

The meeting of the Louisiana Music Educators Association Board of Directors was called to order at 9:30 a.m., January 6, 2018 with the following present: Fran Hebert, Carol Lupton, Sharon McNamara-Horne, Bruce Lambert, Greg Oden, Brett Babineaux, Sharon Stephenson, Guy Wood, Jim Trant, Joseph Nassar, Michael Townsend, Katrice LaCour, Michele White, Ed McClellan, Carolyn Herrington, Pat Deaville, James Hearne, Tom Wafer, Angele Bienvenu and Kelly Stomps.

Moved by Guy Wood and 2nd by Greg Oden to approve the agenda. PASSED

Moved by Jim Trant and 2nd by Carolyn Herrington to approve the minutes. PASSED
(Changed District 7 to read District 7 is not in favor of going to one level of LMEA Assessment.)

Moved by Ed McClellan and 2nd by Greg Oden to approve the financial report. PASSED

Fran Hebert stated she enjoyed the LMEA Conference. She thanked everyone for their part in making it successful. The LMEA Executive Board met during the conference to discuss LMEA Music Assessments. Because of testing, spring breaks and several other issues, regional assessments are very hard to schedule and extremely difficult for bands, choirs and orchestras to attend. The idea of returning to one state assessment instead of regionals does not solve the problems with scheduling. The Executive Board felt like we should look into having only one level of LMEA Assessment, either districts or regionals. District directors need to get feedback from their membership. Fran stated that changes in LMEA music assessments should be productive.

Carol Lupton reported she has finished the certificates for academic all state. She will be sending certificates and remaining medals to schools very soon. Carol suggested we change the academic all state certificate when we run out of the current certificates. She stated securing All State equipment is a real chore. The LMEA Board needs to look into ways of improving the process of getting equipment for All State.

Sharon McNamara-Horne reported 445 people registered for conference. We had teachers from 224 schools. (no colleges are included in this number). Sharon provided district directors a current roll of their district. She asked district directors to check the current roll and make corrections as soon as possible. Sharon stated all-state online registration seemed to go pretty smooth. She needs feedback from division chairs on concerns and suggested changes.

LMEA took 629 credit card payments this fall. We cleared \$480.10 (profit) from processing fees we charged for anything related to credit card payments. Sharon is updating the State/Regional Assessment registration. There will be a required login. She will put credit card options on the State/Regional Assessment registration form.

A list of nominees was presented to the LMEA board for 2018 elections:

President – Scotty Walker	Band Division – Joseph Nassar
Vocal Division – Angela Jones	Orchestra Division – Katrice LaCour
Jazz Division – Lee Hicks	Elementary Division – Michele White
Public Relations – Carolyn Herrington	Collegiate NAFME – Ed McClellan
University Division – Victor Drescher	District IV – Katie Codina

Moved by Sharon McNamara-Horne and 2nd by Carolyn Herrington to accept these nominees. PASSED

District 1 – Greg Oden stated District 1, as always, is doing fine. Dr. Mike Spears is in a nursing home. (Landmark Nursing Home). It would be nice to send him a note. Contact Greg for more information.

District 2 – absent

District 3 – Brett Babineaux reported all was fine in District 3. Ryan Dufrene will run the LMEA Jazz auditions for District 3 next year.

District 4 – Katie Codina emailed a report. She stated directors in her district have an overwhelming desire to eliminate two LMEA music assessments and go to a combined district/state assessment. There is a lot of support for 3 judges in the sight-reading room. Many directors in District 4 would like to see three areas of improvement for LMEA Conference. First, more clinics on the day the All State Bands check-in. Second, try to avoid double booking “hot topic” clinics. Third, the very late nite sessions for band are not well attended because directors prefer to go to dinner and network that way.

District 5 – Sharon Stephenson reported everything was going well in District 5.

District 6 – Guy wood stated that Gerry Orkus had passes away. He would like to see the LMEA Conference program go back to its original form. The “School Band and Orchestra Director” magazine featured Guy in its last edition.

