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2018  
WISCONSIN INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION  
ANNUAL MEETING  
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Annual meeting reported by Monica M.  
Hunkins, RPR, a Notary Public in and for the State of  
Wisconsin, at the Holiday Inn, 1001 Amber Avenue,  
Stevens Point, Wisconsin, on the 25th day of April,  
2018, commencing at 9:00 a.m. and ending at 10:29  
a.m.

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P R O C E E D I N G S

MR. WINCH: All right. We're going to get started here in the next minute or so. So if you could find your seat, that would be appreciated.

Okay. Okay. I'm going to call this meeting to order and ask everybody to silence or turn off their cell phones at this time.

My name is Scott Winch, and I'm the superintendent of the Stratford School District. I'm also the president of the Board of Control for the -- for this school year.

For those of you wondering, before we get going too much further, the WiFi password for this room today is all lower case letters, S-T-A- -- S-T-E-A-A, S-T-E-A-A.

Okay. As I said, as we get going here, we have registration today from 489 people and 430 schools.

The meeting materials that are included in your packets today are a name tag, pen, your voting ballots, some My Reason Why posters from NFHS, applications for the Award of Excellence, which Stephanie Hauser will talk about in a little bit today, and -- and that should be everything that's in

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1 your packet.

2 If you don't have the -- the ballots or  
3 anything, I think you can go to the back of the room,  
4 and -- and they'll take care of it.

5 Some introductions. Up at the front  
6 with me today is Eric Coleman, who is the  
7 president-elect of the Board. Steve Knecht is the  
8 treasurer of the Board. Dave Anderson, executive  
9 director. Wade Labecki, deputy director.

10 MR. LABECKI: Good morning.

11 MR. WINCH: Dr. Edward Miller is the  
12 parliamentarian today. Brent Jacobson is the legal  
13 counsel for the WIAA. Julie Kage is the -- the  
14 assistant to the director. And Monica Hunkins --  
15 Hunkins - I'm sorry - of Willette Court Reporting  
16 will record the meeting minutes for today.

17 If you have any written statements that  
18 you're going to read during the open forum, I would  
19 ask that you bring those up and hand them to me or  
20 somebody up here at the front table.

21 Other introductions today. Board  
22 members in attendance: Dennis Birr from New Lisbon,  
23 Pam Foegen from Regis, Luke Francois from Mineral  
24 Point, Ted Knutson from Aquinas, Bernie Nikolay from  
25 Cambridge, Eric Russell from Baldwin-Woodville, Dave

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1 Steavpack from Manitowoc, and Bill Yingst, Senior,  
2 from Durand-Arkansaw.

3 Staff members that are with us today:  
4 Tom Shafranski, the assistant director; Stephanie  
5 Hauser, assistant director; Kate Peterson Abiad,  
6 assistant director; Todd Clark, communications  
7 director; Eric Dziak, technology coordinator; Joan  
8 Gralla, the office manager; Kassie McGettigan,  
9 director of business operations and ticketing; Megan  
10 Pollack, social media and graphics specialist; and  
11 Sheila Schulfer, administrative assistant to  
12 Stephanie Hauser.

13 Other Board liaisons: John Ashley I  
14 don't think could be with us today from the School  
15 Board Association, Mike Thompson from the DPI I don't  
16 think is with us today, and Jeremy Schlitz from WADA  
17 is here with us today.

18 I would also ask at this time any  
19 Advisory Council members to please stand and be  
20 recognized if you are in attendance.

21 Thank you.

22 Sports Advisory members, please stand  
23 and be recognized.

24 Thank you.

25 Okay. And also with us today, we have

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1 a special guest, Doug Chickering, Emeritus Director  
2 of the WIAA is present and should be recognized as  
3 well.

4 Doug, will you stand, please.

5 (Applause.)

6 MR. WINCH: We also have a number of  
7 people from the media with us today. We thank them  
8 for participating in the meeting as well.

9 The minutes of the 2017 annual meeting  
10 were approved by the Board of Control at their  
11 meeting in May of 2017. They're found on the website  
12 and also in the yearbook.

13 At this time I'm going to turn the  
14 microphone over to Steve Knecht, the treasurer, and  
15 he will give you the treasurer's report.

16 MR. KNECHT: If you turn your attention  
17 to page 14 in your program, you will find the  
18 treasurer's report.

19 Within the contents of this page, you  
20 will notice that the report goes back to 2015 and  
21 shows projections through the remainder of this year  
22 and an outlook into the 2018-'19 school year. I'm  
23 pleased to be able to present this to you today and  
24 show you the WIAA is in good fiscal shape. We  
25 continue to experience financial stability while no

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1 longer collecting membership dues or fees, and we  
2 still provide complementary rule books. Our  
3 organization is extremely proud to reimburse our  
4 schools and did so, a total over \$2.7 million in  
5 2017.

6 The Board is very aware of its  
7 responsibility in overseeing the Association's  
8 finances and is very supportive of the executive  
9 director's guidance in executing the Association's  
10 budget.

11 I'll take questions or turn it over to  
12 Scott to entertain a motion for approval of the  
13 treasurer's report.

14 MR. WINCH: Okay. When making motions,  
15 whether it's the treasurer's report or the  
16 amendments, if you would state your name and the  
17 school you represent, it would be appreciated.

18 So I will now take a motion to approve  
19 the treasurer's report as presented.

20 MR. SLACK: I so move. Terry Slack,  
21 (inaudible) Wisconsin Dells (inaudible).

22 MR. WINCH: Motion by Terry Slack,  
23 Wisconsin Dells.

24 Is there a second?

25 MR. BREITLOW: Second. Ty Breitlow,

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1 Chilton.

2 MR. WINCH: Second by Ty Breitlow from  
3 Chilton.

4 Any other discussion?

5 (No response.)

6 MR. WINCH: Okay. Hearing none, all  
7 those in favor, say aye.

8 ALL: Aye.

9 MR. WINCH: Opposed?

10 (No response.)

11 MR. WINCH: Motion carries.

12 At this time I would ask Joan Gralla to  
13 come up, and she will present the results from the  
14 elections that were held earlier this spring.

15 MS. GRALLA: Good morning, everyone.

16 Board of Control.

17 District 2, Scott Winch, superintendent  
18 of Stratford, was reelected to a three-year term.

19 District 5, Willy Chambers, district  
20 administrator of Blackhawk, was elected to a  
21 three-year term.

22 Gender At-Large: Colleen Timm,  
23 district administrator of Antigo, was elected to a  
24 three-year term.

25 And the Advisory Council.

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1                   Large schools: Roger Rindo,  
2                   superintendent of Oconomowoc, and Nic Been, associate  
3                   principal of River Falls, were both reelected to  
4                   three-year terms.

5                   Matt Hendrickson, assistant principal  
6                   of Madison Memorial, was elected to a three-year  
7                   term.

8                   Medium schools: Jim Brewer, district  
9                   administrator of Clinton, elected to a three-year  
10                  term.

11                  Small schools: Corey Hinkel, district  
12                  administrator of Luck, and Jim -- James Erickson,  
13                  district administrator of Webster, both were  
14                  reelected to three-year terms.

15                  Due to no announced candidates for  
16                  gender at-large and nonpublic school at-large on the  
17                  Advisory Council, we will have a special election in  
18                  the fall. The timeline of that election will be in  
19                  the May bulletin. I will also email that to schools,  
20                  to the district administrators, and we will have that  
21                  on our website.

22                  Thank you.

23                  MR. WINCH: Thanks, Joan.

24                  At this time, we are going to start off  
25                  with the open forum portion of the meeting. So I

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1 would ask that you step up to the microphone, state  
2 your name and the school you represent, and go ahead  
3 with your topic.

4 MS. GUYANT-HOLLOWAY: Good morning.

5 Test, test. There we go.

6 Good morning. Michelle  
7 Guyant-Holloway, athletic director at Wauwatosa East  
8 High School.

9 I have just a brief statement in  
10 regards to the recent Board approval for a one-year  
11 moratorium on conference realignment. I believe we  
12 all understand the prospect of conference realignment  
13 is never an easy task, no matter what state, size of  
14 school, location, or division your athletic program  
15 is a part of.

16 What has been -- become -- what has  
17 become quite obvious in recent years is that the  
18 process currently in place for conference alignment  
19 needs to be improved. The years of just raising your  
20 hand and stating your need of relief have come and  
21 gone. Too many of us have new circumstances within  
22 our schools that should be included that were not  
23 relevant 10 or 20 years ago. We also have more data  
24 available to help in providing a more objective  
25 decision-making process.

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1                   In District 7, we recently surveyed our  
2 colleagues regarding this proposal that you see in  
3 front of you on the screen. And 80 percent of the 27  
4 that responded supported this general concept.

5                   We've also just recently reached out to  
6 a business that works on conference realignments  
7 regarding our proposal to provide feedback.

