

VCDA BUSINESS MEETING
All-Virginia Chorus—Harrisonburg High School
Friday, April 25, 2008

I. Call to Order

VCDA President, Lois Castonguay, called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.

Special Announcement—The death of Cathy Turner from Norfolk Christian Academy was announced. A moment of silence was observed on her behalf.

II. Introduction of Officers

President—Lois Castonguay
 Vice President—Michael Ehrlich
 VMEA President and Acting Parliamentarian—Curtis Nolley
 Secretary—Gretchen Davis
 Treasurer—Elaine Stanford (Absent)
 President-Elect—Sherri Matthews

III. Confirmation of the Agenda

A motion was made by Walter Krushinski and seconded by Lynn Babcock to accept the agenda. The motion passed.

IV. Review of Motion and Voting

Curtis Nolley stated that only members may vote and that motions must be made in writing on the forms which were available.

V. Roll Call by Districts

District	Attendance	Chair		District	Attendance	Chair
I	6	Yes		IX	15	Yes
II	5	Yes		X	8	No
III	9	No		XI	8	Yes
IV	9	Yes		XII	11	Yes
V	10	Yes		XIII	10	Yes
VI	12	Yes		XIV	4	Yes
VII	9	Yes		XV	7	Yes
VIII	7	Yes		XVI	8	No

VI. Reports

A. A motion to approve the Secretary’s written minutes was made by David Prescott and seconded by Jeff Benson. The motion passed.

B. The Treasurer’s written report was presented in her absence. (Elaine is accompanying the Middle School All-State.) The balances are: \$37,215.77 in the General Fund; \$14,627.31 in Certificates of Deposit; and \$45,607.87 in the All-Virginia Fund for a total of \$97,450.95. All-Virginia bills have not been paid yet. A motion to approve the report was made by Philip Keirstead and seconded by Lisa Pennington. Motion passed.

VII. Old Business

- A. List of approved judges for auditions and festivals and guest conductors was posted on the website a year ago. Any additions should be sent to Lois Castonguay, by way of your District Chair, for inclusion in the list.

- B. Literature Manual/Website Update
 1. Sherri Matthews will re-organize and clarify existing data and eliminate duplications in the literature manual.
 2. Submit any titles you are considering for festival. Do not wait to send them in. The committee will meet this summer, so you can send pieces for evaluation now.
 3. Deadline for submissions is the will be in November at the VMEA Conference. Send submissions to Lisa Pennington. Forms are available on the VCDA website.
 4. Every choir that is performing for ratings must perform one piece from the manual.
 5. This clarification has been added to the manual: All songs selected from the approved manual lists must be in the correct voicing for your choir. Alternate voicings of a song must be graded and approved by the committee for addition to the list before it may be considered for use.
 6. Anita Ray and Daryl Knott requested that tenors be given a choice to sight read in either treble or bass clef for All-State auditions. This clarification did not require a motion and will be included in the manual.

- C. District Commitment Form

The state commitment form (available on the website) must be used by all districts for middle school and high school. It includes necessary insurance information on the students. This is a state liability issue.

- D. All-Virginia Audition Procedure Proposal
 1. There was a question about the proposal not being published in NOTES. It was submitted and received by NOTES, but was subsequently lost in a computer crash. It has been posted for months on the website and that was deemed adequate public access to the written proposal.
 2. Clarification was made concerning the art song choices. The song is to be determined each year by the All-State Committee and announced in the fall. It will be available in multiple keys to accommodate each voice part.
 3. No discussion was permitted at this meeting. The proposal went directly to vote and passed by a generous margin.
 4. A motion was made by Lara Brittain to change the Soprano/Tenor sight reading key to E flat rather than F. It was seconded by Jamie Barrack. This also passed.

- E. All-Virginia Chorus 2008
 1. Lois thanked Bethany Houff for her work as site host for All-State Chorus. She said that everything was beautifully prepared. Bethany was presented a plaque as a thank you for her work. Bethany then praised Lois for her organization of the event.
 2. Monitors are to be in the spaces assigned. You should be onstage or in the rehearsal hall actively supervising the students. Be especially alert for texting.
 3. Both conductors expressed disappointment with the lack of preparation of the

- singers. It is our job to prepare them for this event.
4. Next year, All-State Chorus will begin with sectionals during which note checks will occur. This has been added to the All-State commitment form.

VIII. New Business

A. ACDA Announcements

1. Rebecca Tyree announced the Voices United Conference at George Mason this summer with headliner, John Rutter. George Mason is offering class credit for this conference.
2. She also mentioned that the Middle School All-State Chorus has 150 singers this year that were chosen from 500 auditions.

B. Missing Reports

1. Lois read the list of missing reports. She said that many were turned in during the week-end. The remaining reports need to be completed and sent.
2. A copy of festival results are to be sent to Lois for posting on the web. The original must still be sent to Moe Turrentine.
3. Curtis Nolley, as VMEA President spoke about accuracy in completing the VMEA forms. You must read and follow directions. Be sure to include all required documents, and double check all signatures. If you have any questions, contact Vince Tornello who is gracious with assistance. It is better to confirm what you are doing first rather than to send in an erroneous report.

C. 2008 Conference will be at Homestead

1. Submit tapes by May 1st (postmark) if you would like to perform at VMEA
2. Directions and forms are available on the website.

D. Honors Choir—Terry Hall made several announcements.

1. The conductor will be Hilary Appfestadt from Ohio
2. Auditions will be the first week-end in October at Longwood. Lois Castonguay will be doing the auditions again with Mandi Townley assisting.
3. Students will be housed and rehearsed in Covington with several trips to Homestead for rehearsals and performance.
4. Terry is considering using lay people for day chaperones so that directors can attend the conference. Teachers would be used for night duty. If you know of substitute teachers or approved chaperones (with background checks) in the area who would be willing to help, please submit names to Terry.
5. Lois offered thanks to Terry who has sacrificed conference attendance for many years in order to coordinate the Honors Choir.

E. 2009 and 2010 All-State Chorus

1. Sherri Matthews announced that 2009 All-State would be at Massaponax High School. SATB conductor will be Chuck Robinson and SSAA conductor will be David Brunner.
2. 2010 All-State will be at the newly renovated Woodson High School. SATB conductor will be Z. Randall Stroope and SSAA conductor will be Charlotte Adams.

F. Closing Remarks

1. Sherri Matthews presented Lois with a plaque to honor her work as VCDA President for the last two years. She received a standing ovation from the

membership.

2. Curtis Nolley announced that the Executive Board meeting for June has been cancelled. Last year the meeting was so poorly attended that there was no quorum and business could not be conducted. There will be a meeting of officers but, District Chairs do not need to attend.
3. Thanks were offered to Curtis for his leadership the past two years as VMEA President.
4. Meeting was adjourned at 5:10 and the gavel was passed to Sherri Matthews.

One additional announcement was made during the meeting. Mac Lambert consulted with Masterworks Press this year about creating sight reading materials for festival—in all voicings and levels. They were very interested in doing this and also wanted to create practice examples. They do not charge a fee for this.

Respectfully submitted,
Gretchen H. Davis
VCDA Secretary