

Brainerd Baxter Baseball Association BBBA

April 2025 Board Meeting Minutes

MEETING DETAILS:

Date: April 14, 2025

Time: 6:00 pm Central Time

Location: Brainerd High School Conference Room

President Corey Johnson called the regular Board of Directors meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

Present: Corey Johnson, Matt Means, Nate Olson, Trent Grams, Andy Campbell, Jeremiah Piepkorn, Mike DeRosier, Ashly Gilson and Kristine Kottke

Jeff Hanson – Representative from HyTec Construction

Mike Habighorst – City of Brainerd Public Works Director

Absent: N/A

Quorum present? Yes

Approval of the Minutes

There was a call by Chairperson Johnson to approve the meeting minutes of the previous meeting held on March 3, 2025.

The motion was made by Ashly Gilson, seconded by Nate Olson and carried without dissent.

Approval of and/or Additions to Agenda

A meeting agenda was distributed to all attendees via email prior to the meeting. A motion to approve was made by Matt Means, the motion was seconded by Mike DeRosier and carried without dissent.

Open Forum

- Scoreboard Meeting with Jeff Hanson from HyTec and Mike Habighorst, Public Works
 - The new Scoreboards should arrive tomorrow and the City is ready for installation at any time. The City just needs a short heads up time. HyTec thinks they can complete within the next few weeks.
 - New pillars are needed at Bane.
 - Power should be fine at Jaycees and Bane Parks but Hytec will do a quick inspection.
 - Hytec will dispose of the old boards upon approval by The City.
 - Daktronics will come in May to make sure everything is hooked up correctly and running.

- The City will make a sign with the QR codes for scoring.
 - The City is very amenable to further collaborations such as these.
- Bane Specific Considerations
 - Pretty straight forward, will be easy to get in and out from The City's perspective.
- Jaycee's Park Specific Considerations
 - The City addressed some concerns about access to existing boards by HyTec but reiterated that all will be done to allow HyTec access to the areas. Hytec will use a track skid steer for installation

President's Report – Corey Johnson/Nate Olson

- Battle of the Lakes Update
 - 6 teams have now dropped out of the tournament and we would like to fill those spaces. Corey is working through the waitlist and he reopened registration. Discussion was had about putting something back on the MYAS website about our tournament being opened.
 - 9U and 10U requested to play AA. The Board supports.
 - Competition is beyond level for the 9U team in the AAA division. They have a young team and believe the AA level is best for learning, at-bats and safety.
 - 10U is not playing any tournaments in the AAA schedule this year. AA at the home tournament will match the rest of their schedule.
- Parents Meeting/Coaches Meeting/Team Manager
 - Parents Meeting
 - The parent meeting went very well. Many compliments by parents as to efficiency and how it was run. Many compliments were made to Corey on the presentation.
 - Coaches Meeting
 - This also went well. Some questions were brought up about fundraising but are being addressed individually.
 - Team Manager Meeting
 - A Team Manager Meeting for all team managers via Zoom will be scheduled in the near future.

Treasurer's Report – Matt Means

- All Association accounts are up to date as of March 31, 2025. We have that Statement in our files. There are a few unpaid items coming up but we are in an excellent position.
- A few refunds will be going out to teams over the next week who canceled from our Home Tournament.
- Scoreboards Cost:

- \$26,000 is a rough estimate at this time. Upon installation completion we will have the final number.

Secretary's Report – Kristine Kottke

- No updates at this time

Committee Reports

- NONE

Old Business:

- Sponsorship
 - We have a list started of sponsors
 - Ashly will work on a list of current sponsors for coaches.
 - Parents seem to be amenable to the buy-out option in lieu of fundraising the extra \$250.
 - If there are two athletes in one family the a \$750 or above sponsorship level for those two athletes.
- Scheduling
 - Ashly has been made aware there are some scheduling issues with the City of Baxter and some potential conflicts with summer T-Ball. It seems that Loren Thomsen Field may be blocked off for us but hopefully that can be updated and we can use that field. We are hoping for more Oscar Kristopherson Park field times as soon as Rec Ball schedules are finalized.
 - Mills Field is not on the schedule yet but will be soon.
 - Access to the Forestview Fields was granted today so coaches can look for that as a scheduling option going forward.
- Fall Tryouts
 - Upon discussion with coaches, the Association is hoping to hold 13U and 14U tryouts at the end of July 2025.
 - Tentative dates are July 22-23. Jeremiah is working to secure evaluators for those dates.

