USA Federation for Sport Cheering
Board of Directors Meeting
September 29, 2023

After a roll call and confirming that a quorum was present, the meeting was called to order at approximately 12:33 p.m. CT by Rhonda Blanford-Green via ZOOM video/teleconference.

The following members of the Board of Directors participated in the meeting:

- Rhonda Blanford-Green
- Andrés Cantero (joined 12:34 p.m. CT)
- Asia Chatman
- Dr. Jeff Dugas
- Bob Dunseath
- Jeff Geldien (joined 12:43 p.m. CT)
- Celia Kiogima
- Jim Lord (non-voting)
- Ryan O'Connor
- Christa Sanford
- Bill Seely
- John Stuart
- Lee Trudell

Directors absent from the meeting:

- Ben Schreiber
- Justin Carrier
- Kaitlynn Volmer

Also attending the meeting were the following:

- Lauri Harris, Executive Director
- Danika H. Mendrygal, Attorney, Mendrygal Law PLLC
- Lynne M. Howard, Paralegal, Mendrygal Law PLLC

Welcome and Announcements – Rhonda Blanford-Green

- Rhonda welcomed the directors and opened the meeting with a brief update on the 2023 U.S. Olympic & Paralympic Committee (USOPC) Assembly held this month.
- Rhonda also provided an update on the USA Cheer College Combines events, noting that the events have been successful with record breaking attendance, and are receiving positive feedback on social media.

Approval of Minutes – Rhonda Blanford-Green

- Rhonda referenced the draft minutes of the June 29, 2023 meeting of the Board of Directors, previously circulated to the Board for review, and called for a motion to approve the minutes. Upon a motion by Lee Trudell, and seconded by Andrés Cantero, the June 29, 2023 minutes were unanimously approved.

Officer and Director Elections – Rhonda Blanford-Green

- Lauri displayed by remote technology the proposed resolution for the election of Lee Trudell as a Vice President of USA Cheer, as per the recommendation of the Nominating and Governance Committee. Rhonda asked for a motion to approve the resolution, as displayed. Upon motion by Bill Seely, and seconded by Bob Dunseath, the Board unanimously approved the election of Lee Trudell to serve as Vice President of USA Cheer, with an initial term of office expiring June 30, 2025.
- Lauri displayed by remote technology the proposed resolution for the election of Jeff Geldien, Ph.D. to serve as an At Large director of USA Cheer, as per the recommendation of the Nominating and Governance Committee. Rhonda asked for a motion to approve the resolution, as displayed. Upon motion by Christa Sanford, and seconded by Bill Seely, the Board unanimously approved the election of Jeff Geldien to serve as an At Large Director, with an initial term of office expiring June 30, 2027 to align with USA Cheer's fiscal year-end of June 30.

Jeff Geldein joined the meeting at 12:43 P.M. CT.

Financial Update – Lauri Harris and Bob Dunseath

- Lauri referenced the preliminary FY2023-2024 budget circulated to the Board in advance of the meeting. She noted that the budget provides for two new hires and that there is approximately a 5% increase across all income and expense categories. At Lauri's request, Bob Dunseath provided an overview of the expense projections and assumptions.
- Lauri opened for questions. With no further discussion, Bob Dunseath moved to approve the preliminary FY2023-2024 budget, as presented. The motion was seconded by Celia Kiogima and unanimously approved.

Partnerships – Lauri Harris

- Lauri reported that USA Cheer has entered into a new agreement with the National Collegiate Scouting Association, LLC (NCSA), a premier college recruiting platform, to serve as USA Cheer's resource partner for high school cheer and STUNT athletes interested in competing at the collegiate level. Lauri noted that this will be publicly announced in the coming week.
- Lauri reported to the Board that USA Cheer has entered into a new facility agreement with IMG Academy to support the National Premier Teams' training in Florida. USA Cheer received a substantial discount on the facilities due to the partnership with the NCSA, representing a significant savings on facilities.
- Lauri reported that USA Cheer is working with a new company for investigations with respect to misconduct.
- USA Cheer is continuing discussions with USASF to explore a new strategic alignment aimed at enhancing athlete protection across the sport. Lauri also shared a brief report on the recent Congressional hearing regarding athlete safety with the USOPC Commission, SafeSport, and other key stakeholders. She noted it is anticipated that Congressional recommendations will be provided as an outcome of the hearing in Spring 2024.

Legal Update – Lauri Harris

- Lauri provided a brief legal update and opened for questions, and there were none.

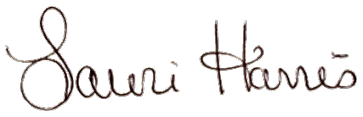
Other Business – Lauri Harris

- Lauri reported that three apparel vendors responded to USA Cheer's request for proposals, and the proposals are in the process of being reviewed. Lauri requested independent directors from the Board to assist with review and to provide input on vendor selection.
- Lauri advised that the Bylaws are in the process of being reviewed for updates, and that she anticipates amendments will be presented to the Board for review at the next meeting.
- At Lauri's request, Jim Lord provided an update on the National Safety Council's work to update the Cheerleading Safety Manual and database development to facilitate the All-Star injury study. Lauri emphasized the importance of the data / study to inform on rules changes for injury prevention.
- Lauri provided an update on discussions with USASF regarding the new All-Star agreement, and is targeting to have the agreement in place prior to the next membership cycle.
- Lauri provided an overview of international opportunities for USA Cheer in 2024.
- Lauri referenced the draft minutes of the April 30, 2023 meeting of the Board of Directors, previously circulated to the Board for review, and Rhonda called for a motion to approve the minutes. Upon a motion by Celia Kiogima, and seconded by Lee Trudell, the April 30, 2023 minutes were unanimously approved.

Closing of Meeting and Adjournment – Lauri Harris

- Lauri proposed that the next Board meeting be scheduled for December 14 or 15, and that once the directors' schedules have been confirmed, she will confirm the scheduled meeting date and time. With no further questions or comments, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 1:17 p.m. CT.

Respectfully submitted,



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Lauri Harris, Executive Director