

The meeting of the Louisiana Music Educators Association Board of Directors was called to order at 9:30 a.m., October 7, 2017 with the following present: Fran Hebert, Carol Lupton, Sharon McNamara-Horne, Bruce Lambert, Greg Oden, Jessica Fain, Katie Codina, Jim Trant, Jessica Liazana, Joseph Nassar, Katrice LaCour, Lee Hicks, Michele White, Ed McClellan, Carolyn Herrington, James Hearne, Tom Wafer, Angele Bienvenu, B.J. McGibney and Michelle Wilkinson-Nelson.

Moved by Carolyn Herrington and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Greg Oden to approve the agenda. PASSED

Moved by Jessica Fain and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ed McClellan to approve the minutes. PASSED

Moved by Jim Trant and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Carolyn Herrington to approve the financial report. PASSED

Fran Hebert talked to the board about a future proposal to separate LMEA from NAFME. LMEA members could join NAFME if they wanted to, but not be required to join NAFME for LMEA membership. The new financial changes for LMEA mileage, District Assessment fees, 2<sup>nd</sup> Round All State fees, and All State membership fees are now in effect. There will be a \$3 surcharge per transaction for online payment by Paypal. An \$80 non-member fee for LMEA Conference has been added this year.

Sharon McNamara-Horne reported about online registration for LMEA Conference and LMEA All State groups. The All State form for students and parents is now online. Sharon will make a form for directors' and principals' signatures. Joey Nassar will work on a form for next year that can be used at 1<sup>st</sup> round All State auditions and will have all the proper signatures.

Carol Lupton stated the Academic All State certificates and medals are being prepared. She will have them ready to present to the All State students at LMEA Conference.

**District 1** – Greg Oden reported all is well in District 1.

**District 2** – Jessica Fain reported District 2 is not in favor of dropping sight reading at the state level. She said her district was not happy with the fee increase for district assessments.

**District 3** – Lafayette parish is requiring their music teachers to pay for their LMEA / NAFME membership. Directors usually have this fee paid for out of school accounts. The LMEA State / Southwest Regional High School Choir Assessment has been scheduled for April 17th (18<sup>th</sup> if needed) at The Bayou Baptist Church in Lafayette.

**District 4** – Katie Codina discussed students with special needs participating in LMEA Assessments. After some discussion, it was decided that the district directors should tell all directors in their district to communicate any special needs before the assessment. We will work with the directors to try to solve the problem. Katie stated that District 4 is in favor of dropping sight reading at the state level.

**District 5** – Sharon Stephenson met with the vocal and the band directors in District 5. They are all against dropping sight reading at the state level. All of District 5 is in favor of going to one level of LMEA Assessment.

**District 6** – All is well in District 6.

**District 7** – Jim Trant reported District 7 is opposed to dropping sight reading at the state level. His district is not in favor of going to one level of LMEA Assessment. They would prefer to keep the LMEA District Assessments.

**District 8** – District 8 held a Bandboree instead of the LMEA District 8 Marching Assessment.

**District 9** – Jessica Lizana stated District 9 was not happy with the increase in LMEA District Assessment fees. She said her district had low participation in LMEA All State 1st round vocal this year. (probably because of the German audition selection)

**Band Division** – Joey Nassar reported 2<sup>nd</sup> round All State auditions will be held October 14, 2017 at Pineville High School. Registration fee is \$15 per student. Students must register 30 minutes prior to their posted audition time. Students who miss their audition times will be disqualified from auditioning. Emergencies the morning of auditions should call 225-622-3287. The audition schedule will be finalized today. No changes will be made to the schedule afterward. Remind directors that only students listed on the official schedule may audition. No substitutions may be made for students who drop. Joey discussed the possibility of going to one level of LMEA Assessment. He is getting some positive feedback from directors throughout the state. The LMEA Executive Board, Vocal Chairman, Band Chairman and Orchestra Chairman will meet during the LMEA Conference to come up with proposals for LMEA Assessments to present to the LMEA Board at the January meeting. The committee can meet with district directors at the end of the January meeting.

