



**Tennessee Music Education Association**

Virtual Meeting

Board of Directors Minutes

Sunday, September 18th, 2022

*Minutes taken by: A. Yatuzis-Derryberry*

**In Attendance:**

**TMEA Board of Directors**

President Dr. Ryan Fisher

Immediate Past President Alexis Yatuzis-Derryberry

Publications Editor and Advertising Manager Anna Laura Williams

Executive Director Michael Chester

NAfME Collegiate Chair Dr. Michael Chandler

Higher Education Chair Dr. Lauren Ramey

General Music Chair Ben Torres

Choral Chair Dr. Demetrius Robinson

Society for Music Education/Research Chair Dr. Loneka Wilkinson-Battiste

Advocacy and Government Relations Chair Dr. Christopher Dye

Band Chair Dr. Ollie Liddell

Orchestra Chair Cynthia Wright

**Absent:**

President-Elect Joel Denton

Secretary Dian Eddleman

**I. Call to Order:** President Fisher called the meeting to order at 1:03 PM, Sunday, September 18th, 2022.

**II. Roll Call/Welcome:** President Fisher  
*see above*

**III. Approval of July 17th, 2022 minutes:** President Fisher  
The motion was made by Dr. Ollie Liddell, seconded by Ben Torres and passed unanimously to approve the minutes from the July 17th, 2022 TMEA Virtual Board meeting.

**IV. Executive Director Report:** Michael Chester  
Executive Director, Michael Chester, reported that we now have the official budget categorized and inputted into Quick Books. This is located in the TMEA Google Drive labeled as TMEEA Operating Budget. The budget is zero based, meaning, everything we bring in is spent. Link to Operating Budget: <https://drive.google.com/drive/u/o/folders/18bK8JQcTcJO5NxnIJoZ1uSZqoUkoFCoZ>

#### **IV. Continued**

President Fisher asked for a motion to approve the amended budget. The motion was made by Dr. Michael Chandler, seconded by Dr. Demetrius Robinson and passed unanimously to accept the amended operating budget.

*Note: before this is made public , Dr. Fisher would like Anna Laura Williams and Michael Chester to clean up any typos.*

Executive Director, Michael Chester, discussed the August Financial Report. The financial report includes Statement of Activity, Statement of Financial Position, Profit and Loss, Budget vs. Actuals TMEA FY2023, and General Ledger. The TMEA account current balance is \$52,134.68. Statements are included in the financial report. There was a discussion on if the monthly financial report should be placed on the TMEA website for non-profit transparency. President Fisher stated that the By-Laws state that only a yearly report has to be posted and asked the Board for their input. It was decided that the documents are in the Google Drive and can be presented at request. Michael Chester brought one item to the Board's attention; there was a TN Treble refund check that was written in April. 20th, 2020 and the person just cashed the check. 6 months is typically the limit on turn around on checks.

#### **V. Conference Planning Updates:** President Fisher

##### Conference Direct

President Fisher reported that the Executive Committee has meet with Conference Direct Conference Coordinator, Jenn Rothschild. We currently do not have a dedicated space for invited TMEA Performing Ensembles. Jenn is working on getting this space for TMEA, however, Opryland has changed who her contacts for the conference will be.

##### Invited Ensembles

Invitations have been sent out to the large performing ensembles. President Fisher is holding invitations to the smaller ensembles until he can make some phone calls regarding where these ensembles may have to perform.

Large Ensembles Invited:

*Invited Instrumental Ensembles (45 minute concert)*

TN Wind Symphony (community ensemble)

Nolensville High School Wind Ensemble (TBA Performing Group)

Collierville High School Wind Ensemble

*Invited Choirs (2 ensembles in 1 hour slots, ACDA model)*

Music City Chorus (Barbershop Community Choir)

Cordova High School Concert Singers

Farragut High School Advanced Mixed Choir

Athena Treble Chorus from Stewarts Creek High School

TEBA Chorale from Middle TN State University (Tenor and Bass)

President Fisher would like to make Wednesday a community ensemble concert featuring the Music City Chorus and the TN Wind Symphony. Ideally, they would collaborate and the students will get to hear them perform.

## **V. Continued**

### Interest Sessions

The Board of Directors have already approved the invited speakers for the interest sessions. President Elect, Joel Denton, should have those invitations out to the selected speakers by the end of September.

### Board Questions

President Fisher asked if there were any questions regarding conference.

