



## South Dakota Music Education Association

Unapproved Meeting Minutes

August 29, 2020

Zoom Meeting

10:00 AM

**Board Members Present:** Bethany Amundson, Mike Bossman, Paul Schilf, Kim Bruguier, Laura Schenk, Sheri Holt, Deb Rohrer, Erin McFarland, Colby Shuck, Wendy Van Gent, Dave Sanderson, Molly Stueckrath, Char Cade, Angela Larson, Iwona Lewter, Heather Nelson, Laura Cooper, Kim Bogart, Kristen Dunlap, Danny Eye, Vicki Hyder, Calvin Lipetzky, Tanya Davis, and Brooks Bowman,

**Board Members Absent:** Jon Bakken, Ryan Stahle, Kortney Temple

President Amundson brought the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Changes/additions to agenda: President Amundson asked to move the conference report to the top of the agenda.

**Motion by Heather Nelson, second by Dave Sanderson, to accept the agenda.**

**Motion carries.**

### **Conference Chair Report--Kim Bruguier**

Kim Bruguier reported on the success of the first ever virtual summer conference. Thank you to DWU for offering credit for this event. Clock hours can also be offered through the SD Board of Education. We need someone to sign off on this. Tracy King was recontracted for 2021.

Bruguier noted that people signed up for the conference after the event. The recorded sessions made this possible. Feedback was given that this was a great event and that the recorded sessions made them very accessible. A larger number of teachers registered for this event than usual; the attendance was doubled. Paypal was used for conference payment.

Bruguier next reported on the planning process for the 2020 conference which is usually held during ASC&O. ASC&O is now postponed until April 19-20, a Monday and Tuesday. Bruguier reported that we are still locked into our conference venue financially but do have some contract-date flexibility. Although, changing the date to

April will result in rearranging rooms due to the conference center not having the rooms available on those new dates. Mackenzie Mckeithan Jensen will be conference assistant.

With ASC&O being held on a Monday and Tuesday this year, concern was brought up that this would make it very difficult for teachers to attend due to sub situations in our current pandemic. Discussion was made on holding the conference virtually to ensure we can open this conference to more teachers not just those in attendance at the ASC&O. A virtual choir would ensure that even collegiates and out-of-state teachers would be able to attend. Discussion was made on how to offer conference credit for the event and who would do so.

Bruguier will contact our conference center and see what they will allow us to do date-wise. Perhaps the contract could be pushed back to August and used for the summer session.

**Motion was made by Laura Cooper, second by Laura Schenk, to hold a virtual, scaled- back conference this fall and push our conference venue contract back to next summer with an in-person conference. Motion carries.**

#### **Secretary's Report – Sheri Holt**

Please review minutes at [www.sdmea.net](http://www.sdmea.net)

**Motion by Angela Larson, second by David Sanderson, to approve the May 2020 meeting minutes. Motion carries.**

#### **SDHSAA Report by Brooks Bowman**

Bowman reported that the ASC&O has been postponed to April 19-20. The audition due dates for auditions will remain the same. Students will be recognized as members of this group even if the event ends up being canceled in April. The orchestra auditions will be done through recordings.

Bowman reported that the activities association has now entered into a contract with *Fine Designs* that brings portable print shops to events and can customize T-shirts right on the event. As part of their contract, they now handle the ASC&O T-shirts. This was an oversight on the associations part since the T-shirts are a big part of ASC&O's revenue. Because of this oversight, an agreement was made between the activities association and SDMEA. The association has agreed to pay SDMEA \$6500 each year for the next three years to cover expenses that would have been lost due to this contract.

### **Treasurer's Report—Laura Schenk**

Schenk reported that there are very little new items to report on the income statement due to so many events being canceled due to the pandemic.

Schenk stated that vouchers, forms, and tax exemption forms are available on our website for event chairs. And Schenk reminds event chairs not to mail cash.

Laura reported that we do have ways to handle online payments now.

If you are doing business with anyone outside the US please make sure that they understand that everything is specified in US dollars.

**Motion by Char Cade, second by Colby Shuck, to approve the treasurer's report. Motion carries.**

### **President Report- Bethany Amundson**

President Amundson reported that she attended the National Assembly. The North Central Division meeting was held online. Much of the conference was about re-imaging the NAFME and the "I am NAFME, You are NAFME, We are NAFME" branding. Advocacy during the pandemic was also discussed. The North Central Division Conference will be held online September 26-27. Hill Day was cancelled.

