

The meeting of the Louisiana Music Educators Association Board of Directors was called to order at 9:30 a.m., May 20, 2017 with the following present: Fran Hebert, Carol Lupton, Sharon McNamara-Horne, Bruce Lambert, Greg Oden, Jessica Fain, Brett Babineaux, Katie Codina, Sharon Stephenson, Jim Trant, Mark Minton, Neal Naquin, Jessica Lizana, Joseph Nassar, Michael Townsend, Lee Hicks, Michele White, Ed McClellan, Carolyn Herrington, Pat Deaville, James Hearne, Tom Wafer, B.J.McGibney, Kelly Stomps and Brett Dietz.

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

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

Moved by Neal Naquin and 2nd by Carolyn Herrington to approve the financial report. PASSED

Fran Hebert presented plaques for service to LMEA to Johnny Walker, Neal Naquin and Richard Bresowar. (Johnny and Richard were not present. The plaques will be brought to them.)

Fran introduced Jessica Fain, Katie Codina and Jessica Lizana, new LMEA district directors.

Fran is working on a music advocacy video. She will have it available in June.

Mary Zeno, principal at Comeaux High School, was nominated for the LMEA Outstanding Administrator Award. Moved by Carolyn Herrington and 2nd by Jim Trant to accept Mary Zeno's nomination. PASSED

Carolyn Herrington reported she has contacted all of last year's LMEA Conference Exhibitors. She asked the board to help find additional vendors. The exhibitor cost and general information is on the LMEA website.

Sharon McNamara-Horne stated the State Regional Assessment on-line registration was a good start. She will work to have the confirmation email condensed to one page.

Carol Lupton reported 324 All State students received the LMEA Academic All State Award. There were 73 sophomores, 110 juniors and 141 seniors. It cost over \$500 to mail out the awards. Carol is looking into the possibility of presenting the awards at the LMEA Conference instead of mailing them.

District 1 – Greg Oden reported District 1 had a good year. There are a few job openings for music teachers in Ouachita parish. Dr. Michael Spears is still having some health issues.

District 2 – Jessica Fain reported everything went well this year in District 2. District 2 will host 2nd round All State auditions again this October at Pineville High School.

District 3 – Brett Babineaux reported that Lafayette High School Band has been invited to participate in the Macy's Thanksgiving Parade in 2 years. Quincy Hilliard is hosting a clinic at Edgar Martin Middle School on June 27 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. District 3 used a monitor in the sight reading room at the District band assessment this year. The directors were very positive about the sight reading monitor.

District 4 – Katie Codina told the board she is looking forward to serving on the LMEA board of directors next year.

District 5 – Sharon Stephenson reported everything went well in District 5. Sharon helped out at two of the Regional Assessments this spring.

District 6 – absent (District 6 had very small district band and choir assessments this year)

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

District 8 – Mark Minton reported everything was good in District 8. Solo and Ensemble participation was down this year. Also, string participation was down. District 8 directors liked using a monitor in the sight reading room.

District 9 – Neal Naquin is moving on. Jessica Lizana will be taking Neal's place on the board.

Band Division – Joey Nassar reported that Gary Green will conduct the 2017 All State Symphonic Band and Alfred Watkins will conduct the 2017 All State Concert Band. He said we hope to have online registration and payment in place for all All State students. Students will be given an audition time for 2nd round instrumental auditions.

Jazz Division – Lee Hicks told the board that September 28th will be the deadline to have audition recordings and forms in to his hand. The new audition material is being used this year. Wycliff Gordon will conduct the 2017 All State Jazz Ensemble.

Orchestra Division – Katrice LaCour submitted a report. Katrice reported that the number of orchestras participating in State/Regional Assessments this year was down. This is due to the change of venue, state testing and End of Course testing. Robert Gillespie will conduct the 2017 All State Orchestra. The Repertoire is: American Salute – Morton Gould, Symphony No. 8 Finale – Dvorak, Three Dances from the Bartered Bride – Smetana and Russian Sailors Dance – Glinka. We will continue to conduct chair placement and sectionals like last year. If possible, all the orchestra schedule will mirror last year's schedule.

Vocal Division – Michael Townsend thanked all the Regional Chairmen and Mr. Lambert for running outstanding Regional Vocal Assessments. He stated that the vocal division will implement a note check this year (if necessary). This will take place at the last hour of the choir's first rehearsals. Dr. Andre Thomas will conduct the 2017 All State Mixed Choir and Angie Rawls will conduct the 2017 All State Women's Choir. The 1st round audition piece will be "Heilig" by Mendelssohn. The 2nd round audition piece will be "To Thee Cherubim and Seraphim" by Handel. Repertoire for both groups has been received. John Parker has been secured to conduct the 2018 All State Women's Choir and Mack Wilberg, conductor of the Mormon Tabernacle Choir, will conduct the 2018 All State Mixed Choir.

