

SUBJECT: Minutes of the Executive Board Open Meeting, September 12, 2023

1. Purpose. This document captures the minutes of the Executive Board (EB) Open Session Meeting held via Zoom on Tuesday, September 12, 2023.
2. President Randy Bauer called the meeting to order at 8:08 pm Eastern time. President Bauer called the roll and the following EB members were present:
 - Randy Bauer (IA), President
 - Kevin Pryor (FL), Vice President (VP)
 - Chuck Unruh (OK), VP of Finance
 - Mike Hoffpauir (VA), Secretary
 - David Hater (GA), Member at Large
 - John Fernandez (MO), Member at Large
 - Lakshmana (Vish) Viswanath (TX), Member at Large
 - Leila D’Aquin (LA), Member at Large
 - Carol Meyer, Executive Director
3. President Bauer asked the members whether anyone had any new conflicts of interest to disclose. There were none.
4. The President recognized VP of Finance (VPF) Chuck Unruh for a short financial update. VPF Unruh noted that the 1st quarter of the US Chess business year is often a difficult quarter for US Chess, but this year it was a good quarter. He noted, “We’re significantly ahead (\$238K) of the budget ... because investments are going well, and memberships are strong.” He added, “Cash flow is good.”
5. ED Carol Meyer said that Ranae Bartlett has started in her role as Director of Operations. She is focusing now on Safe Play matters but will soon turn her attention to other important areas. ED Meyer also noted that US Chess will soon hire a Program person to replace Jennifer Shahade, and that when that hiring happens the Office will be fully staffed.
6. ED Meyer reported that the financial audit should be finished soon. She said there have been some minor edits to the Audit since the Board viewed the draft at the US Open. VPF Unruh noted that he has reviewed the draft and recommended the Board approve it.
7. The Executive Board then went into Closed Session.
8. The EB reconvened in Open Session at 9:45 pm Eastern time and addressed two items—the committee members for the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee, and the contract for guest rooms at the 2026 Elementary Nationals in Baltimore.
 - a. **EB24-012 – BOARD:** The Executive Board moves to appoint Michael Aigner (CA), Louis Reed (TX), Martha Underwood (AZ), Christina Schweiss (VA), Saiya Karamali (WA), Daaim Shabazz (FL), Abhinav Suresh (NE), and Robin Ramson (DC) to the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Committee.
PASSED 8-0.

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After the vote President Bauer reminded everyone that establishing a DEI Committee was an action directed to the Executive Board by the Delegates (DM22-39).

EB24-013 – BOARD: The Executive Board moves to approve the contract with the Hyatt Regency Baltimore for guest rooms to support the 2026 National Elementary Championships.

PASSED 8-0.

ED Meyer pointed out that this site is a return location (Baltimore Convention Center) and that the Hyatt Regency is an anchor hotel for players and families attending the tournament.

- b. **EB24-014 – BOARD:** The Executive Board moves to adopt the agreement between US Chess and Element 3 Health.

PASSED 8-0.

9. Having heard no further business President Bauer introduced a motion to adjourn which was seconded and unanimously approved at 9:36 pm Eastern time.

Prepared by: Mike Hoffpauir, EB Secretary