

**Texas Community College Band Directors Association**  
**Minutes – February 16, 2007**

**Meeting convened at 8:30 a.m. with TCCBDA president Dr. Brian Harris (MCC) presiding.**

- I. **Minutes of 2/17/2006 approved.**
- II. **Treasurer's Report.** President Harris reviewed new per diem policy for clinicians.
- III. **Old business:**
  - a. **Symphonic Band Clinician:** Larry Campbell (Blinn) moved to invite Robert McElroy as 2007 Symphonic Band Clinician. Philip Lowe (Hill) seconded; motion passed unanimously.
  - b. **Lowe moved to retain 2006-2007 Symphonic Band clinician nomination list for 2007-2008.** Dennis Eichler (Lee) seconded; motion passed.
  - c. **Jazz Ensemble clinician nominees:**
    1. Mike Steinel – UNT
    2. Tim Ishii – UTA
    3. Freddie Mendoza – Texas State
    4. Gary Wurtz – SFA
  - d. **Vice President's report:** Will Fairbanks reminded members of taping guidelines, especially cautioning against writing student or college names on CDs and speaking out loud on CDs. Fairbanks expressed appreciation to recorded audition judges for working quickly.

Membership was asked to identify any problems with hotel check in procedures. None were identified.

Jill Stewart (Blinn) reminded members to finalize CDs before submitting them. Joe Perea (Richland) reminded directors to record CDs in .wma format instead of .mp3.

Campbell (Blinn) reminded directors to listen to CDs prior submitting.

President Harris reminded members that CDs are the preferred format for audition submissions.

Perea cautioned members to check for obvious splices in audition CDs

Fairbanks noted that CDs should only be labeled with instrument and ID number.

Eichler recommended that CDs be disqualified if improperly submitted or improperly recorded with judge given authority to render the final decision as to the eligibility of any submission. Eichler restated his recommendation as a motion, seconded by Campbell. Motion passed unanimously.

- e. **Jazz Organizer's report:** Heather Mensch, jazz organizer (TJC) recommends sending all recordings to Vice President instead of to Jazz Organizer. Proposes change in JO duties to include concert organization only. Mensch further recommended changing Jazz Band judging panels to include two panels – one for saxophones and rhythm, the other for brass – each to include three judges to bring adjudication practice in line with that used by for the Symphonic Band and required of TMEA-sponsored organizations.

Campbell moved to accept Mensch's recommendations. Jose Campeon (Laredo) seconded; motion passed.

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Mensch informed membership of discussion during the TBA meeting of cutting jazz etudes and requested comments. Richard Birk (Brazosport) recommended using all etudes as these etudes are already formally abbreviated and students are not currently overburdened. Campeon agreed. Birk and Sparky Koerner (College of the Mainland) recommended that students submit an improv tape or at least play melody with the changes in lieu of improvisation. Birk recommendation is approved.

Birk affirmed that guest soloist for the TCCBDA All-State Jazz Ensemble is paid by IAJE.

f. **Officer Elections**

Secretary/Treasurer – Lynda Reid (South Plains College)

**Committee Chairs**

Seating Organizer – Brack May (North Harris College)

Percussion Organizer – Joe Perea

Jazz Organizer – Ben Irom

Concerto Competition Organizer – Karen Marsten

- g. **Constitution Committee** – Constitution Committee Chair Jill Stewart stated that draft of constitution is ready for review, is currently under revision, and will be submitted to membership for adoption at a later date.

**IV. New Business**

- **TCCBDA booth** at entrance to TMEA exhibit hall is new this year. Harris stated that its presence aids in the recognition of TCCBDA.
- **TMEA Update:** Harris has communicated with TMEA Executive Director Robert Floyd concerning hotel issues. Harris noted that TCCBDA enjoys support of TMEA, but is not considered as a part of TMEA. TCCBDA enjoys “peripheral support” of TMEA.
- **Hotel Update:** Harris notes that the newly remodeled Tropicana with its large rehearsal area is a possibility. Consideration of the Tropicana is tabled for the year. The new Drury Plaza with 350 rooms, large ballroom, and jazz ensemble rehearsal space near the Aztec Theater is also a possibility – the Drury Plaza management has expressed reticence due to sound issues, loss of profit from catering, etc. Cost for Drury Plaza would be higher due to parking fees and higher room charges (\$30-40) than is currently the case with the Radisson.
- **TMEA website to be used in lieu of TMEA student membership forms.** Frank Coachman, TMEA Deputy Director, will create a “dummy” region to facilitate entry of All-State students directly into the TMEA database. This will eliminate the need for TMEA student membership forms and simplify TCCBDA interaction with TMEA.
- **Lynda Reid (South Plains College) questioned the need to include student social security numbers on TMEA student membership forms.**
- **Lowe (Hill) asks if TCCBDA website can be linked to the TMEA website.** President Harris does not think this possible, but notes that TCCBDA is currently included in the “links” section of the TMEA website.
- **President Harris proposes the following policy:** *“TCCBDA members and auditionees agree that the decision of the judges is final. Concerns regarding auditions may be directed only to the Vice President.”* Policy was approved unanimously.

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- **Mike McGowan (Panola) recommended that students who do not show up for the seating audition at the appointed time be automatically placed at the bottom of the section.** Jill Stewart (Blinn) notes that students are automatically placed at the bottom of their section if arrival is delayed. Harris notes that current practice allows students who do not attend audition may be disqualified from membership in the All-State band. Harris further requested that this remain a recommendation rather than a stated policy to allow flexibility of enforcement in extenuating circumstances. Harris recommends that Brack May, audition chair, include policy in communications with TCCBDA membership. Dennis Eichler (Lee) requests that audition order be posted on the door of each audition room to avoid student confusion.
- **Phillip Lowe (Hill) proposes that contestants in the Concerto Competition be required to provide a copy of their music with their entry to insure accuracy of adjudication and as a convenience to the judges.** Lowe further proposes that students communicate with their home director for information concerning the Concerto Competition instead of the Concerto Competition Organizer. Proposal passes.
- **Harris proposed that minutes be submitted to President within one week of meeting for posting on organization website.** Further proposes that if no objections to contents of minutes are received within one month of posting that the minutes will be considered approved. Recommendation was approved.
- **Harris notes that cell phones are now banned from all rehearsals.**
- **Lynda Reid (South Plains) noted that the new “career pathway” as recommended by TEