

OMEA Board of Control Minutes

Saturday September 18th 2010

Crown Plaza Hotel, Lake Oswego, Oregon

Attendees:

Laura Arthur	Recording Secretary
Craig Bader	Dist II Chair (Dephian School)
Andrea Brock	Dist VIII Chair (South Medford HS)
Sean Campbell	Orchestra Chair
Larry Coates	Dist XV Chair (Mountain View MS –Beaverton), All-State Jazz Assistant
Valerie Ellett	General Music Chair
Richard Elliott	Collegiate Chair/Retired Member Chair
Jon Felt	Dist VII Rep (Siuslaw MS/HS)
Gale Graham	Dist X Chair (Glide HS)
Sandi Green	Dist XII Chair (Creswell HS)
Brandon Hansen	All-State Equipment Manager
Jane Howell	Executive Director
David Hodges	Band Chair/All-State Wind Ensemble Manager
Al Kato	Business/Sustaining Members Chair, All-State Booth Manager
Paul Jolsted	Dist I Rep (Wilson HS)
Kim Kroeger	All-State Men's Choir Manager
Ben Lawson	2 nd VP
Emily Mercado	Dist XI Chair (Crescent Valley HS)
Jennifer Muller	OSAA Band Rep/All-State Symphonic Band Manager
Tom Muller	State Solo Chair
Steve Phillips	Dist IV Chair (Auburn Elem)
Mike Preston	Dist V Chair (Madras HS)
Tracy Ross	Treasurer
Sue Schreiner	Dist XIV Co-Chair (Wilsonville HS)
Christopher Silva	Past President
Brenda Simmons	All-State Middle School Orchestra Manager
Jeff Simmons	OMEA President
Joel Tanner	All-State Jazz Manager
Nevin Van Manen	Dist VIII supporter
Mary Ann Vidourek	Small Schools Chair/All-State Housing Chair
Julia Voorhies	Membership Chair

9:02: Call to Order, Welcome – Jeff Simmons

Approval of the Minutes

Typos reported –

- a. p. 2 - Joan Paddock
- b. p. 3 – school vs. schools

Sean Williams: **Motion to accept the minutes with amendments**

Ben Lawson: seconded

Discussion: None

Motion passed

1. President's Report – Jeff Simmons

1. Traveled to Washington DC – met with Representatives Wyden, Walden and DeFazio, all strong supporters. Walden's wife a big fan.
 2. Arts as priority in NCLB, arts included in recording
 3. Executive board retreat over the summer – examination of OMEA as a whole
 4. Approval of conference registration fee change in an effort to encourage OMEA members to attend NWMENC
 5. Graduate credit for OMEA conference this year through WOU, approximately \$150?, through Ike Nail
 6. OMEA Board Calendar
 - o September 18th
 - o January 16th, 2011, Eugene
 - o May 21, 2011, Portland
- A. *Board housing cost policy review and potential action item.*
- a. **Motion made that OMEA travel policy reflect \$85 for lodging or Board approved meeting rate.**
 - b. Seconded by Craig Bader
 - c. Discussion: None
 - d. **Motion passed**
- B. *Non-Disclosure Statement*
- a. OMEA Board is in violation with IRS
 - b. Jane Howell – Potential for exploitation of board privileges
 - i. Non-disclosure statement need to be signed and returned to Howells
 - ii. Must be approved to apply for 501(c)3 (non-profit) classification
 1. Cannot accept gifts over \$50 or accumulated at \$1000
 2. Must disclose family member involvement
 - iii. Tom Muller – Question on section 4, conflict of interest. What are the potential repercussions? Are we “qualified” to accept/sign this document when we are not tax attorneys?
 - iv. Jennifer Muller - Does judging solo contest count?
 - v. Can accept anything that the board has decided is a benefit for all members (Solo and Ensemble applies under this umbrella)
 - vi. Jane Howell– Should we wait until we have our tax attorney/lawyer review the document before approval?
 - vii. Jeff Simmons – Table the document until January - after review by tax attorney/lawyer and careful review by members. Whole board may be held responsible for individual district events.