8                   We hope that everyone sees this as a  
9 concept to begin forming a more productive process to  
10 objectively create conferences with more than just  
11 one person steering the ship.

12                   The constant proposal on the screen  
13 briefly involves the following components: We see  
14 this concept giving the authority and responsibility  
15 to the schools with oversight from the WIAA and final  
16 approval from the Board; providing a written  
17 declaration of intent to request relief providing  
18 data regarding your school; putting schools in a  
19 section, a grouping smaller than at the district  
20 level, roughly containing two or three current  
21 conferences; it would provide flexibility for schools  
22 to move within a section among the two or three  
23 conferences, as needed; it would be a four-year cycle  
24 to provide some consistency for all schools  
25 regardless if a change occurs or not in a conference;

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1       it provides oversight for an appeal to a review board  
2       that then can make a decision with any final appeal  
3       decision made by the Board of Control.

4                       We, as a state, do not strictly use  
5       enrollment as many other states do. That is fine, as  
6       long as a clear and concise process is provided and  
7       upheld.

8                       Conference alignment in many states  
9       involves several people as part of the process along  
10      the way and/or in the final decision-making. This  
11      duty is far too big and impactful to allow and  
12      authorize one individual to perform. It isn't fair  
13      to that individual to be all-knowing of the school  
14      conference and situations to the school requesting  
15      relief that may not get the best relief possible or  
16      the other schools that are adversely affected, making  
17      their situation worse than the school that was  
18      relieved.

19                      Again, this is a concept. It isn't the  
20      final answer.

21                      Our end goal should be to develop and  
22      have a specific process that includes school data to  
23      enable people to make a more objective decision.

24                      We need to be open, forward-thinking  
25      leaders and teachers if we want to serve our schools

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1 in the best possible way.

2 Thank you.

3 MR. WINCH: Thanks, Michelle.

4 I know, as part of the -- the  
5 director's report, Dave will be touching on  
6 conference realignment today.

7 So could we have a copy of that --

8 MS. GUYANT-HOLLOWAY: Sure.

9 MR. WINCH: -- written statement?

10 Thank you.

11 Others for open forum?

12 MR. DOVERSPIKE: Greg Doverspike,  
13 superintendent of Durand-Arkansaw School District.

14 I first have a couple comments related  
15 to the survey that was done by the WIAA a couple  
16 years ago related to competitive equity and the fact  
17 that the membership said there was an issue and the  
18 fact that nothing has really been done to address the  
19 issue based on the survey results.

20 I also want to speak on the fact that I  
21 think the rural/urban plan had merit and quality, and  
22 I really wish the Board would reconsider.

23 And the third issue I have a concern  
24 with is why the Board of Control voted down to bring  
25 the rural/urban plan to the membership. I would

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1 think, as a membership-driven organization, the  
2 membership would have the opportunity to weigh in on  
3 this instead of not giving -- given that opportunity.

4 Thank you.

5 MR. WINCH: Thanks, Greg.

6 Well, I'd -- I'd just make one quick  
7 comment on the -- on the not bringing it to the  
8 membership today. There were -- there were other --  
9 I don't want to say other factors, but there was  
10 things that should we bring that back, should we  
11 bring back the success factor or -- or the multiplier  
12 and things like that. And within a short time frame,  
13 we didn't think it was time to prep and be at this  
14 meeting. I think it -- maybe it will be vetted out  
15 to the next school year and see if there's anything  
16 that's proposed for next year.

17 MR. YINGST: Good morning. Bill  
18 Yingst, Junior, School District of Colfax. I'm the  
19 superintendent there. I represent the Dunn/St. Croix  
20 conference.

21 I'd like to support Mr. Doverspike's  
22 comment and just a request for transparency with the  
23 votes and especially in regard to the rural versus  
24 urban and this competitive equity issue that was  
25 reflected in our survey about a year and a half ago.

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1                   So thank you.

2                   MR. WINCH:  Thanks, Bill.

3                   MR. COFFMAN:  Nat Coff- -- Nat Coff- --  
4                   Nat Coffman from The Prairie School.

5                   The urban/rural program is a  
6                   fundamental mistake.  It has so many flaws that I --  
7                   I -- it -- it needs to be never brought up again.

8                   The WIAA had a commission that's spent  
9                   a significant amount of time looking -- looking at  
10                  the competitive equity issue and whether or not there  
11                  is even a competitive equity issue, and they came up  
12                  with a whole series of reasonable proposals.  In none  
13                  of those proposals that this member-driven  
14                  organization spent a tremendous amount of time  
15                  preparing was a rural -- urban/rural program put  
16                  forward.

17                  If there's anything to do on this  
18                  issue, it's to go back to the committee report and  
19                  reconsider the plans within that report.

20                  Thank you.

21                  MR. WINCH:  Thank you.

22                  Anyone else?

23                  MR. UDOVICIC:  Good morning.  Ante  
24                  Udovicic, South Milwaukee High School.

25                  I would just like to formally request

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1       that the -- try to consider with the spring and  
2       summer baseball combination.

3                       For years, we had talked about having a  
4       combination of summer and spring starting later,  
5       perhaps middle of April or whatnot.

6                       I don't think anybody in this room  
7       would disagree that this spring -- but again, not  
8       only this spring. Look to the past. It's -- it's  
9       not an occasional thing. It's now become a trend.

10                      Spring is not fun at all to be an AD.  
11       It's not fun at all to be a kid. It's not fun at all  
12       to be a coach. It's not fun at all to be a parent.

13                      And having us start in the middle of  
14       March is going to end up -- it's not going to work.

15                      In my opinion, after talking with the  
16       assigners of umpires in southeast Wisconsin, we're  
17       absolutely understaffed as it is without adding 125  
18       approximate levels of baseball to the mix, but when  
19       you add in the fact that -- the weather obviously is  
20       a -- is a big concern.

21                      Umpires are our biggest concern. I --  
22       I'm talking to these umpires now all the time, and  
23       they're telling me they're not going to do spring  
24       baseball. They do summer baseball, and they do  
25       softball, but they're not going to do spring

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1 baseball.

2 So I really urge us to take a look at  
3 the concept that had been talked about for years, the  
4 spummer (phonetic) concept, you know, having --  
5 having some type of accommodation to start later so  
6 that we don't have the inevitable indoor issues, the,  
7 you know -- the --

8 Our softball team has practiced once  
9 outside so far. I mean, we've hardly played any  
10 games. It's not something that's any different,  
11 though, than it's been at least since 2012. In 15  
12 years as an AD, I've had one outdoor day of tryouts  
13 for softball.

14 And I -- I really think that we should  
15 strongly consider taking a look at that before we  
16 just say everybody is spring, and that's it.

17 Thank you.

18 MR. WINCH: Thanks, Ante.

19 MR. MARGELOFSKY: Brian Margelofsky,  
20 Northland Pines.

21 I'll echo the gentleman's comments.  
22 For those of us north of Highway 70, that's a yearly  
23 event for spring sports. So I'll throw that out  
24 there, number one.

25 My yearly discussion topic I'd like to

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1 bring up again combines two topics, one of co-ops and  
2 also competitive equity.

3 I think there needs to be another  
4 review of how we're allowing co-ops in the sports of  
5 gymnastics, girls' hockey, swimming.

6 Just to reflect on this year's winter  
7 state tournaments, when we start to look at some of  
8 the teams that went down, in -- in basketball, for  
9 example, Crandon girls for the first time in school  
10 history, Deerfield boys, Marshall girls who went down  
11 from a 50-year lapse of going down, it was very  
12 rewarding to see. And I was very impressed with the  
13 support that these individual communities bring out  
14 and have individual identity.

15 I guess my question is is, are there  
16 concerns from this Association that in the sport of  
17 girls' hockey there's a lack of identity because of  
18 the large co-ops? And would you agree that it is --  
19 is clearly displayed at a state tournament with the  
20 lack of attendance?

21 Thank you.

22 MR. WINCH: Thanks, Brian.

23 MR. ROBERTSON: Dave Robertson, Algoma  
24 School District.

25 My comment is about the track

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1 restructuring, something that my coach has contacted  
2 the WIAA about and is discussed at the -- at the  
3 convention.

4 In restructuring the -- the track  
5 divisions, we now move to 128 larger schools in  
6 Division 1, 136 next largest schools in Division 2,  
7 and all the remaining schools have ended up in  
8 Division 3.

9 And the reasons for doing this, my  
10 understanding is, because at the Division 1 level,  
11 they don't want to run multiple heats at regionals.  
12 And at the Division 3 level, there are times where  
13 regionals have open lanes, et cetera.

14 And what we have now, in -- in our  
15 opinion, has created what was already a difficult  
16 path to state for Division 3 track and field  
17 athletes. Made it more difficult. The disparity  
18 between the largest and small schools in Division 3  
19 now is 37.88 times. So the smallest school is 37.88  
20 times smaller than the largest school. At Division  
21 2, it's 2.62 times. At Division 1, it's 3. -- about  
22 3.9, three times. So the disparity is tenfold at  
23 Division 3 than it is now at Division 1.