Amundson reported that over the summer five organizations worked together to formulate guidelines for music programs during the covid crisis: SD Bandmasters, SDSTA, SD ACDA, and NATS. The Department of Education has included this document as part of it's "Starting Well Plan."

*Amundson would like the minutes to reflect a formal thank you to the leadership of these organizations for their collaboration and advocacy efforts on behalf of all music programs in South Dakota.*

The SDMEA sent out an informational letter to administrators urging them to work with their music educators to create protocol for the fall.

President Amundson would like to explore the idea of adding an "Advocacy, Diversity, and Inclusion Chair" on our board. She reported that South Dakota is one of the few states that does not currently have this position. This person would help organize advocacy events at the state level, and assist with work on issues of equity, diversity, inclusion, and access in Music Education. This person would also work with the NAFME Leadership Force which meets monthly. Discussion was made on how to create this position on our board. It was decided that the executive board will work on creating a description of this position to bring to the board and check on procedures on how best to change the by-laws to include such a position.

**Motion by Char Cade, and seconded by Kim Bogart, for the executive committee to develop a description for the “Advocacy, Diversity, and Inclusion Chair”, and this would be a position that would be added to our board. Motion carries.**

Paid position board reviews were completed by the executive board. Amundson would like to continue to adapt the form for reviews for continued feedback for our executive board. Mike Bossman and Paul Schilf both expressed thanks for the feedback given by the board surveys.

The editor’s position was not reviewed by oversight. The executive board expressed their thanks to Deb for her excellent work on the board. We will add her position for future reviews.

Amundson asks chairs to evaluate their section of the by-laws and submit any changes or updates to her by the next meeting.

Our organization can sign the National Arts Education is Essential Statement. The board all agreed to have President Amundson do this on our behalf.

**Executive Director Report—Paul Schilf**

Schilf reported that NAFME is sending an abundant amount of emails daily due to responding to the COVID-19 situation.

Schilf worked closely with the activities association to come up with a solution to the ASC&O T-shirt situation. He stated that we own the right to our event T-shirts and this is an income for us. We will revisit this situation in 2023. The amount that they are giving us in settlement is more than we usually make on our shirts so we are very pleased.

We will still be carrying insurance this year regardless of if we end up having events or not. Schilf asks that he could be emailed directly when events are being planned so he can have that insurance ready and in place.

**President Elect Report- Mike Bossman**

Mike Bossman expressed that he is getting the ropes down of his new position as president elect and is happy to provide support to our executive board.

***Chair Reports:***

**Middle School Band-- Kristen Dunlap, (Danny Eye chair-elect)**

Dunlap reported that the 22nd MSASB is scheduled to be held in Huron on March 5-6, 2021. Dunlap and Eye are working on ideas on how to proceed with this event safely versus canceling the event. Auditions will still be held so that those students can still be

honored regardless of whether the event is held or not. December is the soonest that Huron will let them know if they are still willing to host.

Dunlap reported on the new audition process of moving to a Google platform versus Music Festival Software. She reported that things are going very well with this new platform.

They will work on securing a guest director. Discussion was made on offering a small stipend to give the director in case the event gets cancelled.

### **South Dakota Musician Report: Deb Rohrer (editor)**

Rohrer reported that we are down in advertising revenue this fall due to the cancellation of events. She is hoping to expand organizations that would be willing to contribute to the magazine. September 15 is the deadline for articles. Amundson and Schilf both expressed their thanks to Deb on her hard work for SDMEA.

*New board members need to submit a picture to Rohrer for the magazine.*

### **Elementary Report—Vicki Hyder, (Tanya Davis, chair-elect)**

Hyder reported that the plan for Elementary Honors Choir is to postpone it yet she is not sure when this event could be successfully rescheduled. Director Tonya Cline is open to the idea of rescheduling. Hyder is also working on securing a venue to hold the EHC. Rehearsal tracks are all ready. Music will be secured from Popplers.

Hyder reported that they are still looking for a site chair for the Elementary Festival Choir in Brandon. This is scheduled for March 1st.

### **Collegiate Report— Dave Sanderson**

Sanderson reported that if the 2020 Conference goes virtual he would be a bit hesitant to hold the recital-type event as this would create some hurdles for this event. He would still like to see a panel or a Question/Answer session as he feels this is beneficial to the collegiates.

Sanderson reported on the collegiate chapters: Dakota Wesleyan University is starting a collegiate chapter. USD hosts a monthly guest speaker starting in October via Zoom. Will possibly invite other chapters to join. USD now has Qualtrics software. This is a good tool for advocacy to help promote our SDMEA mission.

