

The meeting of the Louisiana Music Educators Association Board of Directors was called to order at 9:30 a.m., May 21, 2016 with the following present: Sharon McNamara-Horne, Fran Hebert, Sara Bidner, Carol Lupton, Bruce Lambert, Greg Oden, Johnny Walker, Brett Babineaux, Richard Bresowar, Sharon Stephenson, Jim Trant, Mark Minton, Neal Naquin, Joseph Nassar, Michael Townsend, Katrice LaCour, Lee Hicks, Michele White, Carolyn Herrington, Pat Deaville, James Hearne, B.J. McGibney, Gina Anthon and Michelle Wilkinson-Nelson.

Moved by Michele White and 2nd by Jim Trant to approve the agenda with 2 new business items added; rehiring employees and home school eligibility. PASSED

Moved by Richard Bresowar and 2nd by Michele White to approve the minutes. PASSED

Moved by Carolyn Herrington and 2nd by Greg Oden to approve the financial report. PASSED

Two bids were presented to the board: Louisiana Trophies for LMEA awards and Artistically Yours for t-shirts for Regional / State Assessments. Moved by Richard Bresowar and 2nd by Michele White to approve the bids for 2 years. PASSED

Sharon McNamara-Horne reported that over 100 LMEA members voted to approve the changes and updates to the LMEA Bylaws. She thanked Sara Bidner for all her help with updating the LMEA Bylaws. Sharon stated input from the LMEA Board for the LMEA employees was very positive. Sharon spoke about the change of Louisiana Sales Tax laws and how they affect school music programs and LMEA. More information will follow. The executive board is exploring ways to add online registration for LMEA Conference (teachers) and possibly State / Regional Assessments. The LMEA State / Regionals were a great success. BRAVO to the three Regional Directors and Mr. Lambert. We will discuss some ways to improve the regionals in old business.

Sara Bidner reported that the LMEA job descriptions has been completed. The LMEA Bylaws have been updated. Sharon McNamara-Horne presented a plaque to Sara for her outstanding work on the board as Past President.

Fran Hebert thanked Sara Bidner for all of her help during the past two years. Fran stated Sara has been a mentor for her. She thanked everyone for helping make State - Regionals a success.

District 1 – Greg Oden reported District 1 had a good year. District 1 is losing some good band and choir directors for next school year.

District 2 – Johnny Walker reported that the heavy flooding this spring had affected the district solo/ensemble festivals. He said there was less money going to LMEA for the end of year transfer. All State 2nd Round will be held at Pineville High School on October 8, 2016.

District 3 – Brett Babineaux reported that District 3 Band Assessment lost a day due to the flooding. The lost day was made up later in March. The Southwest Louisiana Band Directors Association will sponsor an instrument repair clinic at LMEA Conference in November. Brett stated everything he heard about Regional Assessments was positive.

District 4 – Richard Bresowar reported that Southwest Region Assessments will be held in Baton Rouge the week of April 24-28. Band Assessment – Baton Rouge High School, Choir Assessment-First Baptist Church Baton Rouge (\$600 a day for rental).

District 5 – Sharon Stephenson stated that the last day of District 5 Band Assessment was lost due to the flooding. DeRidder High School hosted the make-up day. The extra cost was around \$1400. Sharon reported that the Southwest Region in Lake Charles went very well.

District 6 – absent

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

District 8 – Mark Minton reported that District 8 had a great year. Mother Nature presented a challenge for District Assessments in the spring. Mark stated that Patrick Neff will be the new band director at Airline High School next year.

District 9 – Neal Naquin reported everything was fine in District 9. He congratulated Jim Trant on a great job of hosting the Southeast Regional Assessments.

Band Division – Joey Nassar stated he is looking forward to his new position as Band Division Chairman. The transition from Jay Ecker will be smooth. Jay Ecker, Richard Bresowar and Craig Millet will help with the transition. Sharon McNamara-Horne presented a plaque to Jay Ecker for his service on the board. Bruce Lambert will deliver it to him.

Jazz Division – Lee Hicks reported that the All State Jazz audition recording submission deadline will be Wednesday, September 21, 2016. Lee will have a list of All State Jazz members by the October board meeting. Dr. Robert Lark from DePaul University will conduct the 2016 All State Jazz Band.

Orchestra Division – Katrice LaCour thanked everyone who helped make the State Orchestra Assessment a great success. The 2017 State Orchestra Assessment will be at Northwestern State University or ULL depending on state test schedule and availability. Baton Rouge High will host a multi-district Orchestra Assessment on March 13, 2017. A multi-district Orchestra Assessment will also be held March 8-9, 2017 in Caddo Parish. Set 1 String All State material will be used for 2016. String audition recordings must be postmarked by September 21, 2016.