- viii. Looking to be proactive instead of reactive in the future.
 - ix. Michael Preston – highly recommends D and O
 - x. Tracy Ross – figure out costs associated
 - c. Jeff Simmons - **Motion for Executive Directors of OMEA to research and purchase, upon consultation with the Executive Board, D and O insurance for the OMEA Board of Control.**
 - d. Jennifer Muller seconded
 - e. Discussion:
 - i. Jane Howell – Does MENC have a resource for this?
 - ii. Christopher Silva – Higher limits for insurance. Think about a complete insurance review.
 - f. **Motion passed**
- C. *501(c)3*
- a. Currently a 501 6
 - b. Move to a 501(c)3 organization
 - i. People can gift money to your organization and then take a tax deduction
 - ii. Organization can write grants, should we choose to do so
 - c. Jane Howell recommends Cynthia Cumfer, Attorney at Law. Co-Author of the “OR Non-Profit Corporation Handbook”, to help guide us to becoming at 503(c)3 organization. \$2200-\$2500 rates.
 - i. Sean Williams: What would keep us from qualifying?
 - ii. Jane Howell: If we were an organization that just served ourselves. We serve students through the conference and honor groups.
 - iii. Tracy Ross: Should have done this a long time ago. Possibilities for federal dollars, grants, etc that we could have been receiving long ago.
 - iv. Ben Lawson – Hot Topic, “Rock the Arts”, not applicable to receive grant because of our current classification 501 6
 - d. Tracy Ross: **Motion to spend up to \$2500 from the Board project fund to become 501(c)3 organization**
 - e. Christopher Silva: Seconded
 - f. Discussion: None
 - g. **Motion Passed**
- D. *Discussion about restructuring of OMEA Board of Control and OMEA By-Laws*
- a. Tracy Ross is looking for the OMEA bylaws
 - b. Searching for committee of six to examine bylaws. Jeff Simmons, Christopher Silva, Tina Bull, three others. Deadline of May 18th to have bylaws examined.
 - c. Jeff Simmons – We have a huge board. What can we do as a board to make our meetings valuable? Discussion?
 - d. Tracy Ross – Does this board function as well as it could?
 - i. Craig Boder – Should we base our design on another model?
 - ii. Jennifer Muller – Smaller, spread out districts give more opportunities for more students.
 - iii. Christopher Silva – Take two or three different, specific examples and examine. Washington has a “training” weekend for district chairs.
 - iv. Val Elliott – What was the motivation for this discussion?
 - 1. Jeff Simmons – Improve attendance at board meetings
 - v. Michael Preston – Talking content more than structure
 - vi. Sue Schreiner – Change in attitude among educators. Potential in future for smaller board. Not saying it’s right. Attrition.

- vii. Emily Mercado – Incentive for district chairs to attend?
 - viii. Steve Phillips – Perhaps hold this meeting a few weeks later?
 - ix. Tracy Ross – During August, district chairs workshop?
- E. *All-Northwest Conference Discount*
- a. Christopher Silva: **Motion: Oregon Music Educators Association to offer an All-State discount of \$35 if attendees can show pre-registration for the All-Northwest conference**
 - b. Jon Felt: Seconded
 - c. Discussion:
 - i. All-NW is available for registration before for All-State
 - ii. Steve Phillips: Email blast to administrators to allow their teachers to attend the conference? New policies emerging - teachers cannot take a day off before the 3-day weekend, districts will not pay for subs due to budgetary restraints.
 - d. **Motion passed**
 - i. Jeff Simmons to craft a letter to superintendents to encourage attendance for their teachers.
- F. *Jazz Choir at 2012 Conference – Craig Bader*
- a. Possibility for honor group at the 2012 Eugene conference.
 - b. Jeff Simmons - Option for jazz band students to apply for jazz choir?
 - i. Tom Muller – No, schedule conflicts
 - c. Christopher Silva - Investigate potential interest around the state, especially if it will be representative of the ENTIRE state. Conductor for each (24 students vs. 240 in full choir) costs the same. Make sure it's truly an HONOR ensemble.
 - d. Andrea Brock – good time to start thinking, resurgence of student interest
 - e. Jane Howell – Survey of HS choir teachers? Craig Boder should make it.
 - f. Tom Muller – Present the idea of the ensemble to students at 2011 conference, hold a discussion for teachers in a 2011 conference session. Is there a way to advertise at jazz festivals?
 - g. Jeff Simmons – District chairs take conversation to district teachers.
 - h. Craig Boder volunteers to be Jazz Choir Ensemble Chair at 2011 OMEA conference
- G. *All-Northwest performance groups from Oregon:*
- a. Gresham Concert Choir (Janine Kirstein)
 - b. West Salem Wind Ensemble (Todd Zimbelman)
 - c. Combined Service Bands: 133rd, 204th, and 234th (Ashley Alexander)
 - d. Linn-Benton Community College Chamber Choir (James Reddan)
 - e. University of Oregon Wind Ensemble (Robert Ponto)
 - i. Jeff Simmons – Please support these groups by attending their performances at the All-NW Conference!

