



**Louisiana Music Educators Association
EMERGENCY Board of Directors Meeting
7 March 2026
9:30 AM
ZOOM**

- **LMEA Board Meeting**
 - May 23, 2026 (in person)
Natchitoches – Details coming

AGENDA

- I. **Call to Order: Roll Call** Lee Hicks, Jessica Fain Blanchard, Lynn Burton, Duane Leblanc, Bill Brent, Nolan Wible, Betsy Stoupy, Carolyn Herrington, Ryan Benoit, Aaron Theall, Telly Higgins, Ginny Medina Hamilton, Michelle DesLattes, Rossi DiBenedetto, Victor Drescher, Josh Stearman, Doug Stone, Greg Robin, Katrice LaCour, Steve Galliano.
- II. **Approval of Agenda** Motion Alesia Hudlow 2nd Michelle DesLattes **PASSES**
- IV. **Approval of the Financial Report** Motion Alesia Hudlow 2nd C Herrington **PASSES**
 - Financial Report UPDATE
\$267,664.82 in the checking account, \$71,209.09 on a credit card, \$1,000 in a basic checking account, and \$633.81 in rewards.
- V. **Executive Officer Reports**

President – Lee Hicks - Thanked everyone for their attendance on short notice.
President-Elect – Jessica Fain-Blanchard
Immediate Past President – Brett Babineaux
- VI. **Ex-Officio Members**
- VII. **Associate Organizations**
- VIII. **Committee Reports**
- IX. **Division Reports**
- X. **District Directors' Reports**
- XI. **Unfinished Business**
- XII. **New Business**
 - **Motion: To Approve of the recommendation of Sharon McNamara-Horne as the Interim Executive Director thru June 30 as we search for a permanent replacement. Motion Josh Stearman/2nd Alesia Hudlow **PASSED 13 For/0 Against****

***No reports submitted –
Emergency meeting did not
require reports. Board discussed
the business submitted at the
time of the meeting by Lee Hicks
and Jessical Fain-Blanchard.
State Assessment Link below.***

- **State Assessment and Solo & Ensemble Assessment Discussion PASSED 13 For/0 Against**
Motion to raise State Assessment Stipend for adjudicators to \$300. Motion/2nd
(Vote was in committee – Option 2 : Pay adjudicators \$300 stipend per day.)

XIII. Upcoming Dates

- **IN-PERSON State Choral Assessment**
 - April 15 & 16, 2026
 - Northwestern State University, Natchitoches, LA
- **IN-PERSON State Band and Orchestra Assessment**
 - April 20-24, 2026
 - Northwestern State University, Natchitoches, LA

XIV. Adjournment Motion Time 11:10am

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">● LMEA Board meeting<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ May 23, 2026 (in person) |
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Quick recap (AI Generated)

The LMEA board meeting focused primarily on state assessment planning and financial matters. Jessica presented a detailed budget proposal for state assessment judges, which the board approved at \$300 per day, and discussed trophy reimbursement arrangements for districts.

The board confirmed Sharon McNamara-Horn as the interim executive director thru June 30 and discussed plans to hire a permanent replacement by July 1, 2026.

Board members raised concerns about judge compensation, which was addressed in the budget approval.

The meeting also covered the implementation of Anthony Purcell's assessment system, which will be piloted at the state assessment, and plans for a future board retreat.

Additionally, the board discussed the need to expand the financial committee with additional district director and division chair representatives.