

The meeting of the Louisiana Music Educators Association Board of Directors was called to order at 9:30 a.m., January 5, 2019 with the following present: Carol Lupton, Scotty Walker, Bruce Lambert, Greg Oden, Jessica Fain, Brett Babineaux, Katie Codina, Sharon Stephenson, Guy Wood, Jim Trant, Joseph Nassar, Angela Jones, Victor Drescher, Michele White, Carolyn Herrington, Pat Deaville, James Hearne, Sharon McNamara-Horne, Tom Wafer, Tom Burroughs, Angele Bienvenu, Kelly Stomps and Michelle Wilkinson-Nelson.

Moved by Greg Oden and 2nd by Michele White to approve the agenda. PASSED

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

Moved by Michele White and 2nd by Victor Drescher to approve the financial report. PASSED

Carol Lupton informed the board that Ed McClellan suffered a mild heart attack. He is having by-pass surgery. She also told the board her 15th grandchild was born last Monday.

Scotty Walker stated securing percussion equipment for the all state groups went well. He thanked Bill Hochkeppel and Troy Breaux for the use of some of their percussion. Scotty thanked Carolyn Herrington for handling the academic all state awards.

Fran Hebert sent an election report. Districts 1 – Greg Oden, District 2 – Jessica Fain – District 3 – Brett Babineaux, District 4 – Katie Codina, District 5 – Sharon Stephenson, Evan McAleer, District 6 – Guy Wood, District 7 – Jim Trant, District 8 – Mark Minton, Michele DesLattes, District 9 – Jessica Lizana. Fran has asked Bruce Lambert to check on LMEA/NAfME membership for Evan McAleer. Evan will be allowed to immediately join LMEA or have his name removed from the ballot.

District 1 – Greg Oden reported everything is going well in District 1.

District 2 – Jessica Fain reported Aaron Martin has been added as assistant band director at Tioga High/Tioga Jr.High. Her district has concerns about the by-law changes and disassociation with NAfME. Many of the District 2 directors feel the cost (\$125) is too high. They want to know what the money would be allocated for. They want some funds utilized to have someone be an advocate for music education between LMEA and our state government. Her members want more funds used to make a conference that more members will attend.

Jessica talked to the members of her district that attended LMEA Conference and those that did not attend. This is their feedback. LMEA does not provide enough diverse clinics that attract directors. The venue does not provide an adequate performance hall. The venue is not large enough, therefore the conference has to be split by discipline over too many days.(including the Monday of Thanksgiving break) Scheduling of clinics were so spread out that attendance was lacking at some of the later clinics. Venue does not provide enough parking and is not close enough to restaurants that would encourage people to stay close enough to attend clinics/performances. Need to provide clinics that are research based/poster sessions. Does not provide a good mix of clinics/clinicians and the opportunity for members to attend all clinics.

Jessica suggested the following changes to attract more members to attend LMEA Conference. Bring back or allow reading sessions for all disciplines. Allow for more than one university at a time to perform for LMEA Conference. Invite Louisiana school music programs to perform at LMEA Conference. Have a college night that would allow all members of the performing ensembles to meet and mingle with the college directors. Offer research-based clinics/poster sessions. Provide an opportunity/time slot for directors to socialize and mingle. Host a job fair/resume building session for college members and new band directors. Encourage our state's military ensembles to perform at LMEA Conference. Look for a better city/venue that would allow for all disciplines to be represented at one conference and make it worthwhile for our members and performers and their families to make a trip out of LMEA Conference. (suggest New Orleans – Hilton Riverside located next door to the New Orleans Convention Center)

District 3 – Brett Babineaux congratulated Scotty Walker and the Lafayette High Band for their outstanding performance at the Macy’s Parade. Brett asked for clarification of registration fees at conference. Fran Hebert will work with Carol Lupton to help clarify the registration fees. Brett is worried if the districts will bring in enough money from district assessments to cover all expenses. The new district assessment fees should be enough to cover all expenses. We will adjust the fees in the future if needed. Brett also asked how clinics are selected for LEA Conference. James Hearne talked about clinic selection. All proposed clinics are sent to the proper division chairman. The division chairman help select the clinics.

District 4 – Katie Codina reported William Earvin, Baker High School Band Director, presented a clinic at Midwest Clinic this past December. Katie told the board that the late clinics for band (8:00 p.m.) at LMEA Conference are not well attended.

District 5 – Sharon Stephenson reported late vocal clinics were well attended. She said that most elementary clinics had good attendance.

District 6 – Guy Wood stated he felt expenses for 6 judges at both the district 6 band and choir assessments will be difficult to manage.