2. ***District Chair Representative Reports***

- A. *District I – Paul Jolsted*
 - a. Benson High Band eliminated – Dan Foster
- B. *District III – Craig Bader*
 - a. Subsidized district festivals with district funds
- C. *District IV – Steve Phillips*
 - a. Fall in-service at McKay HS
 - b. Finding a new treasurer
 - c. New set of literature guidelines for Solo and Ensemble (Aria vs folk song)
 - d. Dallas – major cuts (elementary music)

- e. Hiring freeze gone – four furlough days
- D. *District V* – Mike Preston
 - a. Redmond HS Band (Dave Sime) – ½ time
 - b. Testing is the focus of the district... major cuts
 - c. 75% of last year’s cost for festival entrance fees
- E. *District VII* – Jon Felt (sitting in for Russ Carpenter)
 - a. Coos Bay – there’s a real possibility of losing all music in the future
 - b. Math endorsements “encouraged” for all music teachers
 - c. Splitting vocal and instrumental Solo & Ensemble
- F. *District VIII* – Andrea Brock & Nevin Van Manen
 - a. Grants Pass HS Band in the Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade. Has turned into an advocacy/community event.
 - b. Possibility for two events – Siskiyou Treble Festival, band invitational in Roseburg
- G. *District X* – Gale Graham
 - a. Traveling to outlying school for the district meeting to encourage attendance
- H. *District XI* – Emily Mercado
 - a. Additional FTE in Lebanon
 - b. School levy needs to pass to keep elementary jobs
 - c. Chamber groups are encouraged in Solo & Ensemble festival to increase participation
- I. *District XII* – Sandi Green
 - a. Disturbing trends in cuts
 - b. Revisited standards in 4J
 - c. Mass band day for small schools
- J. *District XIV* – Sue Schreiner
 - a. Lost of attendance at meetings, young teachers are keeping the energy up
 - b. Now is the time to keep our groups visible and stand up for our programs and our kids.
- K. *District XV* – Larry Coates
 - a. In-service ideas: Refresher courses in starting instrumentalists/vocalists
 - b. Participation in programs is increasing.

3. Executive Board Reports

1. *2nd VP/2011 Conference* – Ben Lawson
 - a. Banquet is celebration/happy time – social hour before banquet, good dinner, speakers are Peter Boonshaft and Scott Schuler (MENC Pres)
 - b. How do we get more high school students to audition? Looked to evening events: Students need varied fun events/social time
 - c. Advertise to local community to get sponsorships for students to attend to help offset costs
 - d. Focus on good things during the conference– our one time to get together in the year and commiserate and enjoy each other as music educators
 - e. Steve Phillips – Fees for All-State increased – worried about Title I students being able to participate at all
 - i. Jeff Simmons – In the short term – need to pay bills. We need to find a long-term solution.
 - ii. Jane Howell – 501(c)3 can help with this issue - “People will fund kids.”
 - iii. Washington MEA uses their 501(c)3 to fund low-income All-State participants.
2. *Treasurer’s Report* – Tracy Ross

- a. Ended with negative balance, but small amount in the red
 - b. Missing money from conference found sitting in PayPal account.
 - c. Journal ad will increase
 - d. Executive Travel – Huge financial burden – volunteer 100 miles, not 200. Trip to Washington DC must be budgeted a year in advance.
 - e. Very busy with projects
 - f. OSAA billed us for State Solo Contest
 - g. Website redesign was a major expense
 - h. District needs to send expense reports and line item reports to Tracy Ross. How to do this will be made very clear in District Chair handbooks.
3. *Executive Manager's Report* – Jane Howell
- a. Working on finding all documents and uploading them to website
 - b. Website:
 - i. Needed conference applications (registration) up by 9/30, instead student applications went up. Working to get fixed ASAP.
 - ii. Ways of collecting information are changing, but are becoming more efficient.
 - iii. Thorough records will be kept from now on, as well as keep information from teachers (cuts, changes in FTE) in order to help with advocacy.
 - 1. Only collect info on OMEA members.
 - c. All reports need to be emailed to Jane Howell in Word Doc form
 - d. All documents that could help other members (i.e. “How to teach clarinet”) can be sent to Jane Howell to be shared on website
 - e. No official advocacy program – Jane Howell is working to compile all info into “handbook” form for all teachers to benefit from
4. *Past President's Report* – Christopher Silva
- a. Working on organizing elections
 - b. New 2nd VP elected in January – responsible for managing all state ensembles during the year that All State and All-NW are both in Portland (no state conference that year). Easy job... all the facilities have already been booked.
 - c. Awards – nomination process, announced in fall journal, already online.
 - d. Many states give out more awards – Hall of Fame, started by taking nominations from around the state. Choose how many names to add from year to year – not voted.
 - e. Discussion:
 - i. Jennifer Muller – would they need to pay for banquet? Would they even be invited?
 - ii. What would the Freshman class look like?
5. Everyone read Tina Bull's report

