



**Tennessee Music Education Association  
Virtual Meeting  
Board Minutes**

**Sunday September 17, 2023**

In Attendance:

**TMEA Board**

- President Dr. Ryan Fisher
- Immediate Past President Alexis Yatuzis-Derryberry
- Executive Director Michael Chester
- SMTE/Research Chair Dr. Loneka Wilkinson-Battiste
- General Music Chair Ben Torres
- NAFME Collegiate Chair Dr. Michael Chandler
- Government Relations Chair Dr. Christopher Dye
- Choral Chair Elicia Garcia Curry
- Higher Education Chair Lauren Ramey
- TMEA Publications Managing Editor and Communications Anna Laura Williams
- Absent: President Elect Joel Denton, Orchestra Chair Cynthia Wright, Band Chair Dr. Ollie Liddell, Secretary Dian Eddleman

- I. Call to Order** –President Fisher called the meeting to order at 2:00pm Sunday September 17, 2023.
- II. Roll Call and Welcome**  
See above.
- III. Approval of 8/13/2023 Minutes**– President Fisher  
The motion was made by Ben Torres, seconded by Michael Chandler and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the August 13, 2023 TMEA Board Meeting Minutes.
- IV. Financial -TMEA Executive Michael Chester**  
Mr. Chester reported the current balance of the TMEA checking account is \$30,114.65 and the current savings account balance is \$40,000.00. TMEA is in a healthy position financially.
- V. October Newsletter Update**  
TMEA Publications Managing Editor and Communications Anna Laura Williams reminded the board to send in information for the newsletter. The link to submit: <https://form.jotform.com/231524946934160>

Information for the October newsletter will include membership rates, future all state dates, TN Treble Choir information, and the upcoming Collegiate NAFME event.

**VI. NAFME Collegiate Fall Kick-Off**

NAFME Collegiate Chair Dr. Michael Chandler reported Dr Michelle Folta, Columbus State University in Columbus, Georgia will be serving as the keynote. Activities will include the two Tennessee representatives sharing their experience of participating in NAFME Hill Day. There will also be three higher ed sessions as well as the election of statewide officers.

**VII. Membership Drive**

President Fisher reminded the Board to renew membership. President Fisher requested Executive Director Chester send a list of last year's TMEA Higher Ed members to Lauren Ramey and Collegiate members to Michael Chandler in order for them to follow through with membership renewals.

**VIII. Modern Band Update**

President Fisher reported Modern Band Chair Michael Parsons put together a modern band handbook and asked the board to peruse the document in order to include these procedures in the TMEA All State Handbook. Executive Director Michael Chester and Alexis Yatuzis-Derryberry suggested the information should include all TMEA Music Educators, not just those specifically listed in the handbook.

SMTE/Research Chair Dr. Loneka Wilkinson-Battiste suggested there might be provisions included for students that may not have music programs at their respective schools. President Fisher stated students have to be involved in music programs at their schools, unless they are a part of a homeschool program. The current all state handbook eligibility requirements would apply to this ensemble as well. Mr. Chester also suggested the procedure portion of the document be separated from the handbook similar to the Tennessee Treble Choir handbook. A motion to accept the Modern Band Handbook, with suggested revisions, was made by Lauren Ramey, seconded by Michael Chandler and unanimously approved.

**IX. NAFME Southern Division Report**

President Fisher reported both the NAFME Executive Committee and NAFME Southern Division Executive Committee were in attendance. Discussion topics included national components, the new NAFME website, divisive concepts, upcoming Southern Division elections, and changing the name from divisions to regions within the NAFME association. Breakouts were also included with open discussion concerning the transition of state officers.

**X. Conference Planning Update**

President Fisher stated TMEA has re-entered a contract with Conference Direct/Jennifer Rothschild as well as a contract with a decorator for the TMEA Exhibit Hall. He also stated the NAFME SMTE/Research Call for Proposals and TMEA Call for Research Session Proposals will be launched in October. Dr. Loneka Wilkinson-Battiste asked that we consider moving the date for submissions to mid-February. President Fisher stated

this probably will not be in the best interest due to conference preparations prior to TMEA launching open registration. Discussion also included keeping the poster session in the exhibit hall.

**XI. Awards Nominations**

TMEA Award nominations will open in November. President Fisher asked the board to be pro-active in this process as well as follow up with nominees.

**XII. TMEA President-Elect Nominations**

President Fisher discussed the bylaw process of the TMEA President Elect nominations. He asked the Board of Directors to be active and thinking of possible nominees by winter break.

**XIII. Adjournment**

It was moved by Dr. Michael Chandler, seconded by Dr. Loneka Wilkinson-Battiste and carried unanimously to adjourn the TMEA Board meeting at 2:48pm.

*Minutes respectfully submitted by Dian Eddleman*