

Bemidji Community Arena Corporation Board

Monthly Board Meeting

September 9, 2025 6:15 am

BCA Meeting Room

Meeting Minutes

Board Members Present: Ben Wangberg, Courtney Aitken-Gifford, Donny Wilcox, Leisha Gregg, Troy Strassburg, Jake Reierson, Bruce Bentfield, Marcia Larson, Travis Reierson

Board Members Absent: Dr. Jim Dewar, Chris St. Peter

Guests: Isaiah Bitter, Dillon Eichstadt, 218 Sports: Jason Brodina, Tracy Pogue, Amber Frykland, Ryan Rude, Kris Christopher

Meeting called to order at 6:16 am

Regular Business:

The meeting minutes for the August meeting were sent by email to the board members for review. A motion to approve August meeting minutes by Donny, second by Troy. Motion passed.

The Treasurer Report for August was sent by email to the board for review. The members discussed the report. Motion by Ben to approve the report, seconded by Bruce. Motion passed.

The Rink Manager's Report was sent by Isaiah by email, and he presented at the meeting. The training in Grand Rapids went well and Isaiah would like to go annually. We are hiring at the rinks! There is a need for four more staff for the season. Please share on social media and with the community. Nymore will open November 1 with a 12UB game.

Other Business

- 218 Sports (7:10 am) – Ryan Rude, ED and board members joined the meeting to discuss their organization's history and upcoming events. Ryan presented the dates for tournaments for 2026: April 10-12, April 17-19, May 1-3 and August 14-16. They are asking to keep the ice in FNB rink through the late April tournament, last year's ice out date was April 1. The August tournament works fine; ice will be in for BYHA hockey camp. 218 offered to help fill free ice rental times if we extend the ice in FNB or any time. BCA board will reach out to the Bemidji Area Schools to confirm using the Nymore rink for any spring sports

fulfills our contract. BCA will give an answer on the April tournaments after the October 7 BCA board meeting to 218 Sports.

- Bemidji Figure Skating Club is asking to hang 2 jump harnesses permanently in the Sanford rink. The harnesses will be locked in metal cabinets and out of the way of traffic of the usage of the rink. Only BFSC will have access to unlocking. Ben made a motion to approve BFSC's request subject to a design/installation plan being approved by BCAC management before any work is initiated. Second by Bruce. Motion passed.
- Project Committee Updates
 - Rubberized Flooring - Donny and Isaiah will patch next week to get us through the season. On hold with the roof and repairs to the rink cooling tour we didn't anticipate.
 - De-humidification - BYHA is looking for more of a formal plan and not opposed to any of our plans.
 - Generator - the used one does not fit our rink and may have potential to cause more issues than a new one, we will not be pursuing this option. The board is ready to move forward with a new one, but now the discussion is on how to pay for it.
 - Capital Campaign - we will start a fundraising committee for all building improvements. Ben, Donny, Courtney, Isaiah, Bruce and Marcia will be meeting on Thursdays at 6:00 am starting September 18 (Courtney will send agenda and invites). This committee will get a formalized plan with the projects and cost, and possible funding options to present to board.
- Historical/Memorial/Honor Wall Committee - ongoing agenda item

Marketing:

Update - Please ask 2 businesses to be sponsors in the arena. Leisha will be working on renewals for the season with invoices going out in October.

The next regular Board Meeting will be October 7, 2025, at the BCA Meeting Room.

Meeting adjourned at 7:42 am.

Respectfully submitted by Courtney Aitken Gifford