



**Tennessee Music Education Association
Virtual Meeting
Board Minutes
Sunday, October 17, 2021**

In Attendance:

TMEA Board

- Executive Director: Michael Chester
- President-Elect: Dr. Ryan Fisher
- Immediate Past-President: Lafe Cook
- Advocacy and Government Relations Chair: Dr. Christopher Dye
- Band Chair: Jacob Campos
- Choral Chair: Jason Whitson
- NAFME Collegiate Chair: Dr. Jody Blake
- Higher Education Chair: Dr. Robert Bryant
- Orchestra Chair: Anna Maria Miller
- Editor: Anna Laura Williams

Absent: Franklin Willis, General Music Chair; Alexis Yatuzis-Derryberry, President Dian Eddleman, Secretary; Dr. Loneka Wilkinson Battiste, SMTE/Research Chair

I. Call to Order – Dr. Ryan Fisher

President-Elect Dr. Ryan Fisher called the meeting to order at 2:02 p.m. on Sunday, October 17, 2021.

II. Roll Call

See above.

III. Approval of Minutes – Dr. Ryan Fisher

Motion was made by Anna Maria Miller, seconded by Lafe Cook, and carried unanimously to approve the September 19, 2021, TMEA Board Meeting Minutes.

IV. Financial Report – Michael Chester

The TMEA bank account balance at New Horizon Bank is currently \$61,713.02. Our QuickBooks balance is currently \$58,912.86; this is due to a few bills that have been paid but have not cleared the bank account yet. Our PayPal account has a positive balance of \$11,141.04, and the majority of this is WTSBOA Membership Dues for TMEA and NAFME; the portion due to NAFME will be sent in the near future. We are in the process of receiving membership dues from the other regional associations. An update regarding

TMEA membership numbers should be available in November.

V. Conference Direct Contract – Michael Chester

TMEA has utilized Conference Direct for various years as our chief negotiator for the TMEA Conference contract with Gaylord Opryland Hotel and Convention Center. This year, TMEA has signed a one-year contract (\$48,400) with Conference Direct to also serve as our professional conference management services; payments would be made through an installment payment plan. TMEA will be planning to use some of the funding from the CMA Grant to support this (approximately \$24,000). With the realignment of TMEA presidential duties, TMEA President-Elect will be in charge of conference oversight. Conference Direct conference management will assist with elements such as streamlining communication between hotel management and TMEA, bidding for conference items, conference negotiations, hotel check-in/check-out, and reconciliation of data at the end of the conference.

VI. Tennessee Arts Education Data Project – Michael Chester

The CMA Foundation and TDOE partnered with a data analytics company to launch the Tennessee Arts Data Project. The online portal includes current arts education data where readers can view information about the state, districts, school-to-school comparisons, number of classes, demographic breakdowns, and more. This data can be utilized to show the importance of arts education.

VII. TMEA E-Newsletter

Dr. Ryan Fisher reminded the TMEA Board of Directors to submit items for the TMEA E-Newsletter by the end of this week, Friday, October 22, 2021.

VIII. All-State Literature Approval – Dr. Ryan Fisher and Michael Chester

The All-State Vocal Literature information has been submitted for approval by Dr. Brian Russell; All-State Instrumental Literature information will be sent by Carter Noblin in the near future. These items will be discussed by the TMEA Executive Committee.

IX. All-State Choral and Instrument Ensembles Handbook Amendments – Jacob Campos

Jacob Campos presented recommended edits to the TMEA All-State Instrumental Handbook which included updates to the attire requirements and grammatical edits. Afterwards, additional recommended updates included clarification regarding the instrumental chair placement audition process; upon discussion, it was recommended that those specific ideas be presented at caucus meetings before making changes to the process. It was mentioned as a reminder that JotForm will be utilized for the 2022 TMEA All-State Instrumental Ensembles chair placement auditions.

Jason Whitson presented recommended edits to the TMEA All-State Vocal Handbook. It was discussed to remove the language that specified the specific attire component and would allow students to wear their ensemble formal concert attire; this would be a change for the TMEA All-State Choral Ensembles. The rationale is that it would eliminate a stressor from students and directors prior to a performance. Upon discussion, it was recommended by Dr. Ryan Fisher to create amendments to present to

the TMEA Board at the November Board Meeting.

X. TMEA State Concert Festival (Instrumental Ensembles) – Michael Chester

Austin Peay State University sent notification to TMEA that they could not be the site host for the 2022 TMEA State Concert Festival (Instrumental Ensembles) during the previously scheduled dates. The alternate dates they offered were the same dates as the 2022 TMEA All-State Concerts. Michael Chester proposed to postpone the TMEA State Concert Festival for one year only and revisit the TMEA State Concert Festival (Instrumental Ensembles) for the 2022-2023 academic year. It was discussed that this year (2022) could be used to receive feedback from TMEA members through caucus meetings and surveys regarding the time and location of the TMEA State Concert Festival (Instrumental Ensembles).

XI. Interest/Session Proposals – Dr. Ryan Fisher

Dr. Ryan Fisher presented historical information regarding the amount of interest sessions and research sessions from the 2018, 2019, and 2020 TMEA Conferences. Afterwards, TMEA Board Members reviewed the 2022 TMEA Conference Session Proposals.

XII. Adjournment

Dr. Ryan Fisher stated that a quorum was no longer present and adjourned the meeting at 3:47 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Anna Laura Williams.