MINUTES
North Dakota High School Activities Association
February 7, 2018, Valley City, ND

The Board of Directors of the North Dakota High School Activities Association held a special meeting on February 7, 2018 in Valley City. President Dahlen called the meeting to order at 9:04 am.

Members present: Dahlen, Schafer, Manley, Jordan, Sorlie, Privratsky, Vollmer, Stedman, Baesler

Members absent: Carlson, Strand

Others present: Dave Nelson, Hillsboro High School Athletic Director

Motion to approve the agenda by Privratsky. Second by Sorlie. Motion approved unanimously.

Motion to approve the consent agenda by Sorlie. Second by Vollmer. Motion approved unanimously.

Consent Agenda

1. Approval of Consent Agenda
2. Coop Applications
           (1) Dickinson and New England in gymnastics, 7-12, 2018-19, no fee

The Board reviewed the previously tabled Hillsboro High School request. Hillsboro High School requests students from Norman County West (MN) High School who finish the current school year at Norman County West be immediately eligible for varsity competition at Hillsboro High School. Norman County West School is closing grades 6-12 starting with the 2018-2019 school year and have tuition agreements to send students to Ada-Borup (MN) High School. The request is for any students from Norman County West who enroll in the Hillsboro School District the first day of school in the 2018-19 school year to be immediately eligible for varsity competition in Hillsboro High School. Following the start of the school year in Hillsboro, any students who transfer to Hillsboro schools will be subject to NDHSAA transfer rules.

The Board requested Executive Director Fetsch contact the Minnesota State High School League (MSHSL) and Norman County West High School with additional questions. Fetsch presented additional information. In accordance with MSHSL rules of eligibility, Norman County West students will be eligible for varsity competition only at Ada-Borup High School. Enrollment at any other Minnesota high school would make students ineligible for varsity competition for one year. The Minnesota Department of Education has previously denied students varsity eligibility under these circumstances. Fetsch also talked to the Norman County West High School who indicated they were going to meet with Hillsboro administration last week.

Dave Nelson, Hillsboro High School Athletic Director, indicated Hillsboro and Norman County West High Schools have an agreement in principle for tuition of students for the 2018-19 school-year. This has not yet been approved by either Board.

In previous North Dakota high school closing cases the schools involved have been member schools and the school which is closing made the request.

Board members were reminded that whatever decision is made concerning this request, a precedent will be set for similar situations. There are other schools on the North Dakota border that may be in the same position should a district choose to re-organize. It was also noted that home-school families from out of state are not North Dakota residents and must follow their state's applicable laws and/or eligibility rules.

Schafer stated NDHSAA and MSHSL rules are not the same. Manley questioned how many students living in Hillsboro attend Norman County West schools. Dave Nelson indicated no Hillsboro residents are currently attending Norman County West schools.

Motion by Vollmer to deny the Hillsboro request citing a contradiction to a MSHSL rule. Second by Privratsky. Roll call vote: Dahlen - yes, Schafer- yes, Manley- no, Jordan - yes, Sorlie - yes, Privratsky - yes, Vollmer - yes, Stedman - no, Baesler – yes. Motion approved (7-2).

Next Board meetings are scheduled as follows:
      Class B District Chair Meeting – March 16, 2018 – Ramkota Hotel – Bismarck
      Combined Tournament Committee – April 9, 2018 – Ramada Inn – Fargo
      Board of Directors Meeting – April 10, 2018 – NDHSAA Office – Valley City

Meeting was adjourned at 9:24 am

Respectfully submitted,
Brenda Schell
Assistant Director

Signed: _____ Approved Date: _____/_____/_____