24 Additionally, you have athletes at the  
25 Division 3 level which are involved in multiple

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1 events, which -- which may happen in Division 1, but  
2 it's a common occurrence at a Division 3 school where  
3 somebody runs a mile and then turns around and, five  
4 minutes later, runs the two mile where that's not  
5 always the case. So we've made something that was  
6 difficult even more difficult for Division 3 level  
7 student athletes.

8 My other concern is that it was a  
9 talking point at the state convention earlier in the  
10 year, and then in October, it was passed as an action  
11 item by the WIAA. And my concern there is,  
12 especially with the small division schools, it seemed  
13 that there was a -- it came as some surprise to the  
14 athletic directors and the coaches.

15 So my question is, as an -- as an  
16 association, are we doing a great job at  
17 communicating significant changes to -- to these  
18 school districts that are being impacted by them?  
19 And so my question is, is this a great change, and is  
20 there a way that we can better communicate  
21 significant changes to our membership?

22 MR. WINCH: Thank -- thank you.

23 Anyone else?

24 (No response.)

25 MR. WINCH: Okay. We're going to move

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1 on to the amendments.

2 At this time I'll ask Dr. Labecki to  
3 get up. He will go through the amendments with you,  
4 and then I will come back and ask for the motion and  
5 second and take care of that part of the amendments.

6 MR. LABECKI: Thank you, Scott.

7 I'm going to refer you to page 5 of  
8 your program.

9 The business procedures today, we're  
10 going to use Robert's Rules of Order if they're not  
11 consistent with the WIAA Constitution.

12 Dr. Miller is our parliamentarian, and  
13 he will help us out if we have parliament- -- or  
14 Robert's Rules of Order questions.

15 The authority here, that each member  
16 high school in grades 9 through 12 is entitled to one  
17 vote at the annual meeting.

18 And the president of the Board of  
19 Control will chair the meeting.

20 For your amendment changes, when you  
21 look at them, for your convenience, the potential new  
22 words are highlighted in shaded areas, and the  
23 potential removed words are stricken with a line  
24 through them.

25 All motions are going to be in the

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1 affirmative.

2 If the motion is seconded, the  
3 membership will debate or move directly to a vote.

4 You will have to be recognized by the  
5 Chair. Please move to the microphones, state your  
6 name and your school. Debate on the floor. The  
7 authority of the Chair may limit time as they decide.

8 And all of the resolutions here came  
9 through the committee process. If we have a  
10 Constitution change in WIAA, remember that they can  
11 come here one of four ways. Here at the annual  
12 meeting by a majority vote - it would then be moved  
13 to next year's meeting - in the Board of Control, in  
14 the Advisory Council, or by petition in writing of  
15 the district administrator or high school principal  
16 of at least 10 percent of the member schools. And  
17 that must be reported to the office by January 1st.

18 All members of the schools receive  
19 information from Julie.

20 And any changes that have the majority  
21 of the vote here today shall become effective no  
22 later than the next issue of the -- of the BULLETIN,  
23 the official publication of the WIAA, which will be  
24 May 25th of 2018.

25 All of the votes will be on the ballots

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1 that you have in your packet. And they're  
2 color-coded. And Scott will tell you which one that  
3 you should go ahead and bring forward to the aisles.

4 So we're going to change over to page  
5 6, Amendment No. 1. Deals with membership. This  
6 change would update the requirements for new schools  
7 to become members.

8 Once again, this is based on the  
9 discussions that we had in the break-out sessions at  
10 the area meetings.

11 So you'll see several areas that are  
12 stricken.

13 So in the first paragraph A under  
14 Membership, Section 2, Admission, on page 14, in  
15 paragraph A, we would strike the words "of evidence  
16 that the school" and replace it with "along with the  
17 following."

18 We'll move down to paragraph 4. And we  
19 would add in the shaded areas so that paragraph 4  
20 would be an "Indication of at least one independently  
21 sponsored, interscholastic athletic program for each  
22 gender (unless a single gender school) in each WIAA  
23 sport season (fall, winter, and spring)."

24 We would then add in -- paragraph B,  
25 "New memberships shall be probationary for three

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1 years. WIAA area meeting and annual meeting  
2 attendance shall be required throughout the  
3 probationary period."

4 Paragraph -- the following paragraphs  
5 are relettered.

6 So C will have "one" stricken and  
7 "three" replaced in there.

8 D shall have "one" stricken and "three"  
9 placed in there.

10 And then under D, the note would read,  
11 "If a school fails to meet any of the requirements in  
12 A, B, C, and/or D during the probationary period, the  
13 school will need to reapply and initiate the  
14 application process again."

15 And then we would read letter --  
16 paragraph E.

17 The votes were at the Sports Advisory  
18 to advance 12, nothing. Support 12, nothing.

19 Advisory Council advanced 17, nothing.  
20 Support 17, nothing.

21 Board of Control. 10, nothing and  
22 support 10 to nothing.

23 So once again, this applies only to new  
24 members, not to current members. So keep that in  
25 mind. This is for any new members going forward.

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1                   MR. WINCH: Okay. Before I take a  
2 motion, I will just recognize the people that will be  
3 the delegates appointed as people that collect the  
4 ballots today. We have Brian Miller from Ashland  
5 High School, Cora Dillin from Necedah High School,  
6 Eric Plitzuweit from Burlington High School, Tina  
7 Bacon from Birnamwood High School, Tim Flood, Green  
8 Bay City Wide athletic director, and Ryan Anderson  
9 from Menomonee Falls High School.

10                   So I will take a motion and a second  
11 for the first --

12                   MR. ENDREAS: Motion. Mike Endreas  
13 from Spencer.

14                   MR. WINCH: Mike Endreas from  
15 Spencer.

16                   Is there a second?

17                   MR. GROSHEK: Shawn Groshek,  
18 Adams-Friendship.

19                   MR. WINCH: Seconded by Shawn Groshek,  
20 Adams-Friendship.

21                   MR. WINCH: Discussion? Please step up  
22 to the microphone.

23                   MR. EMMEL: Grant Emmel, St. Ambrose  
24 Academy in Madison.

25                   Could I -- is there any indication of

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1 roughly how many new schools apply over a year or --  
2 or maybe in the last five years? I mean, how many  
3 schools could this possibly affect?

4 MR. ANDERSON: I don't have -- I don't  
5 have a firm number at hand.

6 I would offer anecdotally that I  
7 probably review in the neighborhood of about a half  
8 dozen applications on a yearly basis right now. I  
9 mean, at least, over the years, with the emergence of  
10 voucher money and charter schools, those sorts of  
11 things, there are new schools popping up frequently  
12 and are not well-versed and ill-equipped to -- to  
13 contribute to and become fruitful and contributing  
14 members of an organization like this.

15 MR. EMMEL: Thank you.

16 MR. WINCH: Any other discussion?

17 (No response.)

18 MR. WINCH: Okay. Hearing none, you'll  
19 be using the orange ballot for this one. And then  
20 please pass them to the outside aisles or just to an  
21 aisle so we can have them collected.

22 Outside. Mr. Shafranski is signaling  
23 outside. So if you pass them out, we'll get them  
24 collected and counted.

25 MR. LABECKI: Okay. We're going to

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1 move on to Amendment No. 2. So if you'll turn to  
2 page 7 in your book, Amendment No. 2, work with  
3 cooperative teams. This change would allow schools  
4 that miss the deadline for varsity co-ops to form  
5 co-ops for the regular season only.

6 So under the Powers of the Board, under  
7 Section 10, Cooperative Teams, on page 20, the  
8 language in paragraph 5 is going to be rewritten --  
9 or would be rewritten, if you approve it, to reflect  
10 the language that is for tournament entry. So it  
11 would read, "Requests for the approval" - we would  
12 remove "or dissolution" - "and to add a cooperative  
13 team into the WIAA tournament competition, they must  
14 be received in the WIAA office by the following  
15 deadline dates to be included in the subsequent  
16 year's WIAA tournament."

17 By adding the words "tournament," this  
18 allows you to go ahead and co-op if you missed the  
19 deadline for regular season only.

20 This is to provide opportunities for  
21 the regular season.

22 Sports Advisory is 12 to nothing.  
23 Support was 12 to nothing. Advisory Council was 17  
24 to nothing. Support was 17 to nothing. Board of  
25 Control was 10 to nothing, and they supported it 10

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1 to nothing.