District 7 – Jim Trant stated he had nothing to say. Jim mentioned that District 7 has the highest attendance at LMEA Conference.

District 8 – absent

District 9 – Jessica Lizana reported Paul Frechou, Cheryl Floyd and Richard Floyd will be conducting the District 9 Honor Bands. Dr. Alissa Rowe and Anthony Sears will conduct the District 9 Honor Choirs. Jessica said many District 9 directors are concerned about the festival fees for LMEA Assessments. Choral directors in the district will be hit hard because they receive little or no funding from their school systems. Many suggested going back to regionals or one state assessment. Jessica stated that her district had many questions concerning the amendment for LMEA to collect its own dues and how this will affect NAFME membership. Her membership is concerned with how the money will be used and what LMEA will offer membership to keep them in the organization if they are separated from NAFME.

Band Division – Joey Nassar reported the all-state bands went well. Thanks to Scotty Walker and several schools that provided equipment. Joey is in the process of getting the 2019 All-State Bands conductors. Thanks to Joshua Stearman and William Earvin for help hosting the all-state bands. Thanks to Victor Drescher for securing judges for second round.

Moved by Joey Nassar and 2nd by Jim Trant to change the all-state bass clarinet and contra bass clarinet audition material starting with the 2019-2020 school year. All 4 sets of audition material was provided to the board. In addition to this music, the written D and Db/C# scales for the low clarinets will be played in only one octave. All other scales will be played in two octaves. PASSED

Moved by Jim Trant and 2nd by Jessica Fain to revise the scoring method for all-state wind and percussion etudes. The new proposal will read: Prepared Materials – Each student auditioning on a wind instrument must prepare all audition etudes in entirety. Judges may elect not to hear an entire etude, but must hear the same section for each student who auditions. The student may use his/her own music for audition. Prepared materials constitute forty percent of the total audition score. Each etude will be scored independently with a maximum of 20 points each. The following areas will be considered when scoring each individual etude: tone, intonation, technique, interpretation and musical effect. PASSED

Joey clarified all-state auditions on multiple instruments. Any student who qualifies and auditions for second round all-state on multiple instruments will declare his/her choice of instrument by rank (1st choice, 2nd choice, etc.) upon the conclusion of first round auditions. This choice will be noted on the district allotment form.

Joey talked to the board about board meeting transparency. He suggested all meetings be live-streamed and archived for future reference. Additionally, all existing meeting minutes should be uploaded onto the LMEA website. After some discussion, it was decided that Bruce Lambert will send the last 5 years of LMEA Board meetings to Sharon McNamara-Horne for uploading onto the LMEA website.

Moved by Jim Trant and 2nd by Victor Drescher to reinstate the bass trombone auditions and positions in the all-state band and orchestra as previously allowed beginning with the 2019-2020 school years. First Round Auditions: 1. Students auditioning for bass trombone must audition on an actual bass trombone as defined by its bore size, configuration of rotor(s)/tubing and ability to play the full range of all excerpts in the four year audition cycle (low G). 2. District first round allotments will revert to the previous quota for four tenor trombones and one bass trombone. 3. In the event a district produces no bass trombone auditions or none qualify per the above rules, no bass trombone will advance to the second round from that district. Second Round Auditions: 1. Students must audition on an actual bass trombone (same as first round) 2. Student's score must rank within the range of the tenor trombone scores in the particular ensemble or be next in line in order to be placed in that ensemble. 3. In the event that there is no bass trombone audition score ranking within the range specified, and additional tenor trombone will be placed in the ensemble. 4. Instrumentation will return to previous allotment as follows unless altered by music requirements: Symphonic Band – 6 tenor trombones, 1 bass trombone, Concert Band – 8 tenor trombones, 1 bass trombone, Orchestra - 2 tenor trombones, 1 bass trombone. PASSED

Jim Trant mentioned several directors from his district have complained that the snare music we now use for all state tryouts is too easy. The board discussed that the music is easy to read not easy to play.

Jazz Division – absent

Orchestra Division – Katrice LaCour submitted a report. He thanked the LMEA Board for their work in organizing the LMEA Conference. Mailing the All State orchestra folders directly to the students worked great. This cut down on the time it took for students to get their folder and helped them be better prepared. He would like to continue this process next year. Online registration and access to information online made a huge impact. It cut his workload in half. Registration time was perfect again and there were no conflicts. Katrice stated the guest performances were outstanding.

District 4 and District 8 will hold multi-district LMEA assessments. String ensembles from throughout the state have the option to attend one of these two assessments or attend their district band assessment.