New Business:

- Keys for Parks
 - Brainerd Parks: Discussion was had about placing lockboxes with keys at Bate and Jaycees or potentially just making more keys for coaches. The Association would prefer to limit the number of sets of keys floating around as its too much to keep track of year to year. A lockbox is more feasible and The City is agreeable with that. A safe place for the lockboxes will need to be determined at each park.
 - Baxter Park: Lockboxes will work here as well.

- Coach Fairbanks and an 18U Team
 - Coach Fairbanks has approached the Association about adding an 18U Team to our Association umbrella. In the past, there has been a Legion baseball summer team but they are exploring the idea of moving away from that format. Coach Fairbanks would like to be included in our Association for insurance coverage purposes. The 18U Team would not commingle funds with ours for anything, they would not be involved in how the Association is run and we would not be involved in the 18U team in any way.
 - The team would be labeled 18U under the Brainerd Baxter Baseball Association.
 - Would there be any additional costs to our Association to add them to our insurance coverage?
 - If so, the 18U Team would be responsible for absorbing those insurance costs.
 - Our insurance coverage will allow us to roster up to 19U but we need to verify.
 - BBBA treasuries and funds would be completely separate from the 18U treasuries and funds.
 - Kris and Corey will likely need to work on language to add this addition/change to our Bylaws or Handbook.
 - This issue will come before the Board at a later date for motion.
 - Associations Team Days with the Varsity
 - Dates have been set as follows:
 - 9U - 4/24
 - 10U - 4/25
 - 11U - 5/2
 - 12U - 5/6
 - 13U - 5/10 (either 11am or 3pm)
 - 14U - 5/15
 - Players will come to the Varsity dugout 45-60min before the game with coaches and join Varsity on the field during starting line-ups and anthem. Youth players should wear Brainerd Baseball apparel/jerseys. Youth players will leave dugout during game for safety.
- Fundraiser Prize
 - Prizes will be given to fundraiser participants who have raised the most funds individually. Prizes will not be given to those raising sponsorship funds.
 - A motion made by Nate Olson to award \$100 cash each to the top 10 individual fundraisers. The motion was seconded by Ashly Gilson and carried without dissent.
- More Equipment for Parks

- What updates need to be made to batting cages, equipment, etc to Bane, Jaycee's and Mills Parks in Brainerd?
 - A list needs to be compiled by the Association of what needs to be updated at Brainerd City Parks. That list will then be brought to Mike Habighorst at the City of Brainerd.
- With the idea that lockboxes will be installed at some parks, should our Association purchase more and/or updated equipment to keep those parks?
 - Said equipment could include, but not be limited to:
 - Pitch Pockets
 - Portable Mounds
 - Weighted Balls
 - Catchers Gear
 - Coaches will be asked to comprise a list of equipment that is needed and submit to the Association.
 - The Association will need to consider vandalism or stolen property at certain fields when making decisions about storing equipment on property.
- School District Use Agreement
 - The Association has the opportunity to invest our time and money on School District Baseball Fields in exchange for our use of said District Fields. It is in the Associations best interest to explore this Agreement further.
- Association Pictures – Images by Angel
 - The Association will use Images by Angel for team photography this year. The schedule for this will be coming out very soon.
 - Images by Angel can also help format team photos for those interested in creating Team Banners.

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn made by: Ashly Gilson

Seconded by: Nate Olson

Meeting adjourned at 7:55

Next meeting: May 12, 2025, at 6:00 PM

Addendum to Minutes: