MINUTES OF MEETING

OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF

THE UNITED STATES ROWING ASSOCIATION

July 31, 2019

By Teleconference

Directors present: Marcia Hooper (Chair), Joe Manion, Falesha Thrash, Nobu Ishizuka, Lisa Stone, Charlie Haight, Jamie Redman, Nick LaCava, Matt Hughes, Darlene Disney, Steven Shure, Megan O'Leary, Greg Benning, Jimmy Sopko.

Others present: Patrick McNerney (CEO), Susan Smith (Chief Domestic Officer), Andrew Lee (outside counsel)

The Chair called the meeting to order.

CEO Update

Mr. McNerney described the success and significance of, and positive feedback about, USRowing's production of the U23 World Championship, including ESPN3 distribution of the entire five-day event. Mr. McNerney also described his recent meeting with FISA representatives, including discussion about the future of the Olympic program and the long-term media strategy to provide more media exposure for the national team, the sport, and potential sponsors. Mr. McNerney also advised that USRowing recently concluded another major Olympic Development Program (ODP) event with 350 athletes and over 50 coaches and described additional events planned for the fall. Mr. McNerney continued by updating the board on Nathan Benderson Park's plans to further develop the park for rowing with the additions of new boathouses.

Domestic Programs Update

On the domestic front, Mr. McNerney advised that USRowing has launched its Level 3 coaching program and has been receiving positive feedback about the coaching development and education program overall. Mr. McNerney stated that event entry numbers are currently on target, with the exception of a lower turnout for the rebranded National Championships in Cincinnati. Mr. McNerney updated the Board on the status of the USOC's audit of USRowing's internal policies and procedures, which is nearing completion. Mr. McNerney stated that the recent Youth National Championships had been a successful event and that the organization had, in particular, received positive feedback about the attendance of the Board at the event.

Junior Lightweight Rowing

Mr. McNerney advised the Board that he recently hosted a conference call, with more than 200 participants, to discuss the future of junior lightweight rowing. Mr. McNerney raised with the Board the question of whether USRowing should continue to include junior lightweight rowing at USRowing sanctioned events. There was vigorous discussion and debate among the Board, with a full airing of views across a wide range of issues, including safety and weight management protocols. The Board ultimately concluded that more information was needed in order to make an informed decision, which Mr. McNerney was charged with gathering prior to a separate meeting to be held on the matter.

Finance Committee Report
Mr. McNerney advised that, after the last Board meeting in June, management had updated its financial forecasts and presented them to the Finance Committee. The current forecast includes an anticipated deficit, and management is working with the Finance Committee to put contingencies in place to achieve a balanced budget. Mr. McNerney expressed his confidence that the organization will operate on a balanced budget for the year. Mr. LaCava stated that the Finance Committee's top priority is a balanced budget.

Mission Statement
Mr. McNerney requested that all Board members review an email recently circulated by Ms. Hooper about a proposed new USRowing mission statement, for inclusion in the upcoming Strategic Plan, which he hopes the Board will discuss and approve at the next meeting.

Ms. Hooper moved to adjourn the meeting, which Mr. LaCava seconded and which passed unanimously.