4. OSAA/Contest Chair Reports

- 1. *State Solo Contest Chair* – Tom Muller
 - a. April 30th, Lewis and Clark College – possible permanent site
 - b. Reducing the number of participants
 - c. Eliminating guitar, rudimental snare, multiple percussion, piano, and harp from state contest. Still eligible for district events – up to individual districts
- 2. *OSAA Band Rep* - Jennifer Muller
 - a. Mike Wallmark's retirement (he is searching for a “friendly” replacement)
 - b. Retirement gift for Mike from OMEA?
 - i. Possible Outside Contributor award?

- c. Tracy Ross – new hybrid issues – travel costs, rotating sites?

Break for Lunch

5. Area Chair Reports

1. *General Music Chair* – Val Ellett
 - a. Clinicians are all set up, almost set up for conference needs
 - b. General music is “hemorrhaging” – what kind of actions are taking place with our state government/leadership to keep general music programs in place?
 - c. Dave Hodges – Specific advocacy chair needed on the board
 - d. Looking for general music teacher contact lists for touching base
 - e. What’s being cut? PE vs. general music, etc
 - i. Tom Muller – Used to be an appointed advocacy chair on the board(Richard Long)
 - ii. Finding the person is the key – it is a HUGE job
 - iii. Jane Howell - All-NW has an advocacy day
 - iv. Jane Howell - Music person at the state Department of Education used to come to the board meetings
 - v. Christopher Silva – Other states get their District Chairs to “work the hill” together.
 1. We need to know exactly what we’re asking for
 - vi. Jane Howell – March is “Music in Our Schools” month – could we incorporate advocacy into events that are already in place on National and local level?
 - vii. Jeff Simmons needs names of people who would be good **advocacy chair**.
2. *Band Chair* – Dave Hodges
 - a. “What’s in the Beat” - Gary Green (All-State Wind Ensemble conductor’s) session
 - b. Eric Hammer from University of the Pacific – Symphonic Band conductor
3. *Business/Sustaining Membership Chair* – Al Kato
 - a. Some exhibitors are unhappy now that students perform in the Hult center – less contact with customers and parents
 - b. Door prizes for conference attendees
4. *Choral Chair/ACDA Rep*
 - a. Report in the packet
5. *Orchestra Chair* – Sean Williams
 - a. See report for list of clinicians and performing ensembles
 - b. Southern Oregon Youth Symphony* will be performing (* = students must be member of their school ensembles)
6. *Collegiate Chair* - Richard Elliott
 - a. Need a list of jobs for CMENC students to perform
 - b. Scott Schuler (MENC president) will present many collegiate sessions at the conference
7. *Small Schools Chair* – Mary Ann Vidourek
 - a. Scoring at contests – are we all doing the 6A?
8. *Membership Chair* – Julia Voorhies
 - a. Ideas for retaining membership for music teachers who have lost their jobs. Discounts? Keep them in the network.
 - b. OMEA conference fee was eliminated for teachers who were RIF’ed.

- c. Any OMEA members who lost their positions due to RIF or budget cuts and are now unemployed are now offered free conference registration.
 - d. Clarification needed for director responsibilities for their own students while attending the conference
 - i. Teacher is “person of record” for their student
 - ii. Is there something on the registration form listing teacher responsibilities?
 - iii. Christopher Silva – Being aware of teacher’s “situation” before asking
 - iv. We have professional duties while attending the conference and we are responsible for our students
9. *Jazz Chair* – Larry Coates (for Joel Tanner)
- a. Wyclef Gordon – Jazz band conductor
 - b. Willie Hill – Clinics on improvisation, advocacy, jazz band rehearsals, and one TBA
 - c. Ben Lawson - Auditions need to be pushed for students – very low turnouts
 - i. Jennifer Muller – The improv piece of the audition deters many students
 - ii. Send an e-blast (with links to conductor) to encourage student participation

Jeff Simmons – for the good of the order, break off into:

- a. District chairs
- b. Conference prep

Meeting adjourned

Minutes respectfully submitted by Laura Arthur. September 18, 2010.
Minutes adjusted by Jane Howell and Laura Arthur. October 13, 2010.