2 MR. WINCH: All right. Is there a  
3 motion to approve?

4 MR. MCCLOWRY: Jim McClowry --

5 MS. HUSTON: Motion to approve.

6 MR. MCCLOWRY: -- Appleton West.

7 MS. HUSTON: Pam Huston, Hayward.

8 MR. WINCH: Okay. I have Jim McClowry.

9 Pam, you want to second it?

10 MS. HUSTON: Sure.

11 MR. WINCH: Okay. Jim --

12 Pam Houston is the second.

13 Discussion?

14 MS. GEHRING: Melissa Gehring, Beaver

15 Dam.

16 I just -- when the deadline is April  
17 1st for the winter - this is girls' hockey I'm  
18 specifically talking about - we have conversation.

19 We're really trying to get our -- make  
20 our Beaver Dam team just the Beaver Dam team again.

21 And every year, we're -- we face this  
22 rush to make this quick decision; are we going to be  
23 able to do this? We're kind of trying to figure this  
24 out.

25 So what ends up happening --

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1                   And I am -- I am in support of this. I  
2 get deadlines and stuff, but I just want everybody to  
3 know.

4                   We then get -- we add all these schools  
5 just to make sure for, like, a safety net. So now it  
6 looks like we have maybe five or six schools in our  
7 co-op, and we really only have people from two or  
8 three or whatever it might be because of the  
9 deadline.

10                  So then if we want to actually think,  
11 oh, maybe we can support our own team, now my team --  
12 if it was just Beaver Dam, we're like, oh, maybe we  
13 could do it. Now they won't be able to play in the  
14 tournament.

15                  So it just kind of -- it kind of  
16 creates a -- for those of us that are really using  
17 the co-op to really try and grow our team and  
18 we're -- we're doing it for the right purposes, I  
19 feel, we're trying to get back to being just Beaver  
20 Dam, it kind of puts a little bit of -- it puts a  
21 restriction on that, that I could hurt my kids if I  
22 don't quickly add all these schools to the co-op.  
23 And then it kind of gives us that two-week notice  
24 after we play in the state tournament to try to  
25 really figure out, can we do it?

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1                   So it just -- so I just want you to  
2 think about that a little bit too. But otherwise,  
3 I'm all for deadlines, and I get it and --

4                   MR. WINCH: Okay. I don't think that  
5 deadline would change, Michelle, for the existing --  
6 I think it's -- if you're past the deadline, you  
7 don't think you can have a team, then you can find a  
8 co-op to keep that team going. I think this would be  
9 more the intention of this.

10                   If you want to say something --

11                   MR. LABECKI: Correct. This is --

12                   Remember, if you don't make the  
13 deadline as it exists right now, you don't have  
14 regular season or tournament with that co-op --

15                   MS. GEHRING: Right.

16                   MR. LABECKI: -- if you miss the  
17 deadline.

18                   This allows you to do the regular  
19 season if you miss the deadline. Okay?

20                   MS. GEHRING: Yeah. I'm just saying,  
21 it's just -- it's such a -- it's just -- if you play  
22 in the state tournaments, it's such a short couple of  
23 weeks that we try to -- because we all have to take  
24 it to our boards, and we have to do all this stuff.  
25 It's a short -- it's a short window for some of us to

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1 try to -- to try to get it figured out.

2 MR. WINCH: Okay. Thank you.

3 MR. PAULSON: Brad Paulson,  
4 Rhinelander.

5 I would like to echo that same concern.  
6 I don't think the neighboring school is going to take  
7 you on, knowing that they can't be a part of the WIAA  
8 tournament series. So they're going to say, hey, we  
9 want to help you out, but we're not going to take you  
10 on. So I think that's a big concern.

11 Now we don't have a team. We're trying  
12 to keep our -- our co-op between two schools. We're  
13 low right now, but we're doing the best job we can to  
14 keep it alive.

15 Next year, we might not have enough  
16 girls to participate. I have seven girls sitting in  
17 front of me that like the sport, but we can't  
18 participate.

19 So I think that forces us, early on, to  
20 go to -- say -- the deadline is coming April 1st;  
21 call the schools around the area and say, hey, we  
22 might as well just apply with you guys.

23 Our best players are going to probably  
24 go co-op with that team.

25 Some of our other ones that are just

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1 coming along, starting to learn the game, now we've  
2 just left them aside because they know their  
3 participation is not going to be as great through the  
4 co-op.

5 So that's a big concern.

6 MR. WINCH: Okay. I don't think --  
7 nothing is changing, though, Brian, as far as the  
8 deadline now. It's just, if it's past the deadline  
9 and you find out --

10 I'll use football, for instance. You  
11 know, you come into August, and you find out you're  
12 not going to have enough for a football team. This  
13 would still allow you to find somebody to co-op with  
14 and let your kids participate. So it's -- if -- if  
15 you find out after the deadline that you can't co-op,  
16 then you --

17 MR. PAULSON: What I'm saying, Scott, I  
18 don't --

19 (Mr. Winch and Mr. Paulson talking at the same time.)

20 MR. WINCH: -- play in the regular  
21 season.

22 MR. PAULSON: The neighboring school is  
23 not going to allow you to co-op with them because  
24 they're going to be ineligible for the tournament  
25 series. So they're going to say, no, thank you.

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1 MR. WINCH: Okay. Thanks.

2 MR. RUFSHOLM: Jim Rufsholm, Black  
3 River Falls.

4 Question on the co-ops as well  
5 regarding, if you add teams after the deadline change  
6 in co-op, would your preexisting team be eligible to  
7 go into the tournament play?

8 MR. WINCH: No.

9 MR. RUFSHOLM: Okay.

10 MR. WINCH: Any other comments?

11 (No response.)

12 MR. WINCH: Okay. This one is light  
13 blue. Your ballot is light blue. Again, please --  
14 please pass those to the outside.

15 And the results from the Constitution  
16 No. 1, 393 in support of. 10 to deny the motion. So  
17 the motion will pass.

18 MR. LABECKI: Okay. We're going to  
19 turn to page 8, Amendment No. 3. Deals with the  
20 residence eligibility. This change would bring the  
21 residency rule into line with the transfer rule.

22 Remember, several years ago, we changed  
23 the transfer rule to allow anyone transferring  
24 during -- at the beginning or during 11th grade to  
25 have nonvarsity for one calendar year. That did not

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1 change the residency rule.

2 So as an example, if a student moves  
3 from Florida to your district and lives with their  
4 aunt and uncle - they're a junior - the transfer rule  
5 would say nonvarsity for one calendar year, but the  
6 residency rule would catch them up, and they would  
7 have no competition for one calendar year because  
8 they're not living in the district that their parent  
9 resides.

10 This change would make it the same as  
11 the transfer rule. So in that situation, the junior  
12 would have nonvarsity for one calendar year if they  
13 are not living in the district where their parent  
14 resides. So this will make it the same as the  
15 transfer rule.

16 So you will notice that wherever in the  
17 residency rule it says "fourth" in paragraph B on  
18 page 32, under Residence and Transfer, Rules of  
19 Eligibility, Determining Residence of a Public School  
20 Student, we would replace the word "fourth" with  
21 "sixth."

22 And in the nonpublic rules on page 33  
23 in Section 2, Determining Residence of a Nonpublic  
24 School Student, in paragraph 5, for residential  
25 schools, we would change the word "fourth" to

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1 "sixth."

2 And in paragraph B, we would change the  
3 word "fourth" to "sixth."

4 This also would allow international  
5 students at nonpublic schools as a junior,  
6 nonvarsity. Currently, they have -- they're  
7 restricted to no competition at any level.

8 So Sports Advisory was 12 to nothing as  
9 well as supported it 12 to nothing. Advisory  
10 Council, 17 to nothing to advance; 12 -- 17 to  
11 nothing to support. And the Board of Control was 10,  
12 nothing to advance and 10, nothing to support.

13 MR. WINCH: Is there a motion to  
14 approve, please?

15 MR. BREITLOW: So moved. Ty Breitlow,  
16 Chilton.

17 MR. WINCH: Ty Breitlow, Chilton.  
18 Second?

19 MR. BAGSTAD: Second. Lance Bagstad,  
20 Clintonville.

21 MR. WINCH: Okay. I've got a second by  
22 Lance Bagstad from Clintonville.

23 Discussion?

24 (No response.)

25 MR. WINCH: Seeing none, this lightly

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1 colored purple ballot is the one you'll use for this.  
2 And please, again, pass them to the outside aisle.  
3 Thank you.

4 MR. LABECKI: Okay. We're going to go  
5 to the last amendment on page 9, No. 4, Nonschool  
6 Participation. This change would clarify that a  
7 student reporting late to the school team due to  
8 nonschool competition forfeits the opportunity to  
9 utilize the two nonschool -- approved nonschool  
10 opportunities during the regular season.

11 So last year, we allowed students with  
12 school approval to have two nonschool opportunities  
13 during the regular season.

14 So in Article 4, Nonschool  
15 Participation, in the Rules of Eligibility, in  
16 Section 1, in In-Season, on pages 36 to 37, we would  
17 add the shaded language, "with the forfeiture of the  
18 two nonschool opportunities."

