

COA BOARD

MEETING MINUTES

*Glendale Hilton Hotel, San Rafael Room
February 22, 2006*

A. WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER

Chair Eva Conrad called the meeting to order at 2:00PM. Members in attendance were Michael Bagley, Susan Carroll, Ned Doffoney, Thomas Fallo, Kathleen Hodge, Francisco Rodriguez, Jean Snuggs, and Carlyle Carter. Members unable to attend were Stan Arterberry, Helen Benjamin, Jackie Fisher, Sr., Logan McKechnie, and Rosa Perez. Chair Conrad noted that Michael Bagley will assist in obtaining a representative on this Board from the Chief of Student Services Association. She also advised that Ted Martinez, Jr., has regrettably resigned from the Board and that the Pacific Coast Conference will name a replacement soon. Dr. Martinez also chaired the Finance Committee and Thomas Fallo has agreed to serve as interim chair until the April organizational meeting and committee rosters are reviewed again. Dr. Conrad also reminded the Board that nominations for a Board chair for the upcoming year will need to be submitted soon.

B. REVIEW OF NOVEMBER 17, 2005, MINUTES

Dr. Conrad noted that these minutes are particularly important as they include a summary of Carlyle Carter's first impression of areas that he believes need some improvement. At the November meeting the Board asked Mr. Carter to move forward with drafting proposed legislation on behalf of the Board to address some of the issues. The proposed legislation will be reviewed later in the meeting. It was moved, seconded, and the motion carried (MSC) to approve the November 17, 2005, meeting minutes. These are available on the COA website at http://www.coasports.org/meetings/board_mins111705.pdf.

C. ADDITIONS/CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

None.

D. REPORTS

1. **COA Board Chair Eva Conrad** reminded the Board of the COA 9th Annual Convention to be held at the Radisson Hotel in Sacramento, April 5-7, 2006, and indicated that one of the changes Mr. Carter found feasible and appropriate to make pertains to the convention registration fee for Board and Management Council members, who are required to attend the business meetings. Therefore, this year the convention fee has been waived and Dr. Conrad thanked Mr. Carter for making the change. She also encouraged members to think about their CIOs and other colleagues they might want to bring to the convention to introduce them to activities pertaining to the athletic programs on their campuses.

Dr. Conrad reminded members that the legislation which is available on the COA website will be discussed at the conference meetings and of the importance of their attendance at these meetings. She proposed that the Board invite the conference commissioners to join them for dinner one evening of the convention. Board members agreed that it would provide an opportunity to thank the commissioners for their work and also to receive their incite on the issues at hand. The COA office will extend an invitation on Chair Conrad's behalf.

- 2. Executive Director Carlyle Carter** distributed a synopsis of his report and shared that mediation was held recently in San Francisco regarding the CCSF lawsuits. The mediator appointed was a retired judge. With expenses mounting the insurance company representing the COA recommended mediation in an attempt to "settle" the lawsuits as soon as possible. Mr. Carter advised that he was required to sign a confidentiality statement but did inform the Board that while the monetary aspect of the lawsuits is now resolved, a second part of the agreement is to issue a joint press release. He pointed out that the suits filed by CCSF focused on due process rather than violations and sanctions placed on the school's athletic program. The press release is currently being drafted and Mr. Carter indicated that he recently provided edits to reflect what he believes to be paramount in the situation – while not challenging the CCSF football team's position on intent in visiting American Samoa, the COA position remains that violations of COA Policy were committed.

Mr. Carter reviewed the changes that have since been made to the due process section in the *Constitution and Bylaws* and stated that if it was not clear before, it must be now, that we follow all processes to the letter.

A discussion was also held regarding the first contact rule and Mr. Carter informed the Board that he has asked the Management Council sport representatives and sport coaches' associations' presidents to attend a summit on March 7 in Fresno to address some of the issues that involve the sport coaches' associations and the relationship with the COA. The hope is that the sport coaches will develop and mandate their own rules regarding out-of-season competition and to stress the ultimate goal for our student athletes. The mission of the institution is an educational mission and the athletic departments should mirror that mission. Mr. Carter expressed his belief that Presidents must make it clear with their athletic director and coaches what the mission is and what the expectations are of the athletic program. The March 7 summit will also address the matter of contracts being entered into that commit their institutions to legal obligations of which the college president is frequently unaware. Mr. Carter reiterated that athletics is the most consistently visible activity on any campus and that we should take advantage of that. Sport coaches' associations need more servicing by the COA and a common purpose needs to be established. The meeting will also address additional issues such as decorum.

