

Texas Interscholastic Swimming and Diving Officials

Minutes of the Annual General Membership Meeting

Holiday Inn Mid-Town, Austin, Texas

February 16, 2020



PLEASE NOTE: These Minutes have been approved by the Board of Directors, but cannot be finally approved by the General Membership until the Annual Membership meeting in February of 2021!

The February 2020 Annual General Membership Meeting of the Texas Interscholastic Swimming and Diving Officials was called to order at 9:10 AM on February 16, 2020, at the Holiday Inn Midtown Hotel, Austin, Texas, by Chairperson Gloria Schuldt.

Present at the meeting were: Board members Gloria Schuldt, Janet Cranmer, Brian Walls, Chris Lysinger, Bob Lang, Roger Graham, Jim Holcomb, and Jennifer Mangum. El Paso Board Member, John Bernhard was unable to attend. General members in attendance were: Wayne Lewoczko, Kipp Degutis, Lorna Anaya, Mike Swaim, Stephanie Minervini, Edwin Schussler, and Kim Schussler.

Chairperson Gloria Schuldt called the meeting to order and welcomed members in attendance at our second annual general membership meeting. A brief history of the organization was given, emphasizing that while the organization began with an appointed Board and as a part of the UIL, that is no longer true, and instead TISDO is a fully elected Board with our own financial account and by laws. She explained that we are applying for 501 C (3) status which our treasurer will cover in his report. Our mission was explained as it is to enhance communication, identify problems, and provide training for officials that is consistent across the state. Information is posted on our website at www.tisdo.org and is updated regularly by our webmaster, Roger Graham. The approved training is also available on our website.

Next, The Chair explained that the secretary's report is sent out after each meeting via email with any additions and corrections provided and a vote taken. The last minutes were voted upon, passed and are posted. She asked if anyone had any additional changes or questions about those minutes. With none, a motion was made by Mr. Lang and seconded by Ms Mangum to accept the minutes as presented and posted on the TISDO web page. The motion passed.

Treasurer Brian Walls then presented the treasurer's report and provided an updated financial explanation for the 2019-2020 year thus far. The treasurer's report indicated that there were 762 paid and registered members this year for 2019-2020. Ms Cranmer mentioned that due to a problem with Arbiter, it took longer than usual to verify everyone who registered, paid, and tested to create a list to order name tags for 2019-2020. Ms Cranmer contacted everyone who she found that perhaps they did not pay before testing and verified everyone with one person needing to provide payment, which they did. The history of why our registration fees rose to \$50.00 / year when we first organized was explained that it was an amount set by the UIL. Once we were established and saw our expenses and became independent of the UIL, the current TISDO Board voted to reduce the amount to be more in line with expenses required to operate for one year, with the option to raise them from the current \$30.00 / year if ever needed. Name tag expenses were explained since there were questions about why we order each year. The name tags change color to serve as proof of yearly registration, however due to the cut off of the registration date, name tags are not completed and mailed by Hasty until late November or early December. Dr Graham inquired about names used on the tags since one person received his tag saying "No Middle Initial.". That was because it is what the person wrote on his registration. After some discussion, it was decided to put a statement on the registration and on the web page that people shall register using the name and spelling they wish to have on their badge. Mr. Walls continued to explain other items listed on his report and that the actual budget is presented at the August meeting. A motion was made by Mr. Lysinger and seconded by Ms Cranmer to accept the treasurer's report as presented. The motion passed.

The number of NFHS Rules Books purchased for distribution for 2019-2022 was increased to 850 from 800. Mr. Lang and Ms Cranmer explained how they distribute rules books via clinics when possible and that some people may actually take a book and not pay registration, but it was decided long ago that we would not require proof of registration at clinics prior to taking a book. Edwin Schussler asked about the possibility of doing a mass mailing to send all rules books out when received in late August. All board members stated that they would look at mailing books when requested, but it is the responsibility of members who do not attend clinics to contact a board member to have a book mailed to them. Board members would have no way of knowing who planned to re-register for the next year if the prior year's roster was used and would still need to find any new officials who register later. Dr Graham noted that while clinics are not required, it is very beneficial to attend a clinic each year to meet others and have some socializing as well as to train and discuss rule changes. Ms Cranmer mentioned that at her clinics, she tries to match up experienced officials with new officials so they have mentors for the year perhaps at the same schools working together. Janet reminded everyone that the Power Point posted on the web page is created using any rule changes, input and interpretations from our State Interpreter, Dr Holcomb, input from the board, and the new rules book each season. Those presenting clinics are encouraged to use these TISDO materials to ensure our mission to provide consistency in our interpretations and training is successful.

