

Washington Science Olympiad
Minutes
Board of Directors Meeting
May 2, 2015 9-11AM

Present: Sheila Guard (Treasurer), Jonas LaPier (Student Advisor), Jay Loutherbach, Judy Mannard, Scott McComb (Vice Chair), Michele Moore, Sue Murphy (State Director), Diana Rhodes, Clarene Ricarte (Secretary), Chemay Shola (Student Advisor), Jack Stump (Chair).

- I. **Call to Order by Chairman Jack Stump at 9 am.**
- II. **Roll Call** with those present listed above
- III. **Approval of Minutes** (1/10/15) Approved by proper motion, second and vote
- IV. **Reports**
 - a. **Treasurer – Curently \$7907.01 in savings with approximately \$4,457.01 available. Checking currently \$4789.66 with approximately \$2,000 at the end of the fiscal year.**
 - b. **State Director** - reported 149 teams registered which was up overall, but there was a decline in C teams. Of the 76 B teams, five were from Oregon and not available to advance to state tournament. There was a possibility of two B teams to advance to National competition. Several schools lost multiple teams. A positive was noted that there is already a request from new schools without recruiting so word of mouth is working. There is still a need for one more board nomination for the board. With the bylaws requirement of having the nomination 60 days prior to the meeting, we may need to be creative about filling the final position. There also may be a need to look at mending the bylaws to allow for less time between the close of nominations and the election with the implementation of electronic voting.
 - c. **Regional Boards**
 - i. Eastern - Regional competition was held on March 7 with no appeals.
 - ii. Northwest – Good news that Seattle Central will host regional competition on more time. They have two potential dates on the table. The other at Highline went smoothly. There were a couple of arbitrations because of broken equipment, but it went generally smoothly. State was a little tight in some areas, but with 175 volunteers it went smoothly. The feedback from coaches was mainly positive. There were four arbitrations, but they also went smoothly.
 - iii. South Central – Regional competition was held on February 4 which was very early. There were ten teams and some schools brought more people. It went smoothly and the students were better prepared. They had a few ethical disqualifications – one i-phone violation; one language and two teams from the same school had identical build event machines that a father had built. They were unable to spend all of their grant money. Next year’s tournament will be on February 20.
 - iv. Southwest – Regional competition was on March 7. It went well with 23 teams. Looking at where the regionals will be held next year.
 - d. **Committees**
 - Funding – Update on grants/contributions (Sue) – Almost \$1000 in contributions came in with some earmarked. This is the most that has been seen in donations. Fundraising Update (especially as related to covering state tournament expenses) – Most of the donations went toward state costs. Highline put out \$7000 with \$7000 from the board and \$3000 in corporate donations and each team was asked to donate \$100. The donation box at the Highline Regional tournament netted nearly \$600.

V. **Old Business**

- a. 3-year board terms (1) By-laws update – wording was tabled until Judy is able to send out more wording probably in about a week. (2) implementation plan – Scott will resend implementation wording at the same time that Judy sends out working.
- b. Electronic balloting – implementation plan: With the voting almost unanimous, a motion was made to move forward with electronic balloting in the form of e-mail to the state director who will tally the votes and report back to the board. If problems are discovered, the board will review. Motion was seconded and passed.
- c. State Tournament (Sue/Judy/Jack) – including update for 2016, 2017 & 2018: University of Washington has declined. University of Washington Bothell may be interested in regional or state. Sheila reported the the gymnasium space may be an issue. With Heather McKuen retiring Eastern Washington University may be a problem unless someone is found to replace her. A question was raised as to whether Central Washington University would consider being a permanent site for state. However, the staff has been too busy to assist South Central so that may not be an option. Eastern is moving to committees and that is working well but would still need a tournament director overseeing. One person is a potential, but is currently on overtime and would need to be paid “double overtime”. It was mentioned that we may need to be open to non-traditional solutions such as different dates for B and C in different locations or two day tournaments utilizing smaller facilities. Everett is probably closed, but we can ask again. Western Washington University will be approached by Jack as well as University of Washington at Bothell. Highline could be a state site, but NOT both a regional and state site. Sheila, Scott and Judy will work on what the Northwest options could be such as Lake Washington Vocational Tech or Mount Vernon.
- d. Test Bank Update (Judy) : Judy questioned whether she should continue to work on the google drive test bank. It is generally agreed that it IS helpful to have tests sent to supervisors when available, but it is a lot of work unless there is way to better utilize it, it is a lot of work to continue maintenance.
- e. Event Supervisor Preparation (Scott M) Collaboration between regional and state supervisors is important for many reasons. It allows regional tests to be used more than once. It provides better communication. The state event supervisors this year appreciated the input. There is probably a need for a state tournament supervisor to make the collaboration happen. If deadlines for tests are set so someone else can review the test, there are less issues. Sheila, Scott and Judy will look at a model to bring to the summer meeting.
- f. Plaque Recognition: Judy Mannard was nominated and more information will follow.

VI. **New Business**

- a. Annual Meeting – when & where (especially considering by-laws requirements): Probably on June 27th in Yakima. A survey was sent out electronically and e-mail will follow up to firm date, place and time.
- b. Tournament Support (Sue) – funding/possibility of increasing registration fees: If we increased by \$10 it would not be enough. It would need to be a substantial increase to make it a viable option. Please bring ideas to the next meeting.
- c. Proposal for state/regional test preparation tabled until next meeting
- d. Publish board minutes to website to allow more public input was tabled to be reviewed at the next meeting with questions answered regarding legality issues.

VII. Next Meeting – (to be announced ”) Adjournment at 11:13 a.m.

Clarene Ricarte, Secretary