**Jazz Division** – Lee Hicks reported that the new All State Jazz audition material was a big hit. Close to 100 students submitted audition tapes this year. There is still a problem with All State Jazz information getting from the district directors to the directors and students. District directors need to let Lee know the person in charge of All State Jazz auditions in their district. All State Jazz auditions will be strictly digital next year. The 2017 All State Jazz Ensemble will be posted this week. The All State Jazz Ensemble has a vocalist this year.

**Orchestra Division** – Katrice LaCour reported 131 string students auditioned this year for LMEA All State Orchestra. All State Orchestra wind and percussion folders will be delivered to Pineville High School next Saturday. The list of All State Orchestra strings will be sent to Pat Deaville to post on the LMEA website. The equipment list has been given to Carol Lupton. Dr. Lin He will be in charge of string chair placement at LMEA Conference.

**Vocal Division** – Cheryl Mahler brought all the 2<sup>nd</sup> round All State Choir audition fees. She picked up the printed forms for All State Choir to bring to Mike Townsend. Alternates are being assigned at this time. Everything is set up for 2<sup>nd</sup> round auditions next week. All judges are secured.

**Elementary Division** – Michele White reported everything was set for LMEA Conference in November. Special thanks to James Hearne for his help in getting the elementary clinics set.

**University Division** – absent

**Collegiate NAFME** – Ed McClellan stated all is well in preparation for the LMEA Conference. J.W. Pepper is supplying music for the reading group.

**Public Relations** – Carolyn Herrington thanked Sharon McNamara-Horne for setting up the online forms for exhibitors. The exhibit hall is full. There are 15 university tables for this year.

**Hall of Fame** – Tom Wafer reported that the Hall of Fame committee will meet on May 19 to select the 2018 Hall of Fame inductees. All nominations for LMEA Hall of Fame must be in by May 1, 2018.

**L.B.A.** – Angele Bienvenu reported the LBA All-Star Band Clinic will be held June 3-5 at UL Lafayette. There are 3 middle school bands. The Concert Band will be conducted by Lawrence Sassau, the Symphonic Band conducted by the LBA Bandmaster of the Year and the Wind Ensemble conducted by Jaime Yim-Talbert from Mont Belvieu, Texas. There will be a High School Jazz Ensemble conducted by

Keith Hart and a high school group called Blast, conducted by James Henderson and Ian Smith. LBA membership runs from January to January.

**LAJE** – B.J. McGibney stated jazz teachers around the state like the new LMEA All State audition material. Jay Ecker and Mike Esneault will be inducted into the LAJE Hall of Fame this year.

**ASTA** – Michelle Wilkinson-Nelson reported that Electrify Your Strings will be held November 3 and 4 at Independence Park in Baton Rouge.

**Editor** – Pat Deaville emailed his report. The November magazine will be online the week of October 16-20. It will be printed and mailed the following week. The newsletter should be emailed the week of October 23-27. Pat needs the list of All State students as soon as possible.

**Conference Chairman** – James Hearne reported most of the conference is done. There are 2 guitar and ukulele clinics this year. James reminded the district directors about hosting the clinics at Conference.

**Old Business** –

Joey Nassar made a motion to remove sight reading from LMEA State/Regional Assessments. After discussion, the motion was rescinded.

**New Business** –

Joey Nassar moved to increase judges' pay for 2<sup>nd</sup> round All State to \$20 an hour. LMEA would still pay 50 cents a mile for travel and up to \$75 for hotel expenses if traveling 150 miles or more one way. Motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Michele White. Motion FAILED

Pay for 2<sup>nd</sup> round judges will be discussed at a future LMEA Board Meeting. The band division is looking at the possibility of taped auditions like the All State Jazz and All State strings are doing.

Bruce Lambert discussed bands and choirs attending the State/Regional Assessments in the region their district falls. After much discussion, it was decided that bands, choirs and orchestra can list their first, second and third choices. Groups will be given their first choice when possible. If a region fills up (with groups from within their region), groups from outside the region, that request the filled up region, will be assigned their 2<sup>nd</sup> choice. Bruce will work with the Regional Chairmen to make this decision.

Meeting Adjourned . . . . .