19 And paragraph 2 is included because  
20 it's reporting late.

21 Once again, this is for reporting late  
22 for nonschool competition.

23 The advance to the membership at the  
24 annual meeting was 12, nothing from Sports Advisory;  
25 supported by 12, nothing by the Sports Advisory.

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1 Advisory Council, 17 to nothing; supported 17 to  
2 nothing. Board of Control, 10 to nothing; and they  
3 supported it 10 to nothing.

4 MR. WINCH: Okay. Is there a motion to  
5 approve?

6 MR. BALDWIN: So moved. Lee Baldwin,  
7 Ozaukee.

8 MR. WINCH: Lee Baldwin, Ozaukee.  
9 Second?

10 MR. SCHULTZ: Cody Schultz, Fall River.

11 MR. WINCH: Cody Schultz, Fall River.

12 Discussion?

13 (No response.)

14 MR. WINCH: Seeing none, we will use  
15 the yellow ballot for this one. Please pass them to  
16 the outside. Yellow ballots to the outside. Thank  
17 you.

18 Results from Constitution No. 2, 377 to  
19 support, 28 to deny the motion. So that one -- that  
20 one will carry as well.

21 MR. LABECKI: Okay. We have several  
22 editorial changes. So if you'll change to page 10,  
23 you'll see the editorial changes that are being  
24 proposed.

25 The editorial changes are attempts to

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1 clarify existing rules without making any changes to  
2 the interpretation of the rule. In some instances,  
3 the change may be merely a word or words or addition  
4 or deletion of a sentence while, in other cases, the  
5 change may reflect the Board of Control  
6 interpretation of membership wishes.

7 So I'll just go through them quickly.

8 The Constitution. This change would  
9 reflect the fact that the qualification is outdated,  
10 and there are no teaching schools that are run by  
11 universities.

12 So notice, No. 2 is stricken because we  
13 have no university schools that are supported by the  
14 university or colleges.

15 Also, this moves paragraph 5 from down  
16 below up to paragraph B where it belongs. So we  
17 would renumber those numbered paragraphs and add --  
18 or move paragraph B from Admission to Membership. So  
19 "For continued membership following their  
20 probationary period, schools must be  
21 administrative" -- "must have administrative  
22 oversight of at least one independently sponsored  
23 interscholastic athletic program or co-op athletic  
24 program that is maintained throughout the duration."

25 That's already existing. It's just

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1 being moved up to Article 2.

2 In Article 3, you'll notice that it was  
3 stricken from paragraph 5, and paragraph 5 is  
4 renumbered.

5 On page 11, in the Constitution, this  
6 change would reflect the fact that the annual  
7 meeting -- there's only one held, and it's the high  
8 school annual meeting.

9 So we would strike the word "high  
10 school" and put "and," strike the words "and a junior  
11 high/middle level annual meeting," reflecting only  
12 one annual meeting.

13 The next change would reflect that  
14 officials are not members of the WIAA, that they are  
15 licensed by the WIAA. So we would strike the word  
16 "membership," and add in "license" -- or "licensing."

17 The last change on that page would  
18 address dissolved cooperative teams and the status of  
19 stand-alone teams. So if you dissolve a cooperative  
20 team, this is putting a reminder in there that you  
21 must go ahead and, under paragraph 6, "If a  
22 cooperative team is discontinued, each school must  
23 reapply for tournament entry as a stand-alone program  
24 by the deadline dates."

25 Once again, we already do that, but

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1 we're putting it in writing so you can have a  
2 reminder.

3 On page 12 of the Rules of Eligibility,  
4 the first change would clarify that a student  
5 expelled from a school are ineligible for the length  
6 of the expulsion as determined by the previous  
7 school's Board of Education.

8 So the note is added that, "A student  
9 who transfers due to expulsion or removal for  
10 disciplinary reasons from the previous school is  
11 ineligible for the length of the expulsion as  
12 determined by the previous school's Board of  
13 Education."

14 We've always had that. And what this  
15 is telling -- is putting in writing that, in order to  
16 be eligible at a new school, someone expelled must  
17 get approval from the previous Board of Education in  
18 order to participate. So it's -- it's something that  
19 we've always done.

20 The next one on that page is -- or this  
21 change clarifies that athletes may not receive free  
22 and/or reduced rates at any time that are not  
23 available to any and all interested students. This  
24 paragraph return distinguishes the free and reduced  
25 as a separate element from the use of their picture.

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1                   So in paragraph 3, those two areas were  
2 combined. As you can see, we've struck the whole  
3 paragraph, and we renumbered it as a stand-alone in  
4 No. 4. So as -- it would just simply read, No. 4,  
5 "Receives free and reduced rates on equipment,  
6 apparel, camps and clinics and instruction, and  
7 competitive opportunities that are not identical to  
8 any and all interested students."

9                   It's the same language, but it's its  
10 only paragraph. And we would renumber paragraphs 5  
11 and 6.

12                   The last one on page 13 clarifies that  
13 a student must pay for 100 percent of any expenses  
14 for nonschool camps, clinics, or specialized  
15 training.

16                   So in paragraph 4, we're removing the  
17 words "the entire," adding "any of," and then adding  
18 in the paragraph, "Students must pay 100 percent of  
19 any expenses, including transportation, to any  
20 nonschool (out of season) camps, clinics, and/or  
21 specialized training."

22                   That is right out of the rules at a  
23 glance, but it's put in there.

24                   We had somebody rule on it and say,  
25 well, we'll only pay 99 percent, and it will meet the

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1 rule. So we had to make sure that it was clearer on  
2 that.

3 These are advanced through the annual  
4 meeting by the Board of Control, and they're  
5 supported by the Board of Control 10 to nothing.

6 MR. WINCH: All right. Before I take a  
7 motion on this one, the results from the Rules of  
8 Eligibility No. 3, 396 in support of the motion and 9  
9 to deny. 396 denying (verbatim). So No. 3 is  
10 carried as well.

11 So No. 4, our next one we have here is  
12 the editorial changes. Is there a motion to approve?

13 MR. SCHMID: Dave Schmid, Howards  
14 Grove.

15 MR. WINCH: Okay. Dave Schmid? Did  
16 you say Dave Schmid? Howards Grove? Okay.

17 MR. DORSCHNER: Second. Jeff Dorschner  
18 from Crivitz.

19 MR. WINCH: Jeff Dorschner from Crivitz  
20 is the second.

21 Any discussion?

22 (No response.)

23 MR. WINCH: Okay. Seeing none, hearing  
24 none, the white-colored ballot is the one you'll use  
25 for this. Please pass them to the outside, and we'll

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1 collect those as well.

2 The results of the Rules of Eligibility  
3 No. 4 on the yellow ballot, 384 to support, 16 to  
4 deny the motion. 384 to 16.

5 Okay. At this time on our agenda it's  
6 time for the director's report. So I'm going to turn  
7 the -- the stadium -- podium over to Dave Anderson,  
8 our executive director.

9 MR. ANDERSON: And before we go to the  
10 director's report, while we're waiting for the  
11 results of our most recent amendment votes, we're  
12 going to turn it over to Steph Hauser and recognize  
13 one more time our members who received our Award of  
14 Excellence this year.

15 MS. HAUSER: Good morning.

16 Thanks, Dave.

17 It is my honor to recognize the WIAA  
18 Award of Excellence winners in the inaugural year of  
19 this award.

20 15 schools, athletic departments, along  
21 with their athletic administrators, their coaching  
22 staff, and their student athletes have met the  
23 outlined criteria for this award, all of which  
24 exemplify a high level of sportsmanship, ethics,  
25 leadership, and integrity.

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1 in your school district and in your -- and  
2 specifically in your athletic department.

3 I would encourage you to take a close  
4 look at the application that you got when you checked  
5 in today. You -- we will start receiving those as  
6 soon as your spring season has concluded. And the  
7 deadline is June 30th.

8 So thanks again.

9 MR. WINCH: Okay. We still don't have  
10 the results for the editorial changes, so at this  
11 time we will have Dave Anderson with his executive  
12 director's report.

13 Here you go, Dave.

14 MR. ANDERSON: Thank you, Scott.

15 And if -- before going into my business  
16 report, if I -- if I may, I would like to reintroduce  
17 our newest assistant director, Kate Peterson Abiad,  
18 and invite Kate to come up and say hello and let --  
19 let all of you extend a welcome.

20 (Applause.)

21 MS. PETERSON ABIAD: Good morning. I  
22 just want to say thank you, first of all, for being  
23 here today to meet all of you.

24 And also, you know, thank you to Dave  
25 and for the Board of Control for allowing me this

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1 opportunity to become a part of this organization.

2 This opportunity has brought me back to  
3 the state that I love. As many of you probably know,  
4 I spent the last 27 years in college coaching --  
5 coaching women's basketball and grew up here in  
6 Wisconsin. Really made my living coaching at  
7 Cleveland State University with the help of Wisconsin  
8 athletes. Recruited a lot up here in Wisconsin and  
9 just felt very at home every time I was able to make  
10 a trip up here and -- and visit with schools and  
11 visit with student athletes.

