

## Illinois Water Polo Meeting Minutes for 1/11/21

Kyle Perry - President  
Beto Garcia - Vice President  
Heather Serrano - Treasurer  
Elizabeth Timmons - Secretary  
Carlos Ceja - BOD  
Jeff Plackett - BOD  
Rose Wimer - BOD  
Chris Cloy  
Jesse Zien  
Keith Yavett  
Megan Brownley  
Mike Cashman  
Tim Daniel  
Tom Musch  
John Murphy  
Ed Pryztelski  
Jeff Wimer

### 1. Opening comments – Kyle Perry

- A news article recently published concerning USA Water Polo and the behavior of a coach and an official directly contradicts the mission of Illinois Water Polo to “provide direction and growth of the sport of water polo in the state of Illinois at the player, coach, official, club, high school, and collegiate level.” This behavior is not acceptable and stands in direct contradiction to the values of Illinois Water Polo and the Board of Directors of officers who are responsible for ensuring the IWP mission and purpose are followed. This past week, IWP held a vote to remove a member of its board. Illinois Water Polo will not be making any other comments about the situation at this time. We look forward to the opportunity to connect with and re-engage any individual who has left the Illinois water polo community.
- Welcome to 2021 and we hope this year is going to be better in many ways.

### 2. Treasurer’s Report – Heather Serrano

#### a. Financial update: Goals for Q1, Formalized Expense Process (Approvals, Reimbursements, Forms)

- Heather presented a PowerPoint report. Highlights include:
  - Financial accomplishments included having cash coming in, but nothing going out as the season was canceled.
  - Heather has prepared taxes for the last 4 years so at this point we are all caught up and able to move forward normally with our taxes.
- For this year, we need to determine a budget that includes what we are expecting to spend and what we are expecting to bring in financially.
  - Once we have established this, we can use the data to see where our income is coming from and inform our financial decisions better.
- We are looking into removing the name of “Midwest Water Polo and Aquatics DBA Illinois Water Polo” and go forward as just Illinois Water Polo as this will save money and help out with bank deposits.
  - Discussed the history of the name as there were originally two different organizations working together that formed when there was a big push to bring national teams to Illinois and they were looking to help develop water polo programs in the Midwest.
  - At the time, both groups were formed and organized as tax exempt organizations.

- As one of the few current members from that time, Jeff Wimer said it would be ok to consolidate to just one organization now as originally there were members from Michigan and St. Louis but the current focus of the organization has been what is happening in Illinois.
  - Heather has created some goals for 2021:
    - Create a formal expense process, like most people have at work that will streamline the process for asking for money and reimbursements.
    - There was a short discussion about being able to invest some of our money into an endowment fund. Heather thinks this is a good idea but needs to research more.
    - Jesse has someone to connect Heather with to discuss options that can help us have our money grow.
3. Board of Director's Report - Kyle Perry, Jeff Plackett, Rose Wimer, and Carlos Ceja
- Kyle welcomed new members on the call and asked them to reach out to him and let him know what they believe they can help IWP with in the future. We are looking to get more people involved and helping with whatever their talents might be.
  - Current plans for expanding participation include putting together a communications committee and Mike Cashman volunteered to be a part of the committee.
  - IWP is looking to attract new members and hoping to find ways to get them involved in the organization.
4. Reports:
- A. All State Banquet – Elizabeth Timmons
- We are currently looking into the possibility of having a virtual gathering if we have a season. We would like to celebrate the players but need to make sure we can do that as safely as possible.
- B. Photography – Tom Musch
- Please remind players and parents to keep sending photos to Tom's website.
- C. Website – Jesse Zien
- a. SSL
- An SSL is probably necessary at this point as a security measure as a Secure Socket Layer makes the website less hackable and can help with search rankings.
  - Cost is \$79.99/ year
- b. Website update
- Jimmy Heard is interested in updating the website.
    - Currently set up with a theme and now we don't get any updates so that means design-wise there is not much else we can do with the site.
    - Jimmy and Jesse are hoping to discuss options and work on this during the summer when things are less busy.
    - Jesse is hoping to make the design more open ended and be able to change based on how someone is accessing the website (tablet, phone, etc).
5. Liaisons Report
- a. USWP Liaison – Midwest Board Members Present & ODP - Tim Daniel
- Currently ODP is in a holding pattern, especially because there are no pools available right now as everyone in Illinois is waiting for the governor, IDPH and IHSA to make some decisions.
- b. Chicago Park District - Beto Garcia
- Parks will probably be the last ones to open because they are in the city and would all open or all remain closed together.
  - Not Parks related but at the very least, when someone makes claims like the ones made against Perry, the person accused should be able to share their story as well.
- c. College Programs Liaison - Ryan Castle (Carthage)

- Nothing at this time
6. Discussion on eliminating the name Midwest Water Polo & Aquatics Association - Heather Serrano
- This was already discussed earlier so please see previous notes.
7. By-law committee (Kyle Perry and Mike Cashman) formed to look at current by-laws. If anyone is interested in helping with this, please reach out to either of these individuals.
8. IHSA update: COVID-19 Resources & Information
- As of 1/6/21 all sports on pause.
  - Carlos Seja had heard that Illinois might be looking at going to phase 4 as of 1/15 because that would be 2 weeks after the holidays. At this time, there is no information about when exactly any phase changes would take place but any updates will be posted and discussed at our next meeting.
  - As we return to play, IWP is looking to do whatever we can to get kids in the water as much as possible once safe and allowed.
    - Some things IWP would like to help with include: looking for water time for high school and age group athletes, wanting to promote and help organize events, and wanting to create experiences for kids
9. NCAA DII and DIII Water Polo College Water Polo Virtual Meet and Greet Event:  
<http://illinoiswaterpolo.net/college-water-polo-virtual-meet-and-greet-event-coming-up/>
10. Next meeting will be on Zoom: Monday, February 8 7:30pm
- Sundays were easier for travel but since we are using zoom for our current meetings, going forward, meetings will be on Monday until we can meet in person again. Monday, March 15 7:30pm, Monday, May 10 7:30pm, Monday, June 14 7:30pm, Monday, September 20 7:30pm, and Monday, November 16 7:30pm
11. Closing Comments & Adjournment