



**Tennessee Music Education Association**  
**Council Minutes**  
**January 29, 2023**

In Attendance:

**TMEA Board of Directors**

- Executive Director: Michael Chester
- President: Dr. Ryan Fisher
- President-Elect: Joel Denton
- Advocacy and Government Relations Chair: Dr. Christopher Dye
- Band Chair: Ollie Liddell
- Choral Chair: Demetrius Robinson,
- CNAfME Chair: Dr. Michael Chandler
- Higher Education Chair: Lauren Ramey
- SMTE/Research Chair: Dr. Loneka Wilkinson Battiste
- Communications Manager & Editor, *Tennessee Musician*: Anna Laura Williams
- Orchestra Chair: Cynthia Wright
- Absent: Immediate Past-President Alexis Yatuzis-Derryberry, General Music Chair Ben Torres, and Secretary Dian Eddleman

**TMEA Project Chairs**

- Music In Our Schools Month: Lisa Crunk
- Guitar Education (Modern Band): Michael Parson
- Retired Teachers: Deb Gouge
- Jazz Education Policy: Frank Zimmerman
- Music Merchants Industry: Scott Lane
- Tri M Pam Wilensky
- Guitar Education (Modern Band): Michael Parsons
- Absent: Webmaster John Womack

**TMEA Conference and All-State Management Team**

- TN All-State Choral Chair: Dr. Brian Russell
- TN All-State Instrumental Chair: Carter Noblin
- TN All-State Jazz Band Chair: Cord Martin
- TN Treble Honor Choir Chair: Tiffany Barton
- TMEA Equity and Music Committee Chair Roland Wilson

**TMEA Council (Regional Leaders)**

WTGMEA President Jennifer Proseus  
WTGMEA President-Elect Allen Moody

WTVMEA President Adrian Maclin  
WTVMEA President Elect Reachel Hudgins

WTSBOA President Jennifer Cupples  
WTSBOA President-Elect Benjamin Martin

MTGMEA President-Elect Abbi Miller

MTVA President Elect TJ McLaughlin

MTSBOA President J. R. Baker  
MTSBOA President-Elect Stacy Jernigan

ETVA President Kristen Wiram  
ETVA President Elect William Brimer

ETSBOA President Jim Burton

Absent: MTGMEA Representative Corynn York; MTVA President Lorna Pyka; ETGMEA President Bryant Adler; ETGMEA President Elect Hannah Strong; ETSBOA President-Elect Megan Christian;

**I. Call to Order**

President Dr. Ryan Fisher called the meeting to order at 2:00pm. Sunday January 29, 2023.

**II. Roll Call and Introductions**

**III. Approval of Minutes**

It was moved by Ollie Liddell, seconded by Tiffany Barton and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the TMEA Council meeting October 23, 2022.

**IV. Executive Director Report/Financial Report**

TMEA Executive Director Michael Chester reported TMEA has a current checking account balance of \$19,595.62. The total in the TMEA Savings account is \$32,777.89. Mr. Chester stated there was a recent deposit of \$28,450.46 which included the CMA Foundation grant and advertising for the Tennessee Musician. The full financial report is in the TMEA Council Drive. Mr. Chester reminded the regional associations their yearly dues and lobby dues will be invoiced during the next few weeks.

## **V. Constitution Bylaws Approval**

President Fisher entertained the motion to adopt the TMEA Constitution. It was moved by Ollie Liddell, seconded by Michael Chandler and carried unanimously to approve and adopt the TMEA Constitution. President Fisher entertained the motion to suspend the full reading of the TMEA Bylaws revisions.

It was moved by Ollie Liddell, seconded by Stacy Jernigan and carried unanimously to disperse of the reading of the TMEA revised Bylaws.

