

MEETING OF THE LAKE ERIE SWIMMING BOARD OF DIRECTORS
7:30 pm, Monday, September 23, 2024
[Zoom Meeting](#)

Mission: *To enrich the lives of our athletes through the sport of swimming by providing safe and inclusive programming in a culture that encourages competitive excellence and personal growth.*

Vision: *Lake Erie Swimming - inspiring the pursuit of excellence in swimming and in life. Branding words: Lead; Engage; Succeed; Inspire*

Minutes

CALL TO ORDER:

ROLL CALL / MEMBERS PRESENT: Avery Crabtree, Misty Caudill, Vince Colwell, Jelani Watkins, Sarah Tobin, Anna Fialko, Pam Cook,

CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATIONS:

[FORMER MEETING MINUTES](#)

ADDITION(S) TO AGENDA:

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APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:

I. Announcements:

A. USA Swimming Updates

1. September Business Meeting 9/26-29
2. Saving Lives Community Impact Grants (coming out end of September)
 - a) Due 12/15
 - b) Announced early Spring
3. SafeSport- MAAPP Policy to be released in early October
 - a) Webinar Oct. 15 at 1pm to go over updates/changes
 - b) Signatures needed by January 1
4. SafeSport Chair Workshop- 10/26
5. LSC Leaders Education Course newly launched
 - a) Vince requested all BOD members to take this 90+ minute course
 - b) Great resource especially in lieu of a governance committee
 - c) Misty also recommended this course and the resources that are a part of the course.
 - d) This is also helpful for board orientation or committee orientation
6. Coach & Female Leadership Clinics posted on USA Swimming site
 - a) Zooms that lead to clinic in Colorado. Growing LSC leaders. Should LESI support this? Yes please.
 - b) Coach Networks are still going and being recorded.
7. Officials: New starter and Admin courses added for October 1

B. Central Zone Meeting Update

1. Moving to quarterly meeting for GC/Admin/Chairs
2. 2026 Zone bids- Indiana and Wisconsin
 - a) Vote on this will take place at the Annual Business Meeting
3. The Athlete Summit is scheduled for June 19-22 at CSU. We are the backup as an LSC.

- C. Fall House of Delegates- Delayed until we have a Merger Document approved by the Board and ready to present to the membership (est. November)

II. Action Items:

- A. NONE

III. Discussion Items:

A. LESI/OSI Merger Legislation

- 1. Other Merger Updates ([Merger Google Drive Folder](#))
- 2. Representatives met with attorneys to discuss drafted merger legislation to satisfy OH law requirements. Financial discussions were brought up that should be discussed by each board.
 - a) Financial: On a per athlete basis, OH has about half as much in their reserve.
 - b) One possible solution: Lower our LSC amount per athlete and send the remainder of the money to teams within our LSC.
 - c) Another solution: Dispersing to athletes or another event for all athletes. These are not very practical given the remaining sum.
 - d) Question for future BOD meeting: Would we like to do an audit of Ohio's finances? This is recommended, but it is about \$10,000 or more to double check work.
- 3. Discussed a different board structure.
 - a) The merged LSC would have an Executive Board (monthly meetings) and a larger board (meeting quarterly).
 - b) No member would be kicked off (General or Finance Chair can only have one person serving in that role.)
 - c) Jelani's recommendation: Whichever LSC's general chair leaves the merged general chair role should be given priority for the new (currently not filled) roles in the Executive Board.
 - d) Vince plans to give the LESI BOD documents ahead of the next BOD meeting. This would be a time for signing the merger agreement.

B. Board/Committee Vacancies & Campaigning Efforts Update

- 1. Age Group Chair
- 2. Coach Rep (HOD)
- 3. Open Water Chair
- 4. Legislation Chair

C. Request for a Zone Report (Sarah shared updates, since she helped with entries this year)

- 1. 56 kids attended; a few swimmers did not have times in SWIMS, but Pam was able to assist with this.
- 2. If there were problems with entries, this may have been due to delayed responses from the meet host, but no problems were known on our end.
- 3. Pam has been attending Zone meetings, but she cannot contribute much from the local level. Pam advocated for Zones coordinators to be on future calls.

IV. Reports

A. Athlete Reps – George Libecco, Avery Crabtree

- 1. Big Fish Little Fish- Scheduled for Sunday, but only 6 teams have signed up. Numbers for the budget will come on Sunday. The event is set on instructors.

- B. Coach Reps – Anna Fialko
 - 1. No report.
- C. Admin Vice-Chair – Misty Caudill
 - 1. No report
- D. Senior – Cindy Dial
- E. Age Group – N/A
- F. Technical Planning – Sarah Tobin
 - 1. Proposed 2025 LC schedule will be sent to Jelani to send out to delegates.
- G. Treasurer – Kim Long
 - 1. [Balance Sheet Jan to September 1 2024](#)
 - 2. [P&L Jan to September 1 2024](#)
- H. Operational Risk - Branden Burns
- I. Secretary – Jelani Watkins
 - 1. No report.
- J. Membership/Registration/Permanent Office – Pam Cook
 - 1. [September Registration Update](#)
 - a) Running 20-25% less from Pre-Pandemic
 - 2. Top 10 and Records has been challenging to report, but Pam is hopeful to have this soon!
 - 3. OH's Permanent Office would like the LESI site to have a link to plans about the merger.
 - a) This idea was appreciated by members.
 - 4. Sanctioning is going well with the new approved format.
- K. Safe Sport Coordinator – Sarah Ondrejka
- L. DEI – Ronae Hughes

V. Old Business:

- A. NONE

VI. New Business:

- A. NONE

VII. Next Meeting: October 21st at 7:30pm via ZOOM

VIII. ADJOURNED: 8:15 pm