



**NMMEA Board of Directors Meeting**  
**July 16, 2011 - 8:30 AM**  
**New Mexico Activities Association Conference Room**  
**6600 Palomas NE, Albuquerque, NM 87107**

## Minutes

Members present: Joseph Flores, President; Jennifer Rogers, Orchestra VP; Mika Proctor, General Music VP; Arnell David Arellanes, Choral VP, Rusty Crowe, Band VP; Neil Rutland, Collegiate VP; Dustin Seifert, Past President; John Truitt, Acting Guitar VP; Keith Jordan, Editor "The New Mexico Musician"; and Don Gerheart, Executive Director. Also present: Chris Gerheart, President District 1; Brandon Boerio, President District 2, Buffy Tolstedt, President District 3; Kurt Schmidt, President District 6; Tony Schillaci, President District 4; and Steve Snowden, President District 7.

**I. Call to Order and Introductions:** President Joseph Flores called the meeting to order at 8:36 AM.

**II. Approval of Minutes - Board of Directors Meeting January 5, 2011**  
It was moved and seconded to accept the minutes as presented. Motion passes.

**Note:** President Flores moved to Unfinished Business. Some of the unfinished business was from last night's Executive Committee Meeting.

**III. Executive Director's Report - Don Gerheart - (Reports attached)**

**A. Financial Report**

The Financial Report as of the end of May 2011 was presented.

Cash on Hand as of May 31, 2011 = \$90,508.82

CD's as of May 31, 2011 = \$117,292.69

Savings as of May 31, 2011 = \$10,563.51

Bill Smith Stipends as of May 31, 2011 = \$3,329.77

It was moved and seconded to approve the financial report. Motion passed.

**B. Financial Reports for All-State**

Don Gerheart presented several financial related reports for the 2011 All-State including "Income & Expenses", "Cost of Facilities for UNM", "Concert Attendance", "Exhibits", "Credit Card Summary", and a "Comparison of Income & Expenses to the 2010 All-State".

**C. Budget Status for 2010-11**

The Budget Status for the first 11 months of FY11 shows revenue over expenses at \$20,442.18.

**D. CD Interest since 2004 amounts to \$12,367.50.**

**E. Membership Report - Memberships are stable at 513.**

**F. Status of the New Mexico Arts Grant - \$8,394 for FY12**

The comments from New Mexico Arts panelists were very positive. "This organization is astute and has very strong administrative abilities". "This is a highly specialized service organization that fills a need statewide that benefits a large sector of the population."

**G. Report on the District Presidents Meeting**

The District Presidents met on Friday afternoon July 15 for several hours. Don Gerheart reviewed various All-State audition reports and handed out an updated "District Questionnaire" which includes information about each district. The District Presidents had a very productive dialog about their concerns and their most pressing issues as well as sharing information with each other. Communication between the NMMEA and the Districts and visa versa is very important and is a high priority. District Presidents were asked to formulate accurate email address list for all of their members with special emphasis on getting this information for their elementary music teachers. These

email lists are to be forward to the Don Gerheart. President Flores shared information that was an outcome of the MENC National Assembly he attended in June in Washington D.C.

H. **NMMEA Operating Procedures.**

Don Gerheart presented updates and new inclusions were presented. A few additional changes were received from the Board and will be included in the procedures.

I. **NMMEA 2011-2012 Calendar of Musical Events**

Calendars for each district were given to the District Presidents for distribution to their members.

**IV. New Mexico Musician Report - Keith Jordan, Editor – (Report attached)**

A. **Financial Report and Summary of the 2010-2011 “New Mexico Musician”**

Keith Jordan presented his financial report and the status of our advertisers. Balance in the account is \$205 with outstanding revenue in the amount of \$565. NMMEA may have to subsidized as much as \$2,260 to cover the fall expenses of the magazine until revenue comes in.

It was moved and seconded to accept the financial report of the “New Mexico Musician”. Motion passed.

**V. NMAA Report - Kristin Derr, Assistant Director**

Ms. Derr was not able to attend. The State Advisory Councils met yesterday. The Choir Council only had one member in attendance. A meeting reminder to members would be helpful. The State Choir Contest will be held on April 13 & 14, 2012 at Albuquerque Academy and the State Band Contest will be held on April 20 & 21, 2012 at Cleveland H.S.

**VI. NMMEA President’s Report (Report attached)**

A. **National Assembly Report**

MENC Music Education Week is held each year in June in Washington D.C. Attendance could be better. One reason for low attendance may very well be how expensive it is to travel to Washington D.C. and the high cost for hotel rooms. MENC is looking into the possibly of changing the format to be offered at other locations around the United States.

There was no representation from New Mexico in the National Honor Groups. We need to encourage participation by our talented students.

The MENC National Assembly voted to increase the annual dues by \$3 to support the Technology/Advocacy Development Fund Initiative. There is an additional \$1 cost of living increase for a total increase of \$4.

“Groundswell” is a social networking program supporting the advocacy initiative. Educators, students, parents, and everyone is encouraged to join.

