2nd by John Lawton, to hold the Annual Meeting on Saturday, September 7, starting at 2pm edt, in the Orlando Area. The motion was passed without objection.

JT Taylor will seek to find a location near the Orlando Airport. The meeting will also be available via Zoom.

B – Vice Chairman, Mervin Ford – absent, no report

C – Bill Crum, President’s Report: David Mason, made a motion, 2nd by John Lawton, to table any discussion of a Board Restructure or Change of Bylaws until the Annual Meeting. The motion was passed without objection.

1.       At the Annual meeting the following Statewide offices are up for election for a two-year term. These positions are open to any adult member of USAW. One does not need to be on the current board to be elected.

a.      State Chairman (If a nominee is not currently a member of the Board, he/she is required to be a member of FAWA for at least 5 years)

b.      Vice Chairman

c.      Secretary

d. National Teams Director

e.      Events Director

2-      AREA DIRECTORS – You should schedule a meeting for any time between the end of Fargo and August 31

a.      East (Chris Kelly absent no recommendation

b.      Central - Brian Abdon told John Lawton at the Lake Gibson tournament on August 3 that he will not be seeking reelection and that Mr. Lawton should schedule the date of the meeting. Mr. Lawton said that he will consult with the remaining Central Area Directors, Jamey Ketler and Conor Beebe, on the best date for them.

c.      Southeast (Shawn Sheldon) absent, no report

d.      Southwest, Mike DiGrigoli contacted John Lawton for a date but Mr. Lawton told Mr. DiGrigoli that as Area Director, he should set the date.

4.      Area elections require a quorum of 7.5% of the adult members living in the area. We have had trouble achieving number in a few areas over the last few years so please get with John Lawton before the July Board Meeting so that we can advertise the dates in a timely manner.

a.      Areas with no elections scheduled should poll their current Board members to see if they wish to continue to serve.

b. Northeast Chris McNealy

c. Northwest Zack Deaton will hold a meeting to fill a vacant Alternate position on Wednesday August 28 at 7:30 pm cdt.

d. South Kate Mocco said the meeting will be held on August 17 at 2 pm edt

D – Treasurer, Jonathan Taylor, absent, delegated John Lawton to give the report and make the motions approved at the Finance Committee meeting to the Board for approval

E – Secretary, John Lawton reported that he had completed an application to Renew the License to seek Charitable Contributions from the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS).

Mr. Lawton reported that he had just received a letter from FDACS that stated there was a deficiency in the application and that FAWA had until September 11, 2024 to have a revised application in Tallahassee.

The deficiency is that FAWA does not have a “conflict of interest policy” which all Directors have read and understand.

Mr. Lawton will work with Bill Crum to revise the USA Wrestling Conflict of Interest Policy to make it appropriate for FAWA. The new policy will be emailed to all Board Members for a vote to approve and for the Directors to attest that they have read and understand the policy.

A – USA Wrestling Card Fees – David Mason made a motion, 2nd by Kate Mocco, to increase the cost of the Full Athlete Card to $55 and the Wrestling Leader card to $75 effective with the 24-25 USA Wrestling Membership Year. The motion was passed without objection.

i Full Athlete Card, currently $50; USA is raising the Fee to us by $3; Finance Committee recommends increasing the fee to $55

ii Leader Card, currently $60, USA Wrestling is raising the fee to us by $17; Finance Committee recommends raising the fee to $75

iii Open License. USA Wrestling is raising the cost but we are not sure what it will be. FAWA has no say on that cost, nor does it receive any income from sale of that card.

F – Events Director, Steven Price.

a - Fall Folkstyle Tour of Florida – Steve Price, no discussion

b – plans for two Folkstyle States – Steve Price gave the floor to Fox Baldwin for him to discuss plans for having two Folkstyle State tournament to follow what USA Wrestling has done with its Folkstyle Nationals.

Starting in 2024, USA Wrestling has two Folkstyle Nationals, one for 8u-14u in Fort Wayne, Indiana on Jan, 24-26, 2025 and a second for 16u, Juniors and Men’s Master in Iowa on March 14-16, 2025.

c – The plan for FAWA is to have a Folkstyle States for 14u and under, with regional tourneys on Jan 4 & 5; Then a Challenge Tournament and State Finals on Jan 11 & 12

d – The second Folkstyle States will be a 16u, Juniors, Rookies JVs and Men’s Masters State Championships, on March 7-9 with a Festival for 14u and under.