President Fisher entertained a motion to adopt all revisions of the TMEA Bylaws. It was moved by Ollie Liddell, seconded by Jim Burton and carried unanimously to adopt all of the revisions of the TMEA Bylaws instead of voting on each bylaw individually. President Fisher entertained the motion to adopt the TMEA revised bylaws. The motion was made by Ollie Liddell, seconded by Jennifer Cupples and unanimously approved.

## **VI. 2023 Conference All State Ensemble Chair Reports**

- TN All-State Instrumental Chair Carter Noblin reported on the conflict of the 2023 TMEA 11-12 All State Band Conductor Dr. Turner. Colonel Lowell Graham will now serve as the conductor. Other topics included the audition/chair placement process and acquisition of music.
- TN All-State Choral Chair Dr. Brian Russell reported the second tier of all state choral audition process is now closed. The finalized all state choral rosters will be sent out soon. Adrian Maclin, WTVMEA President thanked TMEA for the support in the cancellation of the WTVMEA second tier audition.
- TN All-State Jazz Band Chair Cord Martin updated the TMEA Council concerning the regional All State Jazz Band auditions. Executive Director Michael Chester inquired about the timetable of notifications of the finalization of the ensemble. Mr. Martin stated this should be completed by the end of February.
- TN Treble Honor Choir Chair Tiffany Barton reported concerns of obtaining auxiliary instrumentalists. President Fisher asked Ms. Barton to communicate with her clinician to update her session information.

## **VII. 2023 TMEA Conference Sessions Update**

President Elect Joel Denton reported concerning meetings and reception cost of other organizations utilizing space and food/beverage during the TMEA State Conference. He also covered conference group performance days and all logistics of those performances. Interest sessions are scheduled with respect to caucus meetings to prevent conflicts within those areas. President Fisher discussed the WHOVA app which will be used as the TMEA Conference app. He also reminded the Council of the Pre-Conference Zoom Caucuses. This is a prelude to the live caucus meetings which will be held during the Conference.

## **VIII. 2023 Conference Registration Process**

Executive Director Michael Chester reported on conference registration planning. Working with Conference Direct, he reported on changes and revisions utilizing the WHOVA app platform. Conference registration will begin using this app. Registration will open February 1. President Fisher also mentioned the upcoming guidebook for exhibits and sponsorships.

## **IX. Modern Band Chair Report**

President Fisher began this report discussing the pilot year for the TMEA All State Modern Band. This event will not take place during all state. Michael Parsons, Guitar Education (Modern Band) chair reported, in keeping with innovative approaches and to reach as many students as possible, we are rolling out a soft opening of the TMEA Modern Band. The event will be held the week before TMEA, April 13-15, 2023 at Briarcrest. A panel of judges has been procured with auditions held virtually. Mr. Parsons discussed the schedule and will be directing the ensemble. A QR code will be available during TMEA for attendees to view this event.

#### **X. MIOSM**

MIOSM Chair Lisa Crunk discussed the daily prompts TMEA will be hosting during the month of March on social media as well as hashtags for concerts and advocacy work throughout the state. #TMEALovesMIOSM23 will be distributed as the possible promotional hashtag members can use on social media. Ms. Crunk has also requested a proclamation through the governor's office. Christopher Dye has agreed to work with Ms. Crunk on confirming the proclamation and how it will be presented.

#### **XI. EMI Committee Report**

Roland Wilson, Chair, reported the DEIA committee has been working on how we can make great musical experiences available to all students in every sector of Tennessee as well as short- and long-term goals of this committee. A Facebook group will be in the works as a resource in the next year. Goals of this committee include mentorship with regional associations, guidance in assisting groups with authentic performances of multicultural music and building the committee of future members. Sessions and a "Meet&Greet" plan to be held during the state conference. Additional plans include a summer mini conference.

#### **XII. Adjournment**

It was moved by Reachel Hudgins, seconded by Adrian Maclin and carried unanimously to adjourn the TMEA Council meeting at 3:13pm.

*Minutes Respectfully submitted by Dian Eddleman*