The In-Ovations Movement is an effort to get more students involved in music programs. Currently only 20% of students nationwide are enrolled in music classes. We need to reach more of the other 80%. President Flores was one of six state presidents asked to speak to the National Assembly. He spoke about our All-State Guitar Ensemble and our General Music Honor Group. There is a great deal of respect for NMMEA and New Mexico at the national level.

Program cuts in New Mexico are not as severe as in many of the other states.

Effective September 1, 2011 MENC will undergo a name change. MENC will now be NAFME - The National Association for Music Education.

President Flores did meet with Senator Bingaman who is very supportive of music education. He also met with a staff member of Senator Udall who was not in Washington due to the fire in Los Alamos. This is an advocacy effort of MENC.

B. **Southwest Division News**

The MENC Southwestern Division Symposium “Teaching Music in Urban and Rural Schools” was held in Dallas in June. An ENMU Percussion Ensemble under the direction of Neil Rutland and a guitar ensemble from Albuquerque under the direction of John Truitt presented concerts. Both were well received.

President Flores will be attending the Southwest Division Board of Directors Meeting in Wichita, KS on August 3 & 4, 2011. President Flores requested the Board of Directors to approve travel for Don Gerheart to also attend. It was moved and seconded to approve travel expenses for Don Gerheart to attend the 2011 NAFME Southwestern Division Meeting to be held in Wichita, KS. Motion passed.

President Flores asked that communication received from the Executive Director be high on everyone’s priority list. A timely response to his requests for information is very important.

President Flores provided information and reminders in a timeline for the next several months leading up to All-State.

C. **Strategic Plan for 2009-2011 - Progress/Additions**

Our Strategic Plan is fine. It may need to be modified a bit. It stresses advocacy and we will continue to do all we can to advocate for music education in our schools.

D. **District President All-State Duties**

1. Monitor names to VP’s - September 15.
2. Saturday ticket distribution:  
8:30 AM – District \_\_7\_\_ & District \_\_6\_\_

10:45 AM – District \_\_2\_\_ & District \_\_1\_\_  
1:45 PM – District \_\_4\_\_ & District \_\_3\_\_  
Visible presence & availability on Saturday to assist in the Popejoy Lobby

**VII. NMMEA District President’s Reports** (Reports attached)

Each district reported on the events in their district and their schedule of events for this year. Notable business from their May meetings was reported. Their reports included new music educators to their district and music educators who retired or left their district. Recognition was given to those who received awards for performances at district events and at the NMAA State Contests. The NMSBA testing continues to have a major impact on the scheduling of spring festivals.

**Chris Gerheart, President, Southwest District 1**

Some schools in District 1 faced or will face program reductions. Dave Kendrick, Chuck Gerheart, and Chris Gerheart formed a Grant County Community Band this summer. The Southwest District is trying to improve interaction among its members and support for each other.

**Brandon Boerio, President, Southeast District 2**

The music program at Jal was dropped. The district is continuing to explore new ways to stay relevant and connected despite the financial hardships our schools are facing.

**Buffy Toldstet for Christopher Argotsinger, President, Northwest District 3**

The orchestra section had over 300 students participate in four honor orchestras. Music programs continue to struggle with students being pulled out of rehearsals/class for remedial help in math and reading. Schools continue to more with less. More additional program cuts have occurred.

**Tony Schillaci, President, North Central District 4**

Improving communication is an area the district is still working on and trying to improve. The NC District has a growing presence in the All-State Ensembles. Because of increased participation the Music Performance Assessment Festivals may have to be two-day events.

**Kurt Schmidt, President, Central District 6**

The General Music Festival saw an increase in participation. The district is still trying to tackle cash flow problems. Using new digital recorders for the Large Group Music Performance Assessment was successful.

**Steve Snowden - Albuquerque District 7**

All sections were in the black this year. Electric pianos are being purchased for the solo & ensemble festivals. Their new website has been very successful. Advocacy efforts were very successful. The Mill Levy to replace instruments will continue for another four years.

**Note:** District Presidents will be reporting their District News on their respective web links.

**VIII. Advocacy News - Joseph Flores**

A. Advocacy Direction/Plans

District Presidents have been asked to submit the name of a person who can serve as a District Advocacy Committee Member.

**IX. NMMEA Awards Programs - Dustin Seifert, Past President**

A. 2012 Awards Recipients:

Emeritus Teacher Award - Hall of Fame - Janet Isham, Kirtland  
Music Educator of the Year - Pam Towry Church, Red River  
Administrator of the Year - Martin Sandoval, Eldorado HS, Albuquerque  
Dr. John Batchellar Elementary Award - Mika Proctor, Albuquerque  
New & Emerging Music Educator of the Year - Tony Schillaci, Santa Fe  
Emeritus Teacher Award - Dave Kendrick, Silver City  
School District Award of Distinction - Clovis Municipal Schools  
School District Certificate of Recognition - Deming Public Schools and Rio Rancho Public Schools  
It was moved and seconded to award the Rollie V. Heltman Distinguished Service Award to Diantha Swoboda and Larry Wheeler. Motion passed.  
Rollie V. Heltman Service Award - Diantha Swoboda & Larry Wheeler, Albuquerque

**X. Unfinished Business**

A. Luncheon Menu and Ticket Price

Don Gerheart gave the Board a brief history of what has taken place in past years. After some discussion it was decided to have a more limited menu - one entrée and one salad - at a price that fits what we have charged in the past. It was moved to maintain the ticket price for the Awards Luncheon at \$18. Motion passed.

