

VBODA Executive Board Meeting Minutes
2:30 p.m., Friday, April 5, 2013
Harrisonburg High School, Harrisonburg VA

Call to Order

Allen Hall

Review of Voting Procedures

Steve Rice

(Read at the Executive Board meeting only) Voting members of the Executive Board include the elected officers, the treasurer, and past-presidents in good standing. The Manual Editor and the Marching Assessment Chairman shall vote only at the November conference meeting. The Executive Board will review shortages reported by the chairmen of All-District/All-Regional and All-Virginia Bands and/or Orchestras and All-Virginia Band and Orchestra auditions to determine any financial adjustments the Association is obliged to meet. Action involving a change of procedure will be submitted to the general membership for approval. The executive board shall insure that rules and regulations of the Association are enforced.

Three types of motions.

- 1) *The Constitution and its By-Laws may be amended by a two-thirds majority of the members present at any regular general meeting. Notice of the proposed amendment shall be published in VMEA Notes prior to an electronic ballot. A second vote is required by electronic ballot requiring a two-thirds majority of the responders.*
- 2) *An Administrative Handbook amendment deals with structural items that significantly change an event; first vote, a simple majority; second vote, two-third electronic ballot votes.*
- 3) *A procedural amendment deals with procedural changes; a simple majority, one vote only.*

*Government of this organization shall be vested in the general membership.
Reminder to please vote with your NAFME membership card.*

Roll Call

Laura M. Thomas

Present: Doug Armstrong, Carl Bly, Rob Carroll, Keith Cottrill, Judy Einus, Carrie Finnegan, Linda Gammon, Allen Hall, Bud Hearne, Steve Rice, Dan Schoemmell, Stan Schoonover, Denny Stokes, Keith Taylor, Laura M. Thomas

Confirmation of Agenda

Motion by Bud Hearne as amended, seconded by Keith Taylor, passed

Minutes from last meeting (November 15, 2012 Hot Springs, VA)

Laura M. Thomas

Correction: Meeting today at 2:30 p.m. rather than 1 p.m..

Motion to approve by Keith Taylor, seconded by Linda Gammon, passed

Treasurer's Report

Keith Cottrill

Checking account balance: \$133,286.52

CD: \$13,817.55

Total: \$147,104.07

Move to accept report by S. Schoonover, seconded by Bud Hearne, passed.

Committee Reports/VBODA Operations

1. VMEA/VBODA Fall Conference

Allen Hall

Need recordings of groups by May 1; application on VMEA website. All recordings go to Linda Gammon.

Encourage reps to encourage membership to submit tapes; four received so far. April 1 was the deadline for session proposals; a record 174 sessions proposed so far.

2. All Virginia Auditions

Carrie Finnegan/Steve Rice

February 22, 2014 – JMU

Thank Steve and Carrie for auditions this year. Thanks to Doug Armstrong for keeping such good records, which made this year's job easier. 717 District Band and 430 SRO members auditioned. Alto clarinet auditions an issue; scores very low. We had to scrounge for judges on both sides. Need to split up some instrument audition rooms—clarinets, etc.—but need more judges. Discussion of having each district and region submit a minimum of judges (i.e. 8 judges needed per each of 4 SRO's.)

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3. All Virginia Band & Orchestra Event Allen Hall
*Thank J.R. Snow for hosting event this year.
Adam Foreman, All-VA Chair, is willing to handle paperwork again next year as well.*

- 2014 Event April 3-5
Location: Virginia Tech - Blacksburg, VA (*Darrell Pearman – Blacksburg HS*) *Will inquire re parking*
Conductors: Symphonic Band: Craig Kirchhoff – U. of Minnesota
Concert Band: Alfred Watkins - Lassiter HS – Georgia
Orchestra: Walt Straiton - California

- 2015 Event April 9-11
Location: Christopher Newport University (ten)
Conductors: Symphonic Band: Gary Green – U. Miami (ten)
Concert Band: Damon Talley – Shenandoah University (ten)
Orchestra: tba

4. Orchestra Representative Carrie Finnegan
*Discussion of each region sending a percentage of judges based on how many students audition
No action taken.*

5. VBODA Marching Band Assessment Committee Allen Hall/Steve Rice
(Add November show. Exec Board approval)

6. Hall of Fame Report Linda Gammon
Report submitted. This award is separate from Berg and Fuller Awards, would recognize three instrumental directors per year. Will re-word and present again in June.

7. Awards Committee Jonathan Hargis
*We have one nominee so far and are still soliciting names through June 1. We need more nominees!
Note: Website has Jonathan's contact information.*

8. Scholarship Committee Carl Bly
Carl will present a plaque. The winner is in the All-State performing groups.

9. Legislative Report Steve King
Refer to Steve's article in the next edition of NOTES. The article briefly discusses the status of the legislation we were following and addresses the situation with credit for marching band. If anyone has a question on any of the issues, please contact Steve King.