Vocal Division – Angela Jones reported the All State Choirs went well. The part check was a success. Several choir directors from all over the state participated and the students were well prepared. The all-state conductors were pleased with the students' preparedness. About 30 members attended the Vocal Division meeting. Carol Lupton and Pat Deaville talked to the directors about the possible changes to LMEA's relationship with NAFME. Stephen Futrell will conduct the 2019 All State Mixed Choir. The Women's Chorale conductor has not been secured.

Angela will change the procedure for picking alternates for 2nd round starting with the 2019-2020 school year. She stated we can do a better job at assuring students are given opportunities based on their actual performance at 1st and 2nd round.

Elementary Division – Michele White reported attendance at elementary clinics was good. Evaluations were very positive. The beginning teacher panel was well attended on Friday and Monday. Michele is working on clinicians for 2019. She has secured the main clinician for 2020.

University Division – Victor Drescher reported everything went well with UL Lafayette at this year's conference. Southeastern University will be the provide performing groups for the 2019 LMEA Conference.

Collegiate NafME – Ed McClellan submitted a report. The Collegiate Summit was productive. The General Collegiate Membership meeting was well attended. Thank you to Katie Codina for her demonstration Monday morning with her middle school band. The Research Session had great participation with university and school members from across the state. The annual Music Teacher Educator meeting was productive. Thank you to Michele White for collaboration between the Elementary and Collegiate Divisions. Thanks to the LMEA board for your continued support.

Public Relations – Carolyn Herrington reported that the exhibit hall was full. The colleges like the ads in the all-state programs. She thanked Brett Babineaux for sending information from TMEA to help secure exhibitors. Carolyn reported 309 students received academic all state awards, 72 sophomores, 101 juniors and 136 seniors.

Hall of Fame – Tom Wafer introduced Tom Burroughs as the new LMEA Hall of Fame Committee Chairman. He reminded the board, criteria for submitting a director for LMEA Hall of Fame is in the magazine.

LBA – Angele Bienvenu reported that the LBA All Star Honor Bands will take place on June 2-4, 2019 at Tioga Jr. High and Tioga High School. The Wind Ensemble will be conducted by Tyler Grant, the Symphonic Band conducted by the LBA Bandmaster of the Year and the Concert Band by Amy Williams. The high school Jazz Ensemble will be conducted by Tim McMillen. The Blast clinicians will be Evan McCormick and Mike England. LBA Bandmaster of the Year nominations are Rachal Loupe, Apryl Gadd and Coby Coco.

LAKE – Ava Brown will be the new LAKE president.

ACDA – absent

LAJE – B.J. McGibney submitted a report for Patrick Bordelon, president of LAJE. He reported that LAJE did more of their meetings online this year. The LMEA All State Jazz clinician, Ronald Carter, was outstanding. Thanks to Lee Hicks for choosing a top level clinician. B.J. shared his opinions for adding the bass trombone auditions back to the LMEA bands and orchestra.

LA PAS – Oliver Molino is the new president of LA PAS. There will be an LA PAS workshop on April 6, 2019 at McNeese University.

AOSA – Kelly Stomps reported a Red Stick Chapter ukulele workshop on February 2, 2019.

ASTA – Michelle Wilkinson-Nelson reported Baton Rouge was starting a civic orchestra. This will be an ensemble for adults to continue playing their instruments. The first rehearsal is January 14, 2019.

Editor – Pat Deaville thanked the district directors that have sent their article for the February magazine. Those that have not sent their article need to get it to him immediately.

Webmaster – Sharon McNamara-Horne stated LMEA cleared \$349 on credit card fees. This will cover the \$30 a month PayPal fee. Sharon is working on LMEA handbook corrections. She passed out membership lists to the district directors so they can make corrections.

Conference Coordinator – James Hearne stated Guidebook had 103 downloads. This seemed to work really well. June 10th is the deadline for clinic proposals for the 2019 LMEA Conference. James said he, Bruce Lambert and Angela Jones are working to move the All State Women’s Chorale performance from Friday evening to Saturday afternoon. He will update the board on the progress. Any feedback about conference should be sent to James.

Committee Report:

The Constitution Committee reported details of the proposal to be presented to and voted on by the LMEA membership. The proposal will remove the requirement for LMEA members to be members of NafME and will allow LMEA membership dues to be paid directly to LMEA.

Moved by Jim Trant and 2nd by Guy Wood to accept the constitution committee proposal to be presented to the LMEA membership. PASSED

Moved by Jim Trant and 2nd by Carolyn Herrington for membership vote to start on March 1, 2019 and end on March 15, 2019. PASSED

Adjourned