B. Band Honor Group Decision - President Flores reviewed the Honor Group criteria, which appears in our “Handbook” item by item. Factors that went into making a final decision are as follows:

It was agreed that our “Handbook” is vague regarding the classifications of large schools and small schools for honor group consideration. It was agreed that modifications to our “Handbook” regarding Honor Groups must be presented to the Band Section in January. Discrepancies must be addressed in order to avoid similar circumstances in the future. It was acknowledged that NMAA classifies Clovis Freshman Academy as an independent institution. This qualifies Clovis Freshman Academy as a small school with an enrollment of less than 1200 students. However, it was also discussed that Clovis Freshman Academy is a school that feeds into 5A Clovis HS and per our “Handbook” this would disqualify Clovis Freshman Academy as a small school. It was acknowledged that the NMMEA Band Division Vice-President should not have contacted the Deming High School director prior to the Executive Meeting. After significant discussion, the motion and its second that was made at last night’s Executive Committee Meeting to accept Clovis Freshman Academy as the Honor Band, was withdrawn. Due to vague writing in our “Handbook” it was moved to accept the Clovis Freshman Academy Band as the Small School Honor Band, the Deming High School Band as the Large School Honor Band, the Marshall Middle School Choir as the Honor Choir, and the Eldorado String Orchestra and the Albuquerque Girl’s Choir as a special invitation groups. There were no applicants for Honor Orchestra or the General Music Honor Group. (The orchestra will perform on the Friday afternoon concert and the general music choir will perform at the usual Thursday afternoon time slot.) Motion passed unanimously. The Board felt that after two days of significant discussion that this was the most equitable solution that could have been reached.

**Honor Group Rehearsal Time - Popejoy Hall (To be determined)**

5:05 PM to 5:45 PM - Deming HS Band

5:50 PM to 6:30 PM - Clovis Freshman Academy Band

6:35 PM to 7:15 PM - Marshall Middle School Choir (Clovis)

**Honor Group Performance Order (To be determined) & Warm up Room**

Band - B117 CFA - Marshall Middle School Choir (Clovis)

Band - B120 CFA - Clovis Freshman Academy Band

Choir - Keller Hall CFA - Deming HS Band

- B. Dates for the 2013 All-State are January 9-12, 2013. Popejoy has yet to confirm the availability of their facilities. Rodey is not available.
- C. Bill Smith Stipends  
\$50 stipends will be given to one student in each of the nine performing groups.

**XI. New Business**

- a. Approval of Recording Contract for 2012 and 2013  
NMMEA received two proposals for the recording contract. Don Gerheart presented the two proposals. After discussion it was moved and seconded to retain “Shhh” Productions” as the All-State audition recording service. Motion passed.
- b. Conference Hotel Approval  
Don Gerheart presented the information he received from three hotels who submitted proposals for the 2012 Conference Hotel. Following discussion it was moved and seconded to have the Elegante Hotel remain as the conference hotel for the 2012 All-State. Motion passed.
- c. Recommendation to the Membership to add a Guitar Division and Vice President to the NMMEA and to change the Articles of Incorporation and the Constitution and By-Laws to include a guitar section and VP as indicated in the proposed changes. The addition of the Guitar Section, etc. will be voted on by the membership at the luncheon to be held on Friday, January 6, 2012 at All-State.  
It was moved that the NMMEA Board of Directors recommend approval of the addition of a Guitar Division and Vice President. If approved changes to the Articles of Incorporation and Constitutions and By-Laws must be changed as posted. Motion passed unanimously.  
2012 All-State Registration Fees  
Other than the increase in the membership fees determined by MENC there will be no increase to the other conference fees.
- e. Action on the 2011-12 NMMEA Budget  
Executive Director Gerheart presented a proposed budget for FY12 (2011-2012). It was moved and seconded to accept the proposed budget for 2011-2012. Motion passed.
- f. Student Eligibility Requirements for District Events  
After some discussion there are no changes to be made to our eligibility requirements.

**XII. Other Information for the Good of the Organization**

A few contact changes were given.

Dustin Seifert asked for suggestions for President and the other officers to be considered for our ballot for 2013-2014. The ballot will be announced at our Business/Awards Luncheon at All-State with voting to take place in February 2012.

**XIII. Next Board of Director's Meeting**

Wednesday, January 4, 2012 - 1:00 PM - Student Union Santa Ana B

**XIV. Adjournment**

It was moved and seconded to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 2:36 PM.