10. Manual Committee/Legacy Recording Stan Schoonover/Dan Kosko
Report submitted. More than \$40,000 collected in Program Participation fees. Art Pittman will send out list of schools which have not paid to District Reps. More than 300 band pieces and 50 orchestra pieces graded and added to Selected Music Guide. Thanks to Dottie Myers from Menchy Music for her help with sightreading snafu. Next year's CD will have new section 1 and 2, as approved by electronic ballot. Will keep old manual on CD until it is entirely re-written. Stan recommends to go to thumb drive rather than CD next year, increase the stipend for the Manual Distribution Manager, and hold a data summit to refine our VBODA database. D. Stokes: Program Participation fees have transformed VBODA into a solvent organization.

11. Website Report Andrew Loft
Online voting has commenced! Saves money, gives easier access to members. Not as many voted as mail ballot, but we hope to improve participation. Assessment info and Honor Band info is posted. Working on changing the template so it is easier to navigate.

12. All-VA Jazz Ensemble Committee Cathy Fisher
Clinician for All Virginia Jazz 2013 is Allison Miller. She is a jazz drum set player from NYC currently sponsored by Yamaha. The rehearsals and event will follow the same format as last year. Questions or concerns can be addressed to cathyfisher2004@yahoo.com.

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Old Business

1. Concert Adjudication Report Carl Bly
Change final ratings? Should groups who earn a III on stage and a I in sightreading earn an overall rating of II? No action taken.
2. Sight Reading Committee Report Diana Love
Sending a survey to the sight reading judges for their input on the selections; Diana will share these with the committee and Gary Fagan.
3. Manual Revision Report Denny Stokes
New sections presented. Already have revisions from Stan. He has several discussion points for the executive board meeting. Much explanation of philosophy behind re-writes, implications of sightreading at Assessment, do we make adjustments in manual as we go? May make it more difficult to move forward with membership approval. D. Stokes attempting to remove negative wording. Send feedback to A. Hall; he will forward to D. Stokes. Would like to have draft of entire manual re-write (except for forms) by September and will try to have ready for general membership approval in November. Much discussion about whether or not to re-write forms. Official thanks given to D. Stokes for his work in rewriting the manual.

New Business

1. General
 - a. Nominations Committee Report Allen Hall
Elections in November; Laura M. Thomas, Paul Rozecki, Ben Frenchak, Rob Carroll, Doug Armstrong will serve on Nominations Committee. D. Armstrong will chair.
 - b. Homeschool policy revisited Steve Rice
Lengthy discussion re what constitutes a "qualified" director. Parents who pay NafME fee? Do they pay the VBODA Program Participation fee? What is the definition of an ensemble? D. Stokes: The VBODA President should rule on eligibility. School defined by Va Dept of Ed? No action taken.
 - c. Judges' Training Andrew Loft
Committee creating an Adjudication Manual to be approved by board and membership. Recommend getting at least one certified judge on each panel in the next two years. VMEA and VCDA also developing this. Andrew will present this recommendation tomorrow.
 - d. Recommendations/motions from Stan Schoonover:
 1. **Switch from CD technology to "Thumb/Flash" drive for 2013-14 materials. The costs associated with this switch would be about \$5,500 annually, versus approximately \$3,000 for CD's. One drive per fee, as the files can be easily carried from one computer to another with the drive. Exact costs will depend on prices when we place the order.**
Seconded by Steve Rice. Motion passes.
 2. **Double the stipend of the Manual Distribution Manager. Workload has become annual as opposed to once every three years for distribution of materials, and maintaining and delivering accurate records of fees paid. Delivery of Sight-reading materials has become more complex to arrange, with expansion from 12 to 16 Districts, and separate band and orchestra material sources.**
Seconded by Dan Schoemmel; amended amount to \$1400, call for question Motion passes
 3. *Recommendation to convene a "Data Summit" of critical participants to design, develop, and implement a single data source for all VBODA schools and information. Manual Board, Auditions Tabulation Manager, All-State Data manager, Web Master, Web Host representative, Treasurer, President, and President-Elect should be involved, at a minimum. Cost would be either honorariums, or actual expenses incurred for a two-day/one night event. Likely time frame would be in late June or early July.*

President Allen Hall concurs

2. Orchestra

Carrie Finnegan
Gerald Fowkes

a. String Excerpt Committee (*adding excerpts to the string audition*)

The Committee (Gerald Fowkes, Jeff Phelps, Carrie Finnegan) recommends and Stan Schoonover moves that:

One (1) standard orchestral excerpt and one (1) etude replace the current used to audition for the VBODA All-Virginia Orchestra. The Adjudication rubric will remain the same with regards to the Prepared Etude (40%) portion of the audition. The excerpt will be worth 20%, the etude worth another 20%. The current etudes will be shortened to allow for the extra requirement in material.

Orchestra excerpts will be made available for review and approval by the All-Virginia Orchestra Audition Committee when it meets at the 2013 VMEA In-Service Conference in November and available to the public immediately following. The membership will be encouraged to provide feedback post-auditions 2014 to assess the success of the endeavor.

