

**TMEA Council Meeting Minutes**  
**August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

**CMA Nashville Headquarters**

In Attendance:

**TMEA Board and Chairs**

- Executive Director: Ron Meers
- President: Lafe Cook
- Past-President: Jonathan Vest
- General Music Chair: Linzie Mullins
- Orchestra Chair: Anna Maria Miller
- Band Chair: Megan Christian
- Choral Chair Reachel Hudgins
- Collegiate Chair: David Royse
- Higher Education Chair: Barry Kraus
- Technology Chair John Womack
- Advocacy Chair: Christopher Dye
- SMTE/Research Chair: Jamila McWhirter
- Editor, Tennessee Musician: Michael Chester
- TDOE State of the Arts Program Director & Fine Arts Coordinator: Todd Shipley
- Conference Chairs: Paul Waters and Brad Turner
- Newsletter/Tri-M/Minutes: Anna Laura Williams

*Absent - President-Elect: Alexis Yatuzis-Derryberry*

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**TMEA Council**

- ETSBOA - Alan Hunt (President) / Donald Denton (President-Elect)
- MTSBOA - Debbie Burton (President) / Justin Scott (President-Elect)
- WTSBOA - Stephen Price (Past-President)
- ETVA - Stephanie Coker (President) / Debbie Gouge (Vice-President)
- MTVA - Gerald Patton (President-Elect)
- WTVA - Emily Taylor (President) / Sharon Morris (President-Elect)
- ETGMEA - Marcus Smith (President)
- MTGMEA - Rachel Lapinski (President) / Corynn Moore York (President-Elect)
- WTGMEA - Ray Mullins (Vice-President)

*Absent - Ollie Liddell (WTSBOA President), Jennifer Cupples (WTSBOA President-Elect), Lia Holland (MTVA President), Frances Miller (WTGMEA President)*

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**9:33 a.m. – Call To Order (Lafe Cook)**

- Thanks to Tiffany Kerns and CMA Foundation.

**Action: Approval of June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2018 TMEA Board Minutes (Lafe Cook)**

**Motion: John Womack / Second: Barry Kraus**

**Vote: Passes (unanimous)**

**Executive Director Report (Ron Meers) included the following:**

- Financial Report/Summary (<https://www.tnmea.org/documents.html>)
- Thanks to all TMEA Regional Association leadership.
- Update on Future All-State Conferences – contract continuing at Opryland
- Renewal process for dues to NAFME - Regional associations need to send updated membership lists to Ron Meers when sending dues to NAFME.
- Request for TMEA chairpersons who hire conductors and clinicians - please tell the conductors and clinicians that TMEA will make and pay for their travel arrangements (airfare and housing).
- Regional Associations – Information for regional Financial Officers needs to be shared with Ron Meers through the “TMEA Board and Council Information Sheet” form (sent to all Board and Council members by Michael Chester on 8/18/18).

**Conference Update (Lafe Cook and Paul Waters) included the following:**

- Regional Associations – Please encourage membership to stay at the Opryland Hotel. The number of hotel rooms TMEA books at Opryland directly impacts the spaces for TMEA rehearsals and clinics.
- Booster communication – Encourage booster groups to join e-mail list for non-partisan music advocacy updates (<https://www.tnmea.org/booster-registration.html>)
- TMEA Conference Future Dates –
  - 2021: March 28 – 31
  - 2022: April 10 – 13
  - 2023: April 2 – 5
  - 2024: March 24 – 27
  - 2025: April 13 – 16
- Benefits of Contracted Dates discussed
- Per Opryland Policy, TMEA Conference rooms may be changed up to an hour prior to scheduled conference events – the TMEA EventMobi app is the definitive source for all TMEA Conference room locations; the TMEA Website and printed conference programs may not reflect the most recent room location changes.

**TMEA Ensemble Evaluation Process (Lafe Cook):**

- “Mears TMEA Performance Chair Report” – Presented by Lafe Cook on behalf of John Mears
- Goal is to provide quality experience for all conference attendees through professional development by hearing a quality performance ensemble of their category.
- Selected ensembles to receive official invitations by September 1<sup>st</sup>

**First Night Student Keynote (Lafe Cook):**

- “First Night Student Keynote” All-State students event discussed; send ideas of keynote speakers to Lafe Cook

**Food and Beverage Minimums/Meal Cards (Lafe Cook/Ron Meers):**

- Please help the TMEA Conference meet Opryland’s Food and Beverage Minimum by purchasing Meal Cards through TMEA – failure to meet the required minimum results in TMEA paying a penalty fee to Opryland.