Mr. Carter reviewed the drafts of legislation advising that the draft pertaining to Title IX is conceptual at this point and still needs much work. The Gender Equity Committee has provided institutions with much assistance to become compliant with Title IX. Some progress has been made but not nearly enough and we are required by law to comply.

Some possible remedies are to introduce legislation that requires member colleges to be in compliance with Title IX in order to be eligible to participate in post-season play, with a proposed effective date of July 1, 2008. Another possibility is to include the issue in the conferences' program reviews.

It is also apparent that the section of the *Constitution and Bylaws* dealing with program review needs to state that program review is a *requirement* and also address the consequences for not conducting the same. Board members agreed that this issue needs more discussion and therefore the proposed legislation will not be introduced at the April meeting. Chair Conrad suggested that the legislative proposal for the fall meeting be written, specifying that program review is mandatory, includes Title IX compliance, and provides clear consequences for noncompliance. Members briefly discussed requiring copies of EADA reports to be sent to the COA office and suggested that the topic be placed on the agenda for discussion at the April meeting.

Mr. Carter stated that the Post-Conference Review Committee (PCRC) was initially an ad hoc committee of the Management Council charged with reviewing proposed legislation. Since the responsibilities are much broader than just post-conference matters it was suggested that the committee name be changed. After further discussion it was determined that the committee name would remain as is, however, the legislative process outlined in the Constitution and Bylaws should be amended to include the PCRC as a part of that process and identified as a standing committee of the Management Council. The Board directed Mr. Carter to submit this proposal at the April meeting on its behalf.

The next legislative proposal pertains to the appeals process and the merger of the two regional appeals boards in order to provide more consistency, thus a COA Appeals Board. The Board approved and directed Mr. Carter to submit this proposal at the April meeting on its behalf.

Mr. Carter discussed the Board's goal of structural participation and the one-school-one-vote concept and ways to make it easier to understand what the COA is about, noting that a commission is a regulatory body. Chair Conrad suggested that this become a topic of discussion at dinner with the commissioners.

Mr. Carter advised that the Disabilities Appeals Board is a specialized body and that one member retired last December and two more will retire in June. These positions need to be filled and nominations should be brought forward at the April meeting.

Men's Basketball submitted a request for Sport Augmentation Funds. It was (MSC) to approve the request for funds for \$2500.

At the November meeting Mr. Carter recommended that fewer Board meetings be held each year. It would be possible to narrow the number down to three meetings per year if there was only one legislation process per year. A possible scenario would be to have all proposed legislation submitted by July 1. The proposals would go out to the membership immediately where it would be discussed during the fall, a fall conference held in October (Board meeting #1). December 1 would be the deadline for any amendments to legislation that was submitted on July 1. In the following February at the meeting (#2)

held at the ACCCA conference, the Board would review and discuss the legislation along with any other issues. The Annual Convention (spring meeting) would offer open forums, but there will be no amending of the legislation. There would no longer be a necessity for two readings given the amount of time to discuss and evaluate the proposed legislation. Voting would not occur at the conference – only discussion. The final review by the Board would be in February and the vote would take place at the spring convention. In the event of an emergency the Board could require an “emergency meeting”. It was noted that one legislative session may not be suitable for operational issues. Dr. Carroll recommended that meetings be held on Fridays and also suggested that there needs to be language allowing for proxy votes by a Board member when he or she is not able attend. Chair Conrad recommended that Mr. Carter and Jean Snuggs work together to separate the operational from the policy instruction in the draft.

Mr. Carter indicated that he would be contacting Board members via email regarding a proposal request from corporate partner, US Bank.

I. ANNOUNCEMENTS

J. FUTURE BOARD MEETINGS

Friday, April 7, 2006, 8:00AM -9:30AM – COA Convention, Sacramento Radisson
May or June 2006 – TBD, COA Office, Sacramento

K. CLOSED SESSION/ADJOURNMENT

The Board entered into closed session at 4:15PM and adjourned after developing an evaluation format for the Executive Director.

Respectfully submitted,

Carlyle Carter
Executive Director