Dr. Chandler, Collegiate NAFME Chair, asked if elementary ensembles were allowed to apply to perform. Dr. Fisher responded that not a lot of elementary groups have applied.

Cynthia Wright, Orchestra Chair, asked about orchestral submissions, President Fisher responded that there have only been a few submissions. President Fisher reminded the Board that the invited ensembles are adjudicated by out of state college professors so it is a blind audition.

### Headline Presenters

President Fisher announced that Chris Judah-Lauder has accepted to be the headliner for the general music room. He is also in talks with Dr. Derrick Fox to be the choral interest sessions headliner. President Fisher is making it clear to the invited headliners that they must have a sponsorship. Dr. Fisher asked Cynthia and Ollie to let him know if they had any presenters that he should reach out to regarding being a headliner.

### Sponsorship Package

The Executive Committee has created a sponsorship package that will be sent to vendors to help cover costs.

## **VI. CMA Foundation** President Fisher / Michael Chester

President Fisher and Executive Director, Michael Chester, has a meeting with the CMA Foundation to discuss TMEA needs. CMA Foundation was not aware of the difficulty TMEA has with the scheduling at Opryland. We did receive a grant from CMA Foundation. Mr. Chester wrote the grant.

## **VII. NAFME Southern Division Report** President Fisher

James Daughton from VA is the new Southern Division president. President Fisher reported that most states are also having financial issues that stems from Covid.

President Fisher complimented that we have 2 representatives that presented at the meeting. Anna Laura presented as the Southern Division Tri-M representative and Alexis presented as the Southern Division General Music Council member.

President Fisher is excited for the direction that the new NAFME President, Scott Sheehan, is taking. He is being proactive by listening to the state leaders and creating PD centered around those concerns. One being the divisive concepts laws that are being passed around the country.

**VIII. C-NAfME Kick-Off** Dr. Michael Chandler

Dr. Chandler hosted the annual NAFME Collegiate Kick-Off at APSU on Saturday, September 11th, 2022. There were 35 participant. Dr. Julie Scott from SMU in Dallas was the presenter. She spoke about her journey as a music educator and the twists and turns that presented themselves. There were also presentations by Dr. Dick from Union University and Dr. David Royce from UT-Knoxville. Officers were not elected because the APSU students had to leave after lunch to do their football game duties. Dr. Royce found a handbook and passed it on to Dr. Chandler. He will coordinate with Michael Chester to create a ballot. Dr. Chandler's goal is to have officers elected by the first of November.

**IX. Report from Advocacy and Government Relations** Dr. Christopher Dye

Dr. Dye reported that NAFME is hoping to get back to the annual summer Hill Day as was done in the past. However, this year they are holding a Virtual Hill Day. Dr. Dye has 8 members from 7 different districts that have signed up to meet with the TMEA. This hasn't been as successful as with in person events. NAFME is paying for an inservice called Voters Voice. This platform is a website where you can choose pre-scripted language to be a script or to mail to your representatives. NAFME has given the states an editable "asks" list so that it can be constructed to meet states individual needs. There is still some wiggle room in Title I and IVA funds. Long term support is the big push. The Omnibus Bill is still on the table.

**X. By Laws Revision** President Fisher

The Executive Board cleaned up the by-laws. We also now have a operational constitution that is separate from the by-laws. The by-laws were edited during a summer retreat and the main purpose was to make sure the wording was succinct, demonstrated best processes, and that all of the sections agreed with each other. No action was taken on this document as the Council is who will vote to accept the by-laws. President Fisher asked all Board of Directors to please read through the By-Laws to let the Exec Comm know if there are any suggestions in clarity. The first read of the by-laws will happen with the Council during the October 23rd meeting. President Fisher is going to create a highlight sheet for the Council.

**XI. Equity in Music Committee** President Fisher

President Fisher thanked the Board of Directors for their submission of suggested members of this committee. There are representatives from all three regions, all music disciplines, as well as LGBTQ+ lens. Dr. Fisher asked for a motion to accept the list that has been compiled. The motion to approve this committee list was made by Dr. Loneka Wilkerson-Battiste, seconded by Dr. Demetrius Robinson. The committee list was unanimously approved by the Board of Directors.

**XII. Adjournment**

President Fisher requested a motion to adjourn. The motion was put forth by Dr. Michael Chandler and seconded by Dr. Lauren Ramey. The motion carried unanimously and President Fisher adjourned the meeting at 1:57.

*Minutes respectfully submitted by Alexis Yatuzis-Derryberry*