12 The opportunity to serve in a different  
13 capacity now, you know, I -- I bring a different  
14 perspective clearly than -- than perhaps other people  
15 that have been in this position, but I -- I am very  
16 invested in the state of Wisconsin. I'm clearly  
17 invested in athletics. And I'm hoping to serve the  
18 membership in -- in the best capacity that I can.

19 I ask that you be patient. Everything  
20 this first year will be new to me. And I'm going to  
21 do my very best to -- to do -- do the right things  
22 and look at potentially down the -- down the line,  
23 you know, adding some new creativity to some of the  
24 events that we have.

25 But thank you very much for this

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1 opportunity, and I look forward to meeting each of  
2 you.

3 (Applause.)

4 MR. WINCH: Okay. Let's try this  
5 again.

6 Editorial changes. 398 in support of  
7 the editorial changes. 3 to deny the motion. 398 to  
8 3.

9 Now, at this time I will turn it over  
10 to the executive director, Dave Anderson - third time  
11 is a charm - for his director's report.

12 MR. ANDERSON: Thank you, Scott.

13 And good morning and welcome to all of  
14 you.

15 I'm going to touch quite a bit on  
16 conference realignment both the -- the first thing on  
17 my list of old business as well as the first item  
18 under new business. But with a quick look back at  
19 some conference realignment-related items brought to  
20 the table over the course of this past year is where  
21 we're going to begin.

22 First, we received word just this past  
23 November from the state Court of Appeals that the  
24 WIAA had prevailed in the case brought against it  
25 by -- because of a member school's displeasure with

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1 conference realignment, was dismissed.

2           Regrettably, unfortunately, this action  
3 consumed more than a year's worth of time and energy,  
4 carried a substantial price tag, and always, as  
5 conference realignment disputes of this sort, leaves  
6 strained feelings in a wake just to defend the  
7 members' rules and the Board's member-given  
8 authority.

9           So it's with that look back but also as  
10 we look forward and as we choose to try to learn from  
11 every experience, because of the, at times, bitter  
12 residue left after realignment, because of members'  
13 continuing demand that the Board of Control oversee  
14 conference realignment, because the staff person who  
15 was responsible for realignment for nearly the past  
16 decade has retired, and because the guidelines which  
17 have been used to frame conference realignment go  
18 back to the 1970s and haven't been critically  
19 evaluated and updated in a very long time, in my  
20 mind, it is a perfect time, and I have recommended  
21 that we take the coming year to review our conference  
22 realignment policies, processes, and procedures.

23           As those of you who were in attendance  
24 will recall, we talked about this at our fall area  
25 meetings, and the Board did take action on my

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1 recommendation just yesterday to declare a general  
2 one-year moratorium on conference realignment to  
3 allow the staff and I, with the help of several of  
4 you - I put a few of you on notice already - to  
5 develop a realignment process that might serve as a  
6 tool to help the Board and the membership with this  
7 essential and emotion-filled work as we go forward.

8           The moratorium will not preclude the  
9 Board from continuing to review and consider  
10 realignment requests where there is 100 percent  
11 agreement among all involved and all impacted  
12 schools. So if you have a no-brainer that everyone  
13 agrees to, the Board can still take that on.

14           But for others, where there are winners  
15 and losers, we need to look at and see if there is a  
16 better way to move forward than conference  
17 realignment.

18           There is another reason that the timing  
19 of this overarching review works, in my mind. And  
20 that's because of the Board directive that  
21 football-only conferences be developed and  
22 implemented by the year 2020. That there might be  
23 some uniformity and consistency between football  
24 realignment and general conference realignment only  
25 seems to make sense.

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1                   And I can share that the Football  
2 Coaches Association have taken this Board directive  
3 to heart and are well on their way to having a plan  
4 and process taking shape. Our expectation is that  
5 this coaches' proposal will be ready to share with  
6 the Board by their August meeting and with the -- all  
7 of you, the membership, at our area meetings next  
8 fall.

9                   Keep in mind that this statewide review  
10 of how we look at football has come about as a result  
11 of a very broad and persisting membership request for  
12 relief in football. As some conferences -- as some  
13 conference members have not been -- had steady  
14 numbers and not been able to field the team one year  
15 to the next, others have been forced to co-op, and  
16 some programs have elected to go to eight-player  
17 football. All of these changes have been broad  
18 enough, frequent enough, and impactful enough for  
19 most to recognize the need to rethink and reexamine  
20 how we look at football.

21                   In the past two or three years, as we  
22 have traveled around or you have spoken with the  
23 Board, we've heard numbers of requests that the  
24 district football plan be brought back; let's take  
25 another look at the district football plan.

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1                   As we have worked on and reviewed and  
2                   worked through the discussions and -- and looking  
3                   back at the district plan, we believe that the  
4                   flexibility inherent in the football-only conferences  
5                   is a better place to start.

6                   I've asked Dr. Labecki to share some  
7                   additional thoughts on the development of  
8                   football-only conferences, and he has some insights  
9                   that he can share now.

10                   MR. LABECKI: As you will recall, in  
11                   2009 when we brought the district plan forward, it  
12                   restructured the entire state based on division.

13                   So Division 1 schools, it took 64  
14                   teams; put them into a division; then divided them up  
15                   into groups of eight based on geography.

16                   And then we down to Division 2 with the  
17                   64 schools there and put groups of eight in that.

18                   This is football-only conference  
19                   realignment. We discussed it at the area meetings,  
20                   and this was the one that came up to the top.

21                   What this means is that all the  
22                   conferences as they exist right now are being  
23                   evaluated. And the majority of the schools will stay  
24                   in those conferences as they are, but the coaches  
25                   have gone through those conferences to see if they

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1 can make the enrollments better, not by rule, but  
2 close to a two-to-one ratio.

3 So some schools -- 56 schools are going  
4 to be moved out of their conference into another  
5 conference. The goal is to get all eight-school  
6 conferences or seven-school conferences. So if they  
7 pulled somebody out of your conference and now you've  
8 created a seventh, that seven-team conference is  
9 going to be grouped or set up with another seven  
10 conference. The purpose of that is they want all  
11 schools to qualify for play-offs to have seven  
12 conference games.

13 So if you have two seven-team  
14 conferences, those crossovers would count as a  
15 conference game, and now everybody will have games  
16 from Week 3 to Week 9 as a conference game.

17 Weeks 1 and 2 in all conferences will  
18 be nonconference games. The purpose of that is to  
19 make sure that all schools have the ability to  
20 schedule nonconference games.

21 So the plan that they have out there --  
22 and they've already gone ahead and put all of this  
23 together. They've talked with schools that are going  
24 to be moving to make sure that they're aware. So  
25 they've done all that at the clinic.

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1                   They're going to bring this to the  
2 coaches in July. The coaches will then see where  
3 they fit into those conferences.

4                   Now, the neat thing about doing a  
5 football-only conference realignment is you still  
6 have conference commissioners in every conference, so  
7 those conference commissioners will still work the  
8 schedules like they normally would. They still will  
9 hire the officials like they normally would. And you  
10 still will have all-conference teams.

11                   You, as a conference, can determine  
12 whether you will have the nonvarsity, the JVs, and  
13 the freshman teams play within their conference or if  
14 you will schedule those on your own.

15                   So they've tried to address all of the  
16 issues that basically torpedoed the district plan.  
17 They are making progress.

18                   There are some people who have said,  
19 well, the coaches never get this forward. And I can  
20 tell you that they have worked hard, and they are  
21 ready. They have a plan. The plan is to implement  
22 it or to, you know, make it out to the membership  
23 this summer, this fall. You will discuss it at area  
24 meetings. It would be implemented in 2020. Every  
25 two years, it will go ahead and be reevaluated if

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1           there are people who want to move.

2                           And once again, as Dave has talked  
3           about the process for conference realignment, the  
4           coaches are working on a process for football-only  
5           realignment to suggest as well to the Board so we can  
6           keep this going.

7                           Also, keep in mind, next fall is an  
8           even year. So all eight-player teams -- all  
9           eight-player schools, you will have to reapply next  
10          fall by December 1st. That's going to be on a  
11          two-year rotation as well. So we can get the  
12          eight-player and the 11-player on the same rotation.  
13          So if schools switch to one or the other, we'll be  
14          able to go ahead and have a more consistent plan with  
15          that.

16                          I can tell you, the coaches did a great  
17          job. And what I've seen thus far is -- is very good,  
18          and I think you'll like it.

19                          MR. ANDERSON: Thank you, Wade.

20                          It's important to understand the -- the  
21          significant difference between when we talk about the  
22          district football plan. That was a model that was  
23          rigidly structured on enrollments. And when we look  
24          at keeping those enrollments very, very tight and  
25          narrow, it expanded and increased the geography. And

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1 in particular, in the west and northwestern part of  
2 the state, that geography and travel was -- was  
3 beyond reason.