Vocal Division – Michael Townsend thanked the Regional Assessment Directors for a job well done. Concert attire for the All State Choirs will be different for next year. Students will wear school concert attire. If a school has no concert attire, the ladies will wear full length dresses and the gentlemen will wear coat and tie. Michael stated we need to make clear that the rules for sight reading at District and Regional Assessments are on the LMEA website. Dr. Jeffery Ames will conduct the 2016 All State Mixed Choir and Lynne Gackle will conduct the 2016 All State Women's Choir. Angie Rawles will conduct the 2017 All State Women's Choir.

Elementary Division – Michele White reported that Jo Kirk will be the elementary clinician for LMEA Conference in November. In addition, Dr. Sarah Bartolome from Northwestern University will share three sessions at LMEA Conference. LAKE will co-sponsor Sarah. Michele is soliciting experienced teachers to present clinics at LMEA Conference in November.

University Division – Sharon McNamara-Horne presented a plaque to Jay Jacobs for his service on the board. Bruce Lambert will deliver it to him.

Collegiate / NAFME – absent

Public Relations – Carolyn Herrington reported she is already receiving exhibitor checks for the 2016 Conference.

Hall of Fame – Bruce Lambert, reporting for Tom Wafer, stated Beverly Stafford has been selected to the LMEA Hall of Fame. She will be inducted in November at LMEA Conference.

LBA – absent

LAKE – absent

LAJE – B.J. McGibney reported that 13 ensembles attended the LAJE Jazz Fest.

AOSA – Gina Anthon reported that Red Stick ORFF hosted 4 workshops in 4 different cities this past school year. About 65 teachers attended the 4 workshops. Gina asked LMEA District Directors to help get information about Red Stick ORFF workshops out to their membership. This will help in the future.

ASTA – Michelle Wilkerson-Nelson stated she is trying to get some clinics to offer string teachers at LMEA Conference.

Editor – Pat Deaville asked District Directors to send their district calendars to him as soon as possible.

Conference Coordinator – James Hearne reported that changing the University Jazz performance time was very successful. He stated that the University Research projects were available for view for several days. James said we have room for more choir clinics. He is looking into the possibility of having both All State Choirs perform on Saturday of the conference.

Old Business

Handbook updates – Joey Nassar moved and Richard Bresowar 2nd to change the low sax allotment for 2nd round to 2 tenors and 1 bari for each district. PASSED

All State auditions will be set 1 from the handbook.

In the handbook under eligibility for State / Regional Assessments, add ‘all groups must attend the current year’s District Assessment to be eligible for the State / Regional Large Ensemble Assessments.’

Regionals – Moved by Richard Bresowar and 2nd by Neal Naquin to increase the state / regional judge’s honorarium to \$250 a day. PASSED

Moved by Carolyn Herrington and 2nd by Sharon Stephenson to increase LMEA mileage rate to 55 cents per mile. (all LMEA mileage) PASSED

B.J. McGibney brought up a concern about the LMEA policy on homeschool students’ participation in LMEA events. Wording on the policy may need to be changed. The executive board will discuss the matter in August and bring a report to the board in October.

The meeting was turned over to new president, Fran Hebert. Fran presented a plaque to Sharon McNamara-Horne for outstanding service as president of LMEA.

New Business

Moved by Sharon McNamara-Horne and 2nd by Greg Oden to use Paypal Pro for online payments to LMEA. LMEA will pay a yearly fee and add the cost to anyone paying by credit card. PASSED

State Solo Assessment was discussed. There was no State Assessment this year because of lack of interest. If a need surfaces in the future, the board will revisit the possibility of hosting a State Solo Assessment.

Moved by Carolyn Herrington and 2nd by Mark Minton to accept Bobby Jack Thompson, principal at S.J. Welsh Middle School in Lake Charles, as LMEA Administrator of the Year. PASSED

Future LMEA Board Meetings:

Planning Meeting – August 13, 2016

Full Board – October 1, 2016

Full Board – January 7, 2017

Full Board – May 20, 2017

State / Regional Assessments possible dates:

North – week of April 24-28, 2017

Southwest – week of April 24-28, 2017

Southeast – High School – week of April 24-28, 2017

Middle School – week of May 8, 2017

Deadline for ALL State / Regional Assessments is postmarked by APRIL 1, 2017

Fran Hebert reported: Based on our experience and the elected LMEA Board members reviews, the executive officers recommend re-hiring all 3 LMEA employees. Moved by Neal Naquin and 2nd by Michele White to rehire Bruce Lambert – Executive Director, Pat Deaville – Editor and James Hearne – Conference Coordinator for the next 2 years. PASSED

Meeting Adjourned