The Chair had some updates to announce from the UIL. First, now that Water polo has been approved as a UIL sport, the UIL is currently discussing how Water Polo Officials will form an organization or join an existing organization, possibly TISDO. Ms Cranmer asked that if Water Polo officials choose to join TISDO, that they will be given a board position on the TISDO Board. The Chair also updated everyone present on the status of the possibility of a 4-A category for swimming and diving and a separate 4-A State Meet. She will keep us updated on this as currently approximately 100 schools are needed for this to pass and the UIL to establish Class 4-A Swimming and Diving.

Our final agenda item for this General Membership Meeting was the election of four seats on the TISDO Board. Up for election are the seats originally appointed and currently being held by Ms Cranmer, Mr. Lysinger, Dr Graham, and Mr. Bernhard. Ms Magnum, chairperson of the Nominating Committee, reported that all four current Board Members wished to remain on the TISDO Board and had been nominated.

Mike Swaim asked if the TISDO By-Laws were currently still in a draft form. The Chair explained that our By Laws have been completed and voted upon, as well as posted on the TISDO Web Site for some time. The By-Laws and all minutes are posted on the website for anyone to review if they have questions. Mr. Swaim stated that he had several "proxies" in his brief case from members he and another member had solicited to bring for the election. His concern is that the Board Meeting is held and many members cannot attend the meeting to vote and asked about an amendment to the By Laws. The Chair explained that while that concern was considered and discussed when the By Laws were completed, it was decided to require that members be present to vote to avoid fraud and other concerns. Mr. Lysinger and Mr. Schussler also added that they have experience with certifying proxies and the time and expense to verify proxies is such that it is not something TISDO finds cost effective or appropriate. Regarding the concern about members not attending, it was explained that the TISDO Annual Meeting for elections is usually after the State Swim Meet when many members attend to work the State Meet or attend to support swimmers which then provides a good opportunity for many officials to attend the TISDO meeting in Austin, which is a central location. Up until this date, with one exception, no member has ever attended a meeting until today. The Chair also explained that the By Laws provide for the Board to move the election to another time and place if needed. An example was the meeting held in Dallas and in San Antonio where the first election of the TISDO Board was held in August 2019. At that August meeting, Ms Schuldt, Mr. Lang, Mr. Walls, and Ms Magnum were formally elected to the board. Their positions will be up for election at the February Meeting in 2021. The four positions to be elected at this annual meeting will be for two-year terms expiring in February of 2022.

At this point, The Chair called for any nominations from the floor. Stephanie Minervini was recognized by The Chair and nominated Mike Swaim to run for one of the four board positions. The nomination was seconded by Kipp Deguitis. Since there were now five names placed in nomination for four TISDO Board positions, paper ballots were provided for those present to write down the names of those they wished to elect to the new board. The Chair reminded everyone of the requirement to be on the TISDO Board, members must be present regularly and after missing two consecutive board meetings, that member's position would be in jeopardy. Mr. Swaim commented that "I hope I lose," at which time Ms Cranmer reminded all present that serving on the TISDO Board is an honor and commitment and those running for a board seat must agree to ethically follow the TISDO By Laws and work together for the good of all officials. She added it is not a paid position or one of any power, but of service to fellow high school swim officials and should not be taken lightly. Mr. Swaim stated he was joking, and agreed it would be an honor if elected. Ballots were then collected and counted by Ms Mangum. The TISDO Board members elected were: Janet Cranmer, Chris Lysinger, Roger Graham, and Mike Swaim.

Dr Holcomb asked to make a comment, stating that this newly elected board no longer provides representation for El Paso, and a large region of West Texas is now left unrepresented. He lives in El Paso, but he holds an appointed position by the UIL as the State Interpreter and State Meet Referee. He also noted that it was our hope to provide geographical representation when we first established a TISDO Board, but in the process of writing the By Laws, this geographical representation was no longer considered necessary by the members of the Board present when this was voted upon for the By Laws. Mr. Lysinger mentioned that he continues to answer questions and supply rules books to many members in West Texas and Ms Mangum is from Midland to help. Ms Cranmer also added that she hopes that John Bernhard will continue to conduct clinics and be an ad-hoc member of the TISDO Board much like Pat Nelson serves to support our mission in the Corpus Christi area.

With no other business, a motion was made by Dr Graham and seconded by Ms Mangum to adjourn. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 10:05 AM.

Everyone present was invited to stay since the TISDO Board Meeting that followed was open for anyone to attend.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Cranmer
TISDO Secretary