4 When we look at football-only  
5 conference realignment, now we are better able to try  
6 to blend travel, geography, and enrollments without  
7 the rigidity of needing to stay with the two-to-one  
8 ratio between schools involved.

9 So we look forward to bringing that  
10 forward to area meetings for the discussion and  
11 feedback going forward, but we recognize, as  
12 eight-player football begins its own championship  
13 series, the likelihood of encouraging and drawing off  
14 even more schools who might be struggling to play  
15 11-player. The football-only conferences are going  
16 to become more clearly important as we go forward in  
17 football.

18 Next, I want to touch briefly on the  
19 rural/urban plan, which was a plan that originated as  
20 a Board idea and was discussed at length at last  
21 fall's area meetings. The plan was, indeed, an  
22 outcome and byproduct of the all-member competition  
23 survey from two years ago. And it represented a  
24 continuing conversation and interest among the Board  
25 in seeing if there is a better way to organize

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1 competition. Nothing more and nothing less.

2 As the plan was vetted across the  
3 membership at all seven area meetings, it stirred  
4 strong feelings, no doubt, strong feelings among  
5 members both for it and against it.

6 Its review also spurred other and new  
7 ideas and triggered a persisting call to revisit the  
8 success factor discussion and perhaps consider a  
9 limited test of that in basketball of that original  
10 recommendation from our ad hoc committee.

11 These are things that we heard from  
12 you, the full range and -- and scope of reaction,  
13 response, emotion to the rural/urban plan.

14 And I can tell you, while there was  
15 clearly some support for the rural -- rural/urban  
16 plan, as there had been for the multiplier, the  
17 reducer, and the success factor, the concerns for the  
18 inherent flaws of the rural/urban plan prevented it  
19 from garnering a broader embrace.

20 Where this membership conversation goes  
21 next will be guided by what's been shared here today  
22 as well as what's been learned over the course of  
23 this past year's conversation and the conversations  
24 that were a part of multipliers and reducers. I have  
25 no sense that the conversation is to end or to stop,

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1       that the search for, the evaluation of, is there a  
2       better way of doing things likely to consider  
3       (verbatim). And I promise that, as there is news or  
4       new ideas on this topic, it will be shared. You will  
5       be kept informed.

6                   I think it's also very important that  
7       wherever this conversation next turns, we need to  
8       recognize and, I think, document that, to this point  
9       in time, the Board and membership have been unwilling  
10      to embrace ideas that single out and treat any  
11      segment of our membership differently. There has  
12      been an unwillingness to move schools, either public  
13      or private, who have never experienced any tournament  
14      success into even more competitive settings just to  
15      mask the efforts to relocate a handful of successful  
16      private schools.

17                   Lastly, this most recent conversation  
18      stirred concerns within our membership for racial  
19      bias, which, to this point, in all of those other  
20      conversations, had not been present.

21                   So as we close out our review of old  
22      business, it's important that the record reflects  
23      also that after a two-year lead-up, this year,  
24      2017-2018, has marked the very first year of the  
25      required coaches' First Aid, CPR, and AED

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1 certification to be held and maintained by all paid  
2 coaches. You are -- you are rightfully to be  
3 congratulated. This was a very big and very positive  
4 proactive step that you took two years ago. And all  
5 the anecdotal feedback indications that we have  
6 received is that each of you have led the way for  
7 your schools to see this through. That was a big  
8 coaches' education requirement adopted.

9 I also want to give you a quick update  
10 on the WIAA's first year of providing concussion  
11 insurance to all high school and middle level  
12 members' student athletes. As of the close of our  
13 winter sports season, 348 claims have been reported.  
14 That's 348 students and families who have been  
15 provided help in dealing with their child's  
16 concussion.

17 I'm also pleased to let you know that  
18 the conversations with the insurer have been  
19 productive. They are holding the rates steady, and  
20 we will be renewing the coverage again for this  
21 coming year.

22 Lastly, just a quick reminder that we  
23 will - and I've mentioned this before - that we will  
24 be conducting background checks on all 8,700 sport  
25 officials as they relicense this spring. Each and

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1 every year, when someone licenses as an official for  
2 the first time, we -- we include a background check  
3 on all new officials. It's been five years since we  
4 did a background check en masse of all officials. We  
5 have budgeted for and are poised and ready to do that  
6 again on all nearly 9,000 officials come this May  
7 when they begin relicensing.

8 Before continuing on now to new  
9 business, Steph Hauser has another introduction to  
10 make for us and -- and a special guest that we've  
11 invited here and she would like to introduce to you.

12 MS. HAUSER: The NFHS Spirit of Sport  
13 Award seeks to recognize those individuals who  
14 exemplify the ideals of the positive spirit of sport  
15 which represent the core of education-based  
16 athletics. In the past, this award has been given to  
17 those who have demonstrated exemplary sportsmanship  
18 in playing the game as it should be played, those who  
19 have exceeded normal expectations in assisting others  
20 within the school or the community, and those who  
21 overcome adversity or challenging circumstances.

22 I'd like to first take the opportunity  
23 to thank the many athletic directors who nominated  
24 those from your school districts. There were very  
25 incredible examples of all the good things happening

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1 in our state and the heartfelt and warming stories  
2 everywhere.

3 I'd like to recognize those five  
4 student athletes who are -- who are -- are finalists  
5 for this award in Wisconsin: Erin Connors from  
6 Oshkosh West; Tyler -- Tyler Carroll from Lakeland  
7 Union; Michael Saxby, Waunakee High School; Jacob  
8 Strande from Muskego; and Katelyn Walter from  
9 Stoughton.

10 Let's give those five kids a round of  
11 applause.

12 (Applause.)

13 MS. HAUSER: At this time, please join  
14 me in welcoming to the podium Bryce Ladwig, a senior  
15 from Plymouth High School, and his athletic director,  
16 Gale Grahn.

17 (Applause.)

18 MS. HAUSER: First, let's congratulate  
19 Gale on his upcoming and much well-deserved pending  
20 retirement this spring.

21 Gale, if you weren't sure before this  
22 spring, Gale, I'm sure now you are positive that  
23 you've made the right decision. So congratulations  
24 on your upcoming retirement.

25 (Applause.)

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1 MS. HAUSER: Let me tell you just a  
2 little bit about Bryce's story. Bryce was initially  
3 diagnosed with bone cancer at the age of six. At  
4 this point in time -- from this point in time, Bryce  
5 has undergone multiple surgeries and things that have  
6 sidelined him from doing the activities that he  
7 loves, often confining him to a hospital bed or to a  
8 wheelchair. Throughout most of his high school  
9 career, Bryce's medical challenge has prevented him  
10 from playing football, a sport that he loves, but he  
11 won the starting nose tackle position his senior  
12 season. He played in every single game this season  
13 and helped his team make the WIAA play-offs.

14 The obstacles that Bryce have faced has  
15 not deterred him from making a difference off of the  
16 football field as well. He's acted in many ac- --  
17 many activities but is involved with Project Angel  
18 Hugs. It's an -- it's an organization that helps  
19 others who are less fortunate. It's very special.

20 When the founder of Project Angel Hugs  
21 recently passed away in an accident, Bryce wanted to  
22 do more. He donated the \$4,000 that he earned for  
23 the sale of his steer at the Sheboygan County Fair to  
24 Project Angel Hugs in honor of its late founder.  
25 Gale describes this act of Bryce as the -- as the

1 epitome of the type of person he is. Gale wrote,  
2 "Bryce is always looking to help out others even  
3 though he's had to overcome so many things in his  
4 young life."

5 It's my great pleasure to share with  
6 all of you today that Bryce was not only -- only  
7 selected as our Wisconsin nominee to the National  
8 Federation for the Spirit of Sport award, but he also  
9 was the section for recip- -- recipient nationally  
10 for the Spirit of Sport.

11 Please join me to congratulate and  
12 honor Bryce Ladwig on this distinction.

13 (Applause.)

14 MR. ANDERSON: We'll let Bryce off  
15 the -- off the hook. He had a -- he had a ten-minute  
16 presentation he walked into.

17 It's -- it's fun to mess with nose  
18 tackles. I had a lot of years of being able to get  
19 near helmets and mess with them. So it was fun.

20 Thank you, Bryce, for being here.

21 With that, now let's turn our attention  
22 to new business.

23 I have identified only three items to  
24 introduce as starting points for our conversations in  
25 the coming year, but all three, at least in my

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1 opinion, are -- are key and very timely for  
2 discussion in greater depth and detail, and these  
3 will be key and central within our area leading  
4 discussions next fall. Certainly there will be other  
5 topics that will come from remarks that we heard here  
6 today and -- and as we travel across the months  
7 between now and September, but these three for sure  
8 need to be front and center in our conversation.