***Seconded by Carl Bly, discussion, question called.
Motion passes.***

b. Orchestra Assessment Sightreading Committee

Bud Hearne

Motion: Bud Hearne, seconded by Carrie Finnegan:

I move that two (2) string sight reading compositions be composed for the 2014 District Assessment for ensembles performing grades I, II & III music using the attached rubric. We recommend Gary Fagan be commissioned to composed these pieces as VBODA has an already established relationship with Mr. Fagan for such band compositions. These compositions will be made available for review and approval by the Orchestra Music Grading Committee when they meet to grade music at the 2013 VMEA In-Service Conference in November. The membership will be encouraged to provide feedback post-assessment 2014 to assess the success of the endeavor and possibly move forward with compositions for the other performance levels. The selection of sight reading music for ensembles performing grades IV, V, & VI music at District Assessment will continue to be selected by the Music Grading Committee as it has been in the past.

Keith Taylor: Amend motion to take out Gary Fagan's name as specified composer. Steve Rice: Amend to state that this music will be approved by people not taking groups to Assessment at that level.

Motion passes.

3. Band

a. Marching Band Committee

Brandon Neal

80% of the judges have been hired.

Discussion of adding a third weekend at a 5th site and where it might be. Cost? This would allow groups to participate that have previously not done so.

MBC motions, Rob seconded: Add a third weekend of Marching Band Assessment for 2013 on a trial basis (the first weekend of November) at a site to be determined.

Motion passes.

b. All-VA Percussion Audition Review Committee

Tim Rossettini

Report received and presented. Committee was representative of state, met at VMEA Conference, many emails, met again last night. Goal to streamline percussion audition so less time is required in audition rooms. Average audition last year (including performance and wait time) was 24 minutes per student. Rudiments will be timed, sightreading reduced to 8-12 measures, order of rooms changed so audition that takes the longest happens first, eliminate accessories from prepared etude, all major scales are now 2 octaves, including chromatic. Tempi of scales will be faster. Audition time will now be cut to ~6 minutes rather than 14; wait time should decrease as well. Dismiss percussion judges first from All-State Auditions so they can get started. If student's audition

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is taking much too long, judges have ability to cut audition off via a signal to runner. See Committee Report for details re rolls, tempi, etc.

Motion for changes presented by committee. Seconded by Stan Schoonover.

Motion passes.

c. All-VA Wind Requirements Committee

Laura Cole

Committee members: Claire Leeper (flute), Kelsey Holland (oboe, English Horn), Ben Williams (bassoon), Andrew Snead (clarinet), Paul Rozecki (saxophone), Kevin Engdahl (trumpet), Gary English (horn), Austin Nicholas (trombone), Duane Coston (euphonium), Matt Baker (tuba), Laura Cole (chair)

Looked at range and tempo requirements.

Denny Stoke motion, Bud Hearne second: move to accept recommended changes in range and tempo of chromatic scales only.

(Approve #2; #1 goes back to committee.)

Motion passes.

Motion by Steve Rice, seconded by Stan Schoonover:

I move that, after the All-Virginia audition is complete and ensemble positions have been assigned, an automatic inquiry will occur if an assigned student has less than 50 percent of the possible score. If this situation occurs, the head tabulator will report to the Audition chair the score(s) in question. The audition chair, the president and the past president will review the audition(s) I question to see if the audition is of suitable quality to be included in the All-Virginia Ensemble. If the audition is not suitable, the audition is disqualified and the audition chair will report the findings to the school director. Motion tabled.

Motion by Steve Rice, seconded by Denny Stokes:

I move to remove the alto clarinet instrumentation, should the need arise.

Motion tabled

Motion by Steve Rice, seconded by Stan Schoonover:

Move to split MBA Chair into two positions

Discussion

Motion withdrawn

Motion by Dou Armstrong, seconded by Bud Hearne:

Modify to change All-State Orchestra and Band to avoid week before or after Easter

Call for question

Motion failed.

d. Homeschool policy revisited

Steve Rice

Discussion, no action taken.

Announcements

a. Committee Report

Allen Hall

i. Committee chairs, please submit reports to secretary electronically/digitally

ii. Please submit a list of the members of your committees to president, secretary, website chair

b. Congratulations to our Music For All National Concert Band Festival Performers

Thomas Jefferson School for Science and Technology – Adam Foreman

Fairfax High School – Alan Johnson and Matt Baker

c. Congratulations to our Honor Band directors and schools (to be read at general meeting)

Bud Hearne moves to adjourn, Keith Taylor seconded, passed.

Meeting adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

Next Board Meeting: Wednesday, June 19, 2013 at 1 p.m. at Glen Allen HS

(10700 Staples Mill Road, Glen Allen, VA 23060)

Respectfully submitted by Laura Mulligan Thomas, 4/14/13