USA Track and Field Masters Committee Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: Sunday, October 4, 2026

Time: 6:00 P.M. ET

Location: Zoom Virtual Meeting

🗒️ **Attendance**

Executive Committee Members Present:

- **Rachel Guest** (Interim Chair)
- **Damon Blakemore** (Interim Vice Chair)
- **Colleen Barney** (Interim Secretary)
- **Landen Lama** (Interim Treasurer)
- **Phil Pillin**
- **Sandy Pashkin**
- **Roman Marenin**
- **Walé Aka-Bashorun**
- **Tina Klein**
- **Sue Hallen**
- **Mark Williams**
- **Dan Pierce**
- **Cheryl Bellaire**
- **George Mathews**
- **Marty Johnson**
- **Christina Yarmul**
- **Perry Jenkins**

1. Call to Order and Determination of a Quorum Interim Chair Rachel Guest officially called the meeting to order at 3:00 PM Arizona time. Rachel Guest confirmed that a quorum was present to officially conduct committee business.

2. Reading and Approval of Minutes Colleen Barney presented the minutes from the previous Executive Committee meeting for approval.

- **Motion:** Sandy Pashkin made a motion to approve the minutes as sent.
- **Seconded:** Landen Lama.
- **Result:** Motion Carried. Roman Marenin officially abstained due to his absence at the prior meeting.

3. Reports of Officers, Boards, and Standing Committees

- **Financial Review:** Landen Lama reported that the 2026 budget is projected to finish approximately $75,000 under budget, largely due to underutilized travel funds. Stipends for officials (roughly $20,000) are fully accounted for in the forecast. Entry fees for indoor, outdoor, and throws championships are sent directly to the Local Organizing Committees (LOC). The status of "The Depot" foundation funds is unknown, and Rachel Guest will contact Chris Pasko and Mike Travers for clarity. To mitigate excess implement shipping costs, Sue Hallen volunteered to travel to the Indianapolis warehouse to inventory and organize equipment into pelican cases. The 2027 budget submission includes a $15,000 line item for new equipment and proposes a $400 flat travel rate stipend for event heads.
- **Officer Updates:** Rachel Guest noted that a planned debrief regarding a meeting with Renee was postponed due to scheduling conflicts among the interim officers, Chris Pasko, and Renee. The meeting is anticipated to take place early in the upcoming week to discuss continued support for growing the Masters membership.

4. New Business:

Meeting Protocol The committee discussed meeting protocols, emphasizing the need for clear agendas and the resumption of posting meeting minutes to the MTF website, which has not been done since 2024.

Election of Board Representative Landen Lama introduced the need for a formal evaluation and endorsement procedure for the contested USATF Board of Directors seat.

Motion 1: To Establish a Formal Candidate Endorsement Process

- **Motion:** Landen Lama moved to decide on the question of whether or not the Executive Committee should endorse or recommend a candidate for the Board Representative to the annual meeting.
- **Seconded:** Phillip Pillin.
- **Discussion:** The committee debated the merits of making an official endorsement. It was agreed that a two-thirds majority vote by the Executive Committee would be required to officially endorse any candidate**.**
- **Vote Type:** Voice vote.
- **Result:** Motion Carried unanimously among the voting members present, with Landen Lama abstaining.

Motion 2: To Determine the Timeline for the Endorsement Process

- **Motion:** Landen Lama moved to hold a separate executive committee meeting to vote on a candidate endorsement roughly a month ahead of the Annual Meeting (a "Yes" vote), as opposed to voting at the Annual Meeting itself (a "No" vote).
- **Seconded:** Colleen Barney.
- **Discussion:** Committee members discussed whether providing an endorsement a month early would unfairly sway the electorate or if it would appropriately provide voters with well-vetted information before the Annual Meeting.
- **Vote Type:** Voice vote.
- **Result:** Motion Carried, with one dissenting vote and Landen Lama abstaining..

Annual Meeting Preparation: Rachel Guest outlined the tentative schedule for the Annual Meeting in Portland, which includes two Executive Committee meetings, three full committee meetings, one joint MTF/MLDR meeting, and meetings for region coordinators and associations. She requested that all committee members submit at least one agenda topic idea via email.

- **Election of Actively Engaged Athletes:** The committee has up to 39 voting positions for actively engaged athletes. Because the National Office does not provide an advance list of eligible active athletes, Colleen Barney and Rachel Guest will meet with the National Office to determine if the list can be shared or if communications can be sent directly to eligible individuals. Otherwise, nominations will be taken from the floor.

- **Procedures for Filling Unfilled Positions:** Rachel Guest reported that she emailed current committee chairs and USATF committee representatives to confirm their intent to continue in their roles, which will help clarify vacant positions ahead of the 2027 elections.

Action Items: The following items were agreed to as action items before the next meeting:

- **Rachel**: Contact Chris Pasko and Mike Travers regarding the status of "the depot" account.
- **Rachel**: Submit meeting request forms to Deah for the annual meeting sessions.
- **Landen**: Draft and distribute the detailed board representative endorsement procedure and timeline.
- **Committee Members**: Email suggested agenda items and one unique idea for the annual meeting to Rachel.
- **Cheryl**: Send steeplechase safety rule change proposal to Sandy and Marty for review.
- **Colleen**: Send minutes for review, send next meeting date and time together with agenda.

5. Adjournment A motion to adjourn was made by Roman Marenin. The motion was seconded by Sandy Pashkin and Damon Blakemore. The general meeting was officially adjourned at 7:39 P.M. ET.