9           First, as I mentioned earlier, is  
10 conference realignment, which I've talked about  
11 primarily from the moratorium perspective and  
12 football-only conference perspective. I want to  
13 reiterate and acknowledge that our guiding  
14 statements, our position statement and guidelines,  
15 the Board position on realignment, go back to the  
16 1970s. We have no idea if those sentiments and  
17 perspectives are the same as the Board of today and  
18 next year and in coming years.

19           Certainly, we -- we all recognize that  
20 much has changed since the 1970s. We're going to use  
21 our area meetings to discuss what you think, what the  
22 members think, conference realignment should look  
23 like. When is it necessary? When must it happen?  
24 How does the process work? So the suggestions and  
25 the offers that we have heard, either anecdotally

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1 from down in the southeast or presented here today,  
2 those are going to be viable and relevant. We're  
3 going to put all of those things up for discussion,  
4 review, and critique. No delusion that any plan is  
5 going to make everyone happy in conference  
6 realignment, but it is appropriate, I believe, that  
7 the membership, the Board, have a tool that might  
8 guide us in this work some years to come.

9 We're -- so our plan is to put together  
10 a small working group. Stephanie and Wade and myself  
11 are going to anchor the conversations and -- and the  
12 process within our office, but then we will be  
13 looking and reaching out either before or after and  
14 as a result of our area meetings for a few others  
15 to -- to sit down with us and see if we can develop  
16 that new tool with some new guidance and some  
17 transparency to better serve the Board and membership  
18 going forward.

19 The second item of new business has to  
20 do with our Code of Conduct requirements as a  
21 membership within the Rules of Eligibility and  
22 protecting the members' tournaments. Very much the  
23 same as our guiding text on conference realignment,  
24 the basic language in our Code of Conduct has been  
25 unchanged since the 1970s. We've gone back to 1979,

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1 and that's where we see the -- the language that  
2 requires a one-game minimum suspension for a code,  
3 1979. And yet, we find ourselves, at times,  
4 responding as a membership to concerns that are far,  
5 far different than what were the more common  
6 violations and concerns of over 40 years ago.

7 So at our area meetings we want to  
8 discuss the potential of adding to our minimum  
9 requirements, that if a student is charged with a  
10 felony, if there is a weapon or assault included  
11 within the behavior that activated your code, that  
12 student would be ineligible for WIAA tournament  
13 participation.

14 I've stood up here in the past, and  
15 we've talked about Code of Conduct and -- and  
16 suspension. We talked about, well, most of you are  
17 above and beyond the one-game suspension, so we tried  
18 to talk about whether a 20 percent minimum first-time  
19 suspension was more appropriate, more uniform, and we  
20 have heard very, very clearly from this membership  
21 your interest in preserving that level of local  
22 control, no bones about it, no argument with it.

23 In this conversation, I am hoping we  
24 might imagine that local control in your school's own  
25 code can continue to determine regular season

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1 eligibility, but also recognize that the tournaments  
2 are the collective property of this entire membership  
3 and are the most visible of membership activity.

4 In this day and age, where we  
5 increasingly value outside partnerships,  
6 relationships, and sponsorships, where many fans and  
7 legislators follow WIAA in the news and on social  
8 media, I believe it's appropriate to have a  
9 conversation about protecting our tournament brand.

10 As a membership, we've already agreed  
11 that we take very strong action if an athlete  
12 assaults an official. They are, by our rules,  
13 essentially done in the tournaments. We remove a  
14 hockey team from the tournament for receiving three  
15 game-disqualifying penalties. If you're getting in  
16 three fights on the ice, your team is out of the  
17 tournament. The soccer coaches have just recently  
18 recommended a season-ending penalty for three  
19 straight (inaudible).

20 We believe there are some Code of  
21 Conduct violations which rise to a level of  
22 membership interest and significance that should at  
23 least be talked about in the coming year, and we look  
24 forward to starting that conversation in our area  
25 meetings.

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1                   The third and final item that we expect  
2                   to bring to area meeting discussions, unfortunately,  
3                   has to do with responding to new threats and the  
4                   threat of an active shooter or other terror threats  
5                   at after-school events.

6                   In the coming weeks, Dr. Labecki and I  
7                   are sitting down with Mr. Glenn Rehberg, the interim  
8                   director of the Department of Justice's Office of  
9                   School Safety.

10                   You've all read about the governor's  
11                   100 million school safety and -- grant and so on.  
12                   And it's current. It's going on right now, a lot of  
13                   stuff. The Attorney General is having releases today  
14                   and conferences today.

15                   In the -- in the coming weeks, we're  
16                   going to sit down with -- with Mr. Rehberg. We had a  
17                   phone conversation with him and discussed the need to  
18                   revisit -- as a membership, to revisit and expand our  
19                   emergency response plans that we all have developed  
20                   since coming to this meeting as an athletics director  
21                   back in the -- in the '90s. We all went back, and we  
22                   developed emergency response, emergency action plans  
23                   for every venue, every practice facility, every game  
24                   facility. And our coaches have those on file. So we  
25                   have those already in existence.

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1                   But now we need to plan for and respond  
2                   to, potentially, emergencies beyond the scope of what  
3                   were the original intent and purpose of those plans.  
4                   We believe this must be a priority conversation for  
5                   all members to have. You -- you need to be having  
6                   this in your own school district. But we will also  
7                   be having it as a membership starting this fall.

8                   We are reaching out. We have reached  
9                   out already nationally to see what other states might  
10                  be doing to protect their kids at after-school  
11                  events. We will also share advice and  
12                  recommendations as they come from the DOJ and the  
13                  Office of School Safety because, as I said, schools  
14                  now need to -- the WIAA needs to plan and practice  
15                  responding to those other threats and emergencies  
16                  far, far beyond what were the original reasons for  
17                  developing these plans in the first place. It will  
18                  be time well spent. It will be an opportunity for  
19                  you to share with us and other members and we, across  
20                  the membership, starting at our fall meetings.

21                  I want to thank all of you for being  
22                  here again today, for traveling, for taking time out  
23                  of a busy spring schedule. I want to wish you safe  
24                  travels as you head back home.

25                  I -- I hope that you feel, as we do -

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1 and by "we," I'm speaking for myself, the staff, and  
2 the Board we get to spend a lot of time with - that  
3 for the good that we do - and as a membership, we do  
4 much great good - it is never -- it is never always  
5 easy and -- and clear sailing, but I -- I'm extending  
6 before you to -- to that, you know, as long as we  
7 persist, every fight along the way has been worth it  
8 and has resulted in -- in a better outcome and a  
9 better future.

10 So thank you, again, for traveling.  
11 Thank you for participating in this work of the WIAA.

12 Mr. President, that concludes my 2017  
13 business report.

14 (Applause.)

15 MR. WINCH: All right. Thank you,  
16 Dave.

17 Does anybody have any announcements for  
18 the group?

19 Go ahead.

20 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Trailways  
21 (phonetic) Conference, folks, please remember to  
22 stick around after the meeting. We'll meet right up  
23 here. Thank you.

24 MR. WINCH: Thank you.

25 Anyone else?

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(No response.)

MR. WINCH: Okay. With that, I'd like to just share one thing that we discussed yesterday at the Board meeting, and that was the appreciation that we had for the staff and -- and the job that they do to put on all of the events for the WIAA, whether it's the state tournaments or the scholar athlete program. Not only the people that were introduced today, but everybody that works in the office and the efforts they put forward should be recognized. They do an outstanding job. And like I said, sometimes those people behind the scenes don't get -- don't get recognized as they should. And I just wanted to make that comment.

(Applause.)

MR. WINCH: And with that, I'll --

MR. FRIZZELL: (Inaudible.)

MR. WINCH: There you go.

John will make a motion to adjourn.

And do we have a second?

MR. ARENDT: Yep. Second.

MR. WINCH: There we go. We are --

And all in favor say aye.

ALL: Aye.

MR. WINCH: Thank you for coming.

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Travel home safely.

(Proceedings concluded at 10:29 a.m.)

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STATE OF WISCONSIN )  
PORTAGE COUNTY )

CERTIFICATION PAGE

I, MONICA M. HUNKINS, RPR, Notary  
Public in and for the State of Wisconsin, do hereby  
certify:

That said meeting was taken before me  
at the time, date, and place set forth; and I hereby  
certify the foregoing is a full, true, and correct  
transcript of my shorthand notes so taken and  
thereafter reduced to computerized transcription  
under my direction and supervision.

I further certify that I am neither  
counsel for nor related to any party to said action,  
nor in any way interested in the outcome thereof; and  
that I have no contract with the parties, attorneys,  
or persons with an interest in the action that  
affects or has a substantial tendency to affect  
impartiality, or that requires me to provide any  
service not made available to all parties to the  
action.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto  
subscribed my name this 30th day of April, 2018.

Monica M. Hunkins, RPR  
Notary Public - State of Wisconsin

My Commission Expires July 19, 2019

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