Meeting was called to order at 6:35 by Colleen Spiegelhoff.

The board welcomed 4 coaches from Section V who attended by invitation the RBWLO business meeting. The coaches attending were EJ Burse from Pal-Mac, Kerrie Brown from East Rochester, Kathryn Kenney from Livonia and Anthony Yandek from Mercy. The invitation was to help address concerns that may have occurred throughout the season by the coaches and officials. Some of the areas of concern were game management, communication and stick checks.

Game management: The coaches would like the calls to be consistent from the first whistle to the last whistle. They would also like to see the constituency from game to game. They gave examples of some inconsistencies that they experienced on their games and witnessed watching other games.

Communication: It was agreed by both the coaches and officials that it is never a good situation when emotion becomes part of the communication in the game. It was also agreed that this emotion should not turn into animosity that is carried from game to game. Coaches understand that the official cannot give explanation during the game but would like an acknowledgment that they are being heard. An explanation of a call can be addressed to both coaches during half time or a time out. The coaches would also like to have the officials to introduce themselves before the game and not just wonder where the vouchers are.

Stick checks: The coaches would like all the officials to be consistent with the stick checks that are being done before the game starts. They were concerned with the fact that some officials were allowing illegal sticks while other officials were not. Jason stated that after this forum was completed, stick checks was going to be addressed further as part of RBWLO business meeting.

The coaches thanked the board for allowing this forum between the officials and coaches.

The meeting continued with Jason passing out a handout on the 2016 Stick Check Procedures. He went over the pregame inspection of the sticks and what needs to be looked at. Officials are to check sticks pre-game for pocket depth, legal stringing on side walls, and measure length (at beginning of season and if asked by a coach). If asked to check a stick during a game, officials are to check for pocket depth and length if asked by the coach. (It was clarified after the meeting that officials are not to check the strings, only the depth of the pocket). The stick check is to be done facing the coach that requested the stick check. If determined that the stick is illegal, the official is to walk the stick to the table.

Motion to approve minutes from the February 22, 2016 business meeting was made by Steve Simon and seconded by John Natti. Motion passed and minutes were approved.

Colleen reported that the Executive Board approved service credit for those who attend and work at the National Tournament. No service credit will be given if the official is being rated.

Officials received information that the Webster School District would like all payments to be direct deposit. This will be effective July 1, 2016. It is not mandatory for officials to participate in this program.

Colleen gave a Treasurers report. She stated that there is $5,952.17 in the RBWLO account.
MJ reported that there are currently 4 officials who have not been scheduled for their rating. She stated that officials being rated will now be Levels instead of Locals. A level 1 will not have to be rerated for up to 2 years while a level 2 and 3 will have to be rerated within 3 years. Youth officials and apprentices will need to be rerated every year.

Jason reported that he has 2 weeks left to assign for the regular season. He thanked officials for few turn backs and for checking the schools websites to verify the game date, time and site. If there is a weather delay, the coaches can agree that the game is complete if 80% of the game has been played. He said to reference page 26 of the rule book for continuation of the game. Schools are to call the official on the day of the contest if there are any changes. If this happens, the officials are asked to notify Jason of any change via email.

Jill reported on the USL Chapter information that the Senior All Star Game will be taking place on June 5, 2016. She stated that service credit will be given for officials who volunteer for this game.

Steve Simon reported that Muddy Buddies is a service credit opportunity for officials. He sent around a sign-up sheet for Muddy Buddies. He also asked that the Sportmanship surveys be submitted as soon as possible.

MJ reported that contract negotiations with Section V are in arbitration.

There are several positions that are to be voted on at the next meeting. Colleen asked for and received nominations for the following positions:

Secretary – Kathy Brown
Treasurer – Heather Major, Dave Weaver
Assignor – Jason Brightful
Sub Assignor – Frank Marino, Heather Major
Rules Interpreter –
Ratings Coordinator – MJ Vrooman
Service Coordinator – Chris Pessagno
Member at Large – Refik Nuhanovic
College Board Rep. – Steve Simon
Sportmanship – Steve Simon
USBC Rep. – MJ Vrooman
USL Chapter Rep. – Jill McCabe, John Natti

Colleen asked that all nominations be submitted no later than May 24, 2016 via email to Kathy Brown at kmcbrown@rochester.rr.com.

Motion was made by MJ Vrooman to adjourn and seconded by Kevin Drumgoole. Motion was carried and the meeting adjourned at 8:16.