Fox Baldwin has been designated to serve as Event Director for the new 14u and under States in January. Conor Beebe will be among those on a committee to help put this event together.

Discussion on this new event will continue at the Annual Meeting

e – plans to cohost FAWA States/Spartan Nationals in Kissimmee on May 30-June 1 David Mason made a motion, 2nd by Zach Deaton, to designate Kate Mocco as the FAWA rep to meet with Spartan on plans for the event. The motion was passed with no objection

b - Events at Wiregrass Ranch Sports Campus in Pasco County – Jamey Ketler – no discussion

c - USA Events at Lake Gibson in August – there will be two more tournaments on August 10 &17.

G – State Teams Director, David Mason gave a report on Fargo. He said all were very pleased with Team Florida.

a – Report of Team Florida at Fargo

b – All Americans

Men’s 16u Freestyle:

4th Place Jovani Solis 132

6th Place Tyree Graham 157

7th Place Jovani Tovar 113

8th Kawayran Vazquez 157

8th Place Peter Mocco 190

Men’s Junior Freestyle

5th Place Zeno Moore 144

7th Place Claudio Torres 157

7th Place Gunner Holland 165

Men’s 16u Greco

2nd Place Jovani Solis 138

8th Place Reid Yates 120

Men’s Junior Greco

5th Place Roderick Brown 106

7th Place Alex Smith 190

8th Place Anderson Heap 150

H – Women’s Director, Daisy Santos asked if there can be a social media site for Girls Wrestling. John Lawton, said he will be discussing how that could be set up within the new FAWA website when he is at the State Leaders Summit in Colorado Springs, next week.

a - Report of Women wrestlers at Fargo. Daisy Santos reported that the Girls Team had to stay an extra day/night in Fargo because the bus that was to provide transportation broke down and was not available to the next day

b. All Americans

Women’s 16u Freestyle

4th Place Abigail Gonzalez 106

7th Place Latoya Sylvestri 190

Women’s Junior Freestyle

3rd Place Mya Bethel 155

5th Place Milana Borrelli 120

6th Place Christina Borgmann 130

8th Place Kinea Moore 285

J – Officials, Director, Josh Grube: 6 mat officials represented Florida in Fargo – Josh Grube, Jonathan Grube, Kevin Jensen, Jason Bonney, Tim Condit and Jim Prendergast.

1. Proposal by Bill Crum for New Board Structure – tabled until the Annual Meeting
2. Area Director Reports New Clubs and Tourneys in Area

A Central – Brian Abdon; SEU Free Clinic, Lakeland, July 31; Advanced Camp at Wiregrass Ranch High School, July 31- August 2; No Bull IBT Pasco District Park Wesley Chapel August 4

B East – Chris Kelly; A1A Melbourne wants to host a tourney

C Northeast – Chris McNealy

D Northwest – Zach Deaton; Burdhouse Wrestling, Ocala;

E South – Kate Mocco: Wester Mat Cats Team Camera, Western High, Fort Lauderdale; State Champ Camp, South Dade July 26-28;

F Southeast - Shawn Sheldon;

G Southwest – Michael DiGrigoli;

1. USA Wrestling State Leaders Summit, Colorado Springs August 14-16, 2024; Bill Crum, John Lawton, David Mason and JT Taylor are going
2. New FAWA Website on Sports Connect – John Lawton will connect with Sports Connect reps at State Leaders Summit.

He said that he didn’t get any response to his offer to Members of the Board to be involved in creating a New Web site.

1. WIN Magazine Florida State Notebook Page – Kate Mocco’s article was on the Fargo tourney with several great pictures provided by Mr. Ward.
2. Open Floor – no discussion
3. Next Meeting Date – August 21, 2024

Meeting Adjournment – Chris McNealy made a motion, 2nd by Steve Price, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed without objection and the meeting was adjourned at 10:04 pm edt.

Minutes prepared by John Lawton Secretary FAWA [teamflorida2021@gmail.com](mailto:teamflorida2021@gmail.com), (727) 479-3978