

**FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY ATHLETICS ASSOCIATION
ZOOM MEETING MINUTES**

**June 2, 2020
9:30 AM**

Members Participating: President John Thrasher, Ed Burr, Dr. James Clark, Bob Davis,
Dr. Pam Perrewé

I. CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME

President John Thrasher, Chair

Chair Thrasher welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 9:38 am. Vicki Cupp conducted the roll call and confirmed a quorum.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The March 20, 2020 meeting minutes were approved as presented.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments were provided.

IV. ACTION ITEMS

David Coburn, Director of Athletics

Andy Miller, President & CEO of Seminole Boosters

Mr. Coburn reviewed the Athletics Department 2020-21 budget. While there are many uncertainties surrounding the upcoming seasons of our sport programs, particularly with the fall football schedule, AD Coburn presented the budget with the anticipation that sports will be played beginning in September. There are many potential factors that will change revenue projections, depending on which games are actually played. With regard to expenses, there are planned reductions in IT expenses (with the ACC Network now in place), compensation and benefits, team travel, and game guarantees.

Seminole Boosters Inc. CEO, Andy Miller, presented their upcoming budget. Mr. Miller stated that going forward the Seminole Boosters will be less reliant on the sale of real estate. Fundraising overall with the Renaissance campaign has been very positive, even during the pandemic. Some donors are reserving their sky boxes, as well as premium seats in the Champions Club. Season tickets have been sold to 19K boosters and others have indicated that they intend to renew season tickets, despite the uncertainty that surrounds the season. Challenges remain not knowing how much will be collected for

the annual fund and what the stadium capacity will be. The Coaches Clubs showed a record year in cash collections, and College Town is 100% pre-leased in commercial and residential units. The Boosters received between \$600K-800K from the Payroll Protection Program offered by the federal government. Additionally, a decrease of \$1.2M in expenses have been proposed, resulting in a budget reduction of 11%.

Director Burr commented that the two budgets presented still represent two separate entities of Athletics and Seminole Boosters. He recommended that going forward budget comparisons and any future motions should reflect the consolidated FSUAA, as intended by the restructuring process.

Action Item: Requesting Approval of the 2020-21 Athletics Budget.

Director Burr moved to approve the Athletics Budget. Director Davis seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

Action Item: Requesting Approval of the 2020-21 Seminole Boosters, Inc.

Director Burr moved to approve the Seminole Boosters, Inc. Budget. Director Davis seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

Ross Cobb, Athletics CFO, represented information on the recent ITN for the Athletics Association independent auditor contract. Of the five respondents, the Committee felt that awarding the contract to James Moore & Company, P.L. would be the best choice for the FSUAA, given their experience with athletics department audits. Mr. Cobb, therefore, proposed that the Board accept the recommendation to have James Moore & Company as the auditing firm for the FSUAA for the next three years.

Action Item: Requesting Approval of the FSUAA Independent Auditor Contract.

Director Davis moved to approve the FSUAA Independent Auditor Contract. Director Burr seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

V. SEMINOLE BOOSTERS REPORT

*Bob Davis, Chair of the Seminole Boosters, Inc.
Andy Miller, President & CEO of Seminole Boosters*

Director Davis reported that the final four candidates have now been identified in the Boosters CEO search. In addition, new Seminole Booster board members have been selected.

Andy Miller shared the results of the Legends survey sent to thousands of Seminole Boosters members. The results will help athletics/boosters determine what areas offer the best opportunities for investment in terms of fan engagement and revenue generation.

VI. STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE

Jim Curry, Senior Associate Athletics Director

Jim Curry provided an update on the strategic plan implementation. Phase I involves the survey instrument, which has been prepared with distribution initially targeted for March. With the university closure, and the uncertainty surrounding college athletics in general, Mr. Curry solicited feedback from the Board on the appropriate timing of moving forward with survey. Director Perrewé offered that since Phase I involves the development of the Association's mission and values that the launch date could proceed in the near future. The timing of Phase II, however, will be more complicated, not knowing how long the pandemic will last, and what the implications may be for the future of the collegiate athletics industry.

VII. BOARD OF TRUSTEES REPORT

Ed Burr, Chair of FSU Board of Trustees

Director Burr reported on the University's plan to reopen campus in the fall. This plan will be submitted to the Board of Trustees on June 18, and then to the Board of Governors for final approval on June 23. Director Burr and President Thrasher are optimistic that the campus will be able to reopen, allowing for flexibility with regard to changes in the numbers of infections locally and around the state. The ability to keep students, staff and faculty safe are paramount to reopening and adjustments will most likely need to be made as the end of August gets closer.

VIII. ATHLETICS DIRECTOR'S REPORT

David Coburn, Director of Athletics

AD Coburn reported on national issues of the NCAA; specifically, Name, Image and Likeness (NIL) legislation, the Anti-Trust decision by the California Federal Court of Appeals against the NCAA, and graduate transfer rules.

The recruiting dead period is still in effect through June 30. In addition, no summer camps will be permitted.

The NCAA has granted one year of additional eligibility to seniors in spring sports whose seasons were cut short. We currently have 23 seniors who have indicated that they will

return next year and the approximate cost will be \$500K. We have identified funding for half of the cost, with the remaining amount being covered from the restricted accounts of the sport programs.

Athletics has begun testing for the COVID-19 virus in stages for the fall sports. It has begun with football and will proceed to men's and women's basketball, then to cross country, women's soccer, and women's volleyball.

The NCAA authorized voluntary workouts beginning June 1, and we will proceed in phases, depending on test results.

A detailed reopening plan is being developed by a dedicated task force within Athletics. It will focus on the safe utilization of each of our facilities. We are also working with Boosters staff to develop stadium seating plans for fans, students, visiting fans, bands, etc.

Academically, the spring semester was a successful one with a department GPA of 3.44. The overall GPA for the academic year was 3.229. Our degree completion program continues to produce good results, with ten former student-athletes obtaining their undergraduate degrees since 2019.

Our social media presence has continued even without sporting events taking place, and our number of impressions with interviews and features have consistently been near the top of the ACC.

Mr. Coburn ended by commending the coaches, staff and athletes during this time for their understanding, dedication and flexibility to staying the course.

President Thrasher added that Coach Leonard Hamilton will be the commencement speaker for the summer graduation ceremony on July 31.

IX. OPEN FORUM FOR BOARD MEMBERS

Dr. Clark mentioned his desire to possibly develop a Student-Athlete Resiliency Program for Athletics. Given the current environment of uncertainty, he believes this could be beneficial in the weeks and months ahead.

Dr. Perrewé inquired of President Thrasher and AD Coburn what initiatives are planned to address the recent incidents of civil unrest around the country and our plans to address issues of diversity and inclusion. President Thrasher spoke of reaching out to

the leaders of our student groups as well as to community leaders to invite them to create dialogue and transparency among our students.

President Thrasher is meeting with the Atlantic Coast Conference Council of Presidents on June 15 to address the bylaws that govern the processes within the ACC. The goal is for the presidents to be much more involved in the day-to-day operations, budgets, and planning of Conference activities going forward. The search for a new ACC Commissioner will begin in August, and all of the university presidents will be involved in the process.

X. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, Chair Thrasher adjourned the meeting at 9:46 am.

DRAFT