Elementary Division – Michele White reported that Sandy Knudson will be the main clinician for the 2017 elementary clinics and will conduct the reading session. One of the sessions will be folk dance. Lamar Robertson will be sponsored by LAKE and will present 3 sessions.

Collegiate / NAfME – Ed McClellan reported all is well. He stated that the State Department of Education will make student teaching a year long process starting in 2018.

Hall of Fame – Tom Wafer stated that ballots for the 2017 LMEA Hall of Fame will be counted on Friday, May 26. He reported that bios for the LMEA Hall of Fame members is on the website. Bill Brent and Pat Deaville are in the process of replacing some of the Hall of Fame photographs in the display at Northwestern.

LBA – absent
LAKE – absent
ACDA – absent

LAJE – B.J. McGibney thanked Lee Hicks for all the work he does for LMEA and jazz programs in Louisiana.

LPAS – The Louisiana Day of Percussion was held April 22 at LSU. It is sponsored by the Louisiana Chapter of Percussive Arts Society and LSU. Guest clinicians were Timothy Feeney, University of Alabama, and Jake Nissly, principal percussionist of the San Francisco Symphony Orchestra.

AOSA – Kelly Stomps reported that Red Stick will have a workshop on July 29th with Aimee Curtis Pfitzner – blog O For Tuna Orff. They will have aboard meeting on June 2nd to discuss rescheduling Katie-Beth Traxler and Danai Gagne’s workshop. They will discuss possible presentations or performance groups for LMEA.

ASTA – Michelle Wilkinson-Nelson reported that the teachers were happy with last year’s LMEA Conference. She is working on clinicians for the 2017 LMEA Conference and a new music reading session for Kindergarten – 5th Grade.

Editor – Pat Deaville asked the district directors to please submit their 2017-18 calendar as soon as possible. Articles for the September magazine must be in Pat’s hand by August 5. New board members need to send a picture for the magazine. The board discussed minimizing the calendar in the magazine.

Conference Chairman – James Hearne stated that the 2016 LMEA Conference went very well. He will send session proposals to Division Chairs. Division Chairs will decide which proposals they want for conference. There will be an adjustment for the performance time of the university orchestra. This year’s university orchestra will be Northwestern State University. District Directors will preside at the LMEA Conference sessions. We may need to have university students to check tags at the doors.

Old Business –

Fran Hebert will send the board, procedures for proposing and voting on Handbook changes.

New Business –

Fran Hebert, Bruce Lambert and Carolyn Herrington submitted a proposal to re-instate LMEA State Solo Assessment. After much discussion, the board decided that the State Solo Assessment would not be reinstated at this time.

Moved by Michele White and 2nd by Ed McClellan that everyone attending LMEA Conference, including presenters, must register for the conference. FAILED

Jim Trant moved and 2nd by Michele White that anyone submitting a session for LMEA Conference to James Hearne will be asked to pay the conference registration fee if accepted to present the session. After discussion, Jim Trant removed this motion and Michele White removed her 2nd.

Discussion on Conference registration will continue.

Joey Nassar presented a proposal to change the snare drum All State audition requirements beginning with the school year 2018-19. Four years of audition material was presented. District directors are asked to bring this proposal back to their district and a vote will be held at a future meeting.

Joey Nassar presented a proposal to eliminate sightreading from band/orchestra regional/state assessments. After discussion, district directors were asked to poll their districts and report back to the board.

Lee Hicks asked the board to approve paying Wycliff Gordon \$3000 honorarium and Mr. Gordon will pay his own transportation. The board pays a \$2400 honorarium and up to \$600 in transportation costs. The board approved the request.

Meeting Adjourned. . . .

Bruce Lambert met with the district directors and Regional chairs after the meeting. The regional dates presented at this meeting were:

Southeast – Thibodaux – March 19-23

North – Shreveport – April 24-26

Southwest Middle School Bands and Choirs – Lafayette – May 7-11

Southwest High School Bands – Lake Charles - April 24-26

Southwest High School Choirs – Lafayette – April 17-19

Sight Reading at Regional/ State Assessments was discussed. Bruce Lambert told the directors that a bigger issue is finding dates and locations for regional assessments. LMEA voted the Regional Assessments for a three year trial period. After this year, we may need to go with one assessment, either keep district and drop regional or keep regionals and drop districts. This would allow the LMEA Assessments to be held in March. If LMEA decides to go with one of these plans, sight reading at regionals would no longer be an issue. LMEA Assessments would have sight reading.

The executive board, with approval of the LMEA Board of Directors, has made the following financial changes for the 2017-18 year:

1 – Mileage changes from 55 cents to 50 cents

2 – District Assessment entry fees will change to \$3.00 per student with a \$175.00 minimum fee

3 – Second round All State audition fees will change from \$12 per student to \$15 per student

4 – All State membership fees will be \$60.00 for All State Bands, Orchestra and Jazz Ensemble and \$65.00 for All State Choirs

5 – A surcharge of \$3.00 per transaction for online payment by PayPal

6- A Non-member fee of \$80.00 for LMEA Conference registration