**Introductions and Board/Chair Reports presented as follows:**

- General Music Chair - Linzie Mullins
  - All GME Associations - Please send By-Laws to Ron Meers
- Band Chair - Megan Christian (report submitted electronically)
- Orchestra Chair - Anna Maria Miller (no report)
- Choral Chair - Rachel Hudgins (no report)
- Collegiate Chair - Dr. David Royce (report submitted electronically)
  - September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2018 – C-NAfME Kick-Off
- Higher Education Chair - Dr. Barry Kraus (report submitted electronically)
- Technology Chair - John Womack
  - Presented information regarding the new TMEA online calendar
- SMTE/Research Chair - Dr. Jamila McWhirter (report submitted electronically)
  - Proposal deadline for Research/Best Practice conference presentations is February 1<sup>st</sup> (all music educators invited to submit proposals)
  - SMTE State Symposium at MTSU – September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2018  
Guest: Dr. Cynthia Taggart, Michigan State University
- Advocacy Chair - Dr. Chris Dye
  - Preview of Spring Hill Day; updates will be provided throughout the year
- Editor, Tennessee Musician - Michael Chester
  - TMEA Board and Council Members – please complete and electronically submit the “TMEA Board and Council Information Sheet” form
- E-Newsletter - Anna Laura Williams (no report)

**“State of the Arts” Grant Update (Todd Shipley):**

- 2018 State of the Arts Music Grant applications - encourage educators to reach out to district officials; the application must be submitted as a district.
- Application Roadshow – Teachers, school administrators, and district administrators are invited to RSVP to attend upcoming Application Roadshow dates on the State of the Arts website
- Discussion regarding the TN Arts Education Data Project.
- Sign-up on the State of the Arts website to receive SOTA/TN Fine Arts Updates.

**Regional President Reports summarized as follows:**

- ETSBOA - Alan Hunt (President) / Donald Denton (President-Elect)
- MTSBOA – Debbie Burton (President) / Justin Scott (President-Elect)
- WTSBOA – Stephen Price (Past-President), presented on behalf of Ollie Liddell (President) and Jennifer Cupples (President-Elect)
- ETVA – Stephanie Coker (President) / Debbie Gouge (Vice-President)
- MTVA – Gerald Patton (President-Elect)
- WTVA – Emily Taylor (President) / Sharon Morris (President-Elect)
- ETGMEA – Marcus Smith (President)
- MTGMEA – Rachel Lapinski (President) / Corynn Moore York (President-Elect)
- WTGMEA – Ray Mullins (Vice-President)

10:52 a.m. – Break (Lafe Cook)

11:02 a.m. – Resume

**ArtsEdTN/TMEA Lobbyist Funding (Lafe Cook/Ron Meers) discussion as follows:**

- Overview included history of this initiative under President Vest, benefits, and request for financial contributions from all TMEA regional associations
- Discussion regarding yearly cost for TMEA Lobbyist, shortage last year, and formalization of contribution amounts per organization resulted in the following requested amounts per each regional association:

- **\$3,000 – Per Band Association; \$1,200 – Per Vocal Association**

**Action: Motion to accept these amounts \*as the suggested amounts\* per each regional association.**

**Motion: Debbie Burton / Second: Stephen Price**

**Vote: Passes (unanimous)**

*(\* denotes clarification made by Dr. Christopher Dye after the motion, before the vote)*

**NAfME Update (Dian Eddleman):**

- Presentation of report, “NAfME Notes for TMEA Council Aug 18”

## New Business

- All-State Handbook Change (Todd Shipley / Jonathan Vest)
  - Action: Motion to accept the presented changes to the All-State Handbook (including clarifications and revisions made to the discipline policy)  
Motion: Todd Shipley (Lafe Cook states "Since this comes as a board recommendation, no second is needed")  
Vote: Passes (unanimous)
- Adding One Percussionist to Each All-State Band - Todd Shipley
  - Action: Motion to add one additional percussionist to the 9-10 Concert Band and (one additional percussionist to) the 11-12 Concert Band, where the additional musician will be provided by regional associations according to the rotation schedule.  
Motion: Todd Shipley / Second: Megan Christian  
Vote: Passes (unanimous)
- Approval of New Board Position (Lafe Cook)
  - Action: Motion to add the SMTE/Research position to the TMEA Board as a voting board member.  
Motion: Lafe Cook, "Since this is a board recommendation, no second is needed"  
Vote: Passes (unanimous)
- Approval of New Membership Category - Barry Kraus
  - Proposed addition of a new TMEA membership category - Collegiate Applied Faculty Member; this would allow these individuals to join TMEA through their regional associations without being required to join NAFME.
  - Regional presidents will need to go back to their associations to vote on this By-Laws change; Barry Kraus will draft the proposal and send this to each regional association.

11:58 a.m. - Recess, Lunch

12:44 p.m. - Meeting Resumes

Strategic Plan/TMEA Future: Overview - Lafe Cook

Break out discussions in the below caucuses, regarding the below discussion questions:

- Band & Orchestra
- Vocal
- General Music
- Higher Education

Discussion Questions/Considerations:

- What does growth for TMEA “look like?”
- Do members value their membership in TMEA?
- What services can TMEA provide to members it is not currently providing?
- Do TMEA members value their membership in NAFME?
- Is our current dues structure acceptable to members and does it represent value?
- Does growth require revenue and if so, how does TMEA create more revenue?
- Are there ways TMEA can be a greater presence in the state?
- What potential stakeholders are we not reaching? Parents? Booster clubs? School and system administrators?

**2:08 p.m. TMEA Board and Council reconvene; Lafe Cook led conversation regarding the above discussion questions from the caucus meetings**

**Action: Motion to Adjourn (2:51 p.m.)**

**Motion: Jamila McWhirter / Second: Dr. Vest**