### **New Teacher Mentoring Program--Wendy Van Gent**

Van Gent reported that the SDMEA Mentor Program has somewhat “stalled” due to the SD-DOE new teacher mentoring program. She expressed that the state is doing a great job in this program. Van Gent would like to propose that the mentorship is taken out of the board and that a higher education representative would be created to deal with all things higher education which would also include research. Van Gent reported that NAFME believes research is a central component of the work of the association and

our members. She would like to SDMEA be a part of the national outlook on research. Discussion was made on this topic with further discussion that will continue to happen between our collegiate professors on the board.

Van Gent reported on the Society for Music Teacher Education and expressed that this year will prove to be very challenging in placing students for field experience due to the pandemic. The next national symposium will be held in September 2021.

### **Middle School Report—Iwona Lewter**

Lewter reported that the 2021 Middle School Festival Chorus is scheduled for April 14th with an alternate date of April 21st. Registration deadline is February 26th. She will contact the same directors that were contacted last year and use the same repertoire. There are not that many sites secured at this time but discussion was made to go forward, if deemed safe, with just the sites we have. Suggestion was made to limit the amount that each teacher could bring.

*A suggestion was made to create a blanket statement on behalf of all of the events for the year. Discussion was made that the executive board go forward and make an executive decision on all events for this school year.*

### **Band Report- Calvin Lipetzky**

Lipetzky reported on the planning process for the Middle School All State Jazz Band. Lipetzky is hopeful that the Mitchell venue is large enough to provide a safe environment to rehearse and perform. David Martinson of BHSU and Ben Koch of O’Gorman have agreed to be conductors. Most judges from last year have agreed to return.

Lipetzky reported that the reading session was a big hit at the All-State Band event and will plan on that again. His thoughts are to move forward with the event as normal until we know otherwise.

### **Tri-M Report – Molly Stueckrath**

Stueckrath has requested an official list of chapters from the division chair. She hopes to reach out and touch base with chapters to see how COVID has affected them. She requests that if we know of any new chapters that have started this year that we send that information her way.

### **Webmaster/Historian Report – Mike Bossman (President-elect)**

For SDMEA related matters email Bossman at [webmaster@sdmea.net](mailto:webmaster@sdmea.net). PDFs are always easier to post. Allow a week to post items on your page.

### **Retired Music Educator Chair-- Char Cade**

Cade reported that with the uncertainty of events happening or not happening she is unsure how to proceed with offering free tickets (to the ASC&O) to our retired music educators. Those that have received free tickets in the past have expressed their thanks.

### **Awards Report—Erin McFarland**

McFarland reported that she has waited on reaching out to awardees until she finds out if we should do it virtually at the conference or in-person at all-state. Discussion was made that we should wait until April and present the awards in person at the ASC&O concert.

### **Membership Chair Report: Colby Shuck**

Shuck reported that we are down a bit from last year--only around 15 with only 4 collegiates. He is positive that once teachers and collegiates get settled into the year the numbers will come back up. Van Gent mentioned that NSU students usually join when they register for the conference. Sanderson mentioned that they will be holding their membership meeting this Tuesday for sign ups.

### **Choral Report – Angela Larson**

Larson reported that the newly founded Freshmen Festival has been quite successful. It has been held for two years now. But this year she is suggesting that we cancel this event due to the closeness in dates to ASC&O and due to the pandemic.

**A motion was made by Laura Cooper, and seconded by Laura Schenk, to postpone the Freshmen Festival until the 2021-22 school year. Motion carries.**

### **Middle School All-State Orchestra: Laura Cooper/Kim Bogart, chair-elect**

Cooper reported that she will move forward with plans as the event may or may not be canceled due to our COVID situation. This is scheduled for February 19-20 at Brandon Valley. Auditions will be held via video as usual.

We will still go forward with the String Symposium as planned until such COVID events may make this event cancel as well.

### **Elementary Orchestra: Kortney Temple**

Discussion was made to table the creation of this new event in light of COVID. This will be looked at again in 2021-22.

### **Old Business**

Reminder that the e-newsletter information needs to be turned into the online folder by the 15th of each month.

### **New Business:**

Next meetings: January 2 in Mitchell, June 5 in Pierre

**Motion by Laura Schenk, second by Mike Bossman, to adjourn the meeting.  
Motion carries.**

**Meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.**

Submitted by Sheri Holt