District 7 – Jim Trant reported everything was fine in District 7.

District 8 – Mark Minton called in a report. He stated District 8 was in favor of going to one LMEA Assessment and preferred keeping the District Level. Everything is ready for LMEA State/North Regional Assessment at Airline High School on April 24 (choir), 25-26 (band and orchestra).

District 9 – Jessica Lizana was not present. She sent word that all was good in District 9.

Band Division – Joseph Nassar reported he was in the process of securing All-State conductors for 2018. The new process for registering students at the conference was very effective. Joey stated we must revisit the process and procedures for securing percussion equipment for All State groups. According to the handbook, the division chairs are responsible for coordinating equipment for their groups with assistance from the president-elect.

Future State/Regional Assessments was discussed at the Conference Band Division meeting. Directors support moving to a single assessment with higher standards. They would like to see a panel of two or more judges for sight-reading. Combining of districts could make the events more flexible and prestigious. The band directors support adding a process for substitution to the Louisiana PML for large ensemble assessment. Joey discussed a new system for auditions to the All State Bands. This would include recording first round auditions and submitting all recordings to be judged. Judges would select a list of students to audition live at the second round. The process would not be based on district quotas, but rather would include the best candidates for second round. The board discussed this for several minutes. Joey will take some of the suggestions and present another proposal at the May meeting.

The new snare drum audition material will be used starting in 2018. Joey stated bass trombone numbers are extremely low. All bass trombone positions were filled by tenor trombones because of low audition scores. Also, there are very few parts in the band literature for bass trombone.

Jazz Division – absent

Orchestra Division – Katrice LaCour thanked the board members for their help with the All State Orchestra. He would like to get wind and percussion students’ general information next year, as soon as second round results are available. The new registration time for All State Orchestra was great, but warm-up conflicted with the All State Choir rehearsal in Cypress. The guest performance, Northwestern State University, was outstanding. The 2018 All State Orchestra Conductor will be Soo Han from Michigan State University. Katrice stated all orchestras will need to attend band state/regional assessments, there will no be a separate state orchestra assessment.

Vocal Division – Michael Townsend reported everything is great in the choir division. Thanks to all who were involved with making the All State Choirs a success. The students evidently used the recorded practice tracks. Students were well prepared. Jude Wilson will not be able to do them next year. Greg Oden and Jim Trant have stated they are able to assist with this next year. The thought of a note check,

and serious repercussions, worked as intended. The Vocal Division suggests having more than one judge in sight-reading. The choir directors at LMEA Conference would like to go back to one State Assessment, or at least go to two – North and South. Many were not in favor of just one LMEA assessment instead of district and state levels. Choir directors are overwhelmingly against recordings for all-state auditions. If the board decides to go this direction, procedures must be in place that all districts have the same recording equipment and one place to record in each district. The 2018 All Choir Conductors are: John Parker for the Womens' Choir and Mack Wilberg for the Mixed Choir.

Elementary Division – Michele White reported response to the elementary sessions at LMEA Conference was overwhelmingly positive. Sandy Knudson and Lamar Robertson were outstanding. Some attendees stated they would like to see more middle school choral sessions. A few people requested a schedule that showed everything happening at the same time. Another suggestion was that sessions be recorded and available as a podcast. Michele thanked all the people who work hard to put the conference together.

University Division – absent

Collegiate NAFME – Ed McClellan reported that the collegiate sessions for the LMEA Conference went very smooth. This part of the conference keeps growing. The jazz ensemble went very well.

Public Relations – Carolyn Herrington stated the LMEA Conference was groovy. There were 41 tables in the exhibit hall and 15 collegiate tables. The information for exhibitors is being updated on the website.

Hall of Fame – Tom Wafer stated the Hall of Fame committee will meet after the May board meeting. The deadline for nomination to the LMEA Hall of Fame is May 1, 2018.

L.B.A. – Angele Bievenu reported the dates for LBA High School Jazz and Blast will be June 3-4. The LBA Middle School Concert Bands will be June 4-5. Both High School and Middle School groups will be held at UL Lafayette. Angele passed out a packet to the LMEA board with LBA membership forms and information for participants in the LBA ensembles. She asked the board to please pass this information to the band directors in their districts.

A.O.S.A. – Kelly Stomps stated she attended the AOSA National Conference in Dallas. She gained ideas for presenters and chapter improvements. Red Stick Orff sponsored Juliette De Silva's workshop on Technology Integration at the LMEA Conference. Marie Blaney will present a workshop, "Stepping Stones for Successful Teaching", on February 3, 2018 at LSU. The time is 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Other workshops include: Jennifer Donovan – September 2018, Rachel Aupperle – possibly in January or March and Ukelele with integrating Orff in February 2019. There will be a chapter share on March 10th – Arts Integration and Sharing Lessons from National Conference. The chapter share will be at Baton Rouge for Visual and Performing Arts.

Editor – Pat Deaville thanked the board for updating the dates and locations for the 2018 State/ Regional Assessments.

Southeast Band/Orchestra – March 19-21, 2018 – Nicholls

Southeast Choir – March 20-23, 2018 – Nicholls

North Band/Orchestra – April 25, 2018 (April 26 if needed) – Airline High

North Choir – April 24, 2018 – Airline High

Southwest High School Band/Orchestra – April 24-26, 2018 – Lake Charles Civic Center

Southwest High School Choir – April 17, 2018 – Bayou Baptist Church, Lafayette, La.

Southwest Middle School Band/Orchestra – May 8-9, 2018 – UL Lafayette

Southwest Middle School Choir – May 7, 2018 – UL Lafayette

District Directors need to send their reports to Pat as soon as possible for the February magazine. Pat stated that the LMEA Conference programs were totally paid for by program ads.

Conference Chairman – James Hearne thanked everyone for their help with LMEA Conference. The program app was a big hit. James asked All State Division Chairs to send the All State Conductors’ information to him as soon as they get it. Wade Furniss has volunteered the Army Band to present a concert at LMEA Conference and to sponsor a dance for the All State members.

New Business -

Moved by Brett Babineaux and 2nd by Jim Trant to no longer require NafME membership as part of LMEA membership. LMEA will institute a membership fee of \$125 for active members, \$50 for retired members and \$15 for student members. The LMEA membership fee will include a waiver for LMEA Conference fees and eligibility for all LMEA Assessments. All memberships would start on the same date and run 1 full year. The change would start in the 2019-2020 school year. Directors can continue to be a member of NafME by joining NafME online. NafME membership fees will not be connected with LMEA membership. Greg Oden – yes, Brett Babineaux – yes, Sharon Stephenson – yes, Guy Wood – yes, Jim Trant – yes, Joseph Nassar – yes, Katrice LaCour – yes, Michael Townsend – yes, Michele White – yes, Ed McClellan – yes, Carolyn Herrington – yes, Carol Lupton – no, Sharon McNamara-Horn – yes. 12 – yes, 1 – no PASSED

The motion must be presented and passed again at the May LMEA board meeting. If passed, membership will be notified on the website and magazine and LMEA membership will vote on the proposal.

Moved by Joseph Nassar and 2nd by Carolyn Herrington to allow substitution selections for the Louisiana Prescribed Music List. Also, to allow substitution selections for the Vocal Prescribed List and the Orchestra Prescribed List. Band, Choir and Orchestra Division Chairs will be in charge of the substitution process. PASSED

Moved by Joseph Nassar and 2nd by Greg Oden, to change the low clarinet All-State audition material and scale octaves. Low clarinet etude and scale changes will be presented at the May board meeting. New requirements will be implemented for the 2018-19 school year. PASSED

Joey Nassar talked to the board about changing the all-state concert programs to one professionally printed program. Cost for 5000 full color programs with 24 pages would cost approximately \$2000. The cost could be offset by selling advertisement. Carolyn Herrington volunteered to talk to exhibitors about placing ads in the All-State programs. After discussion, the idea was passed on to James Hearne for future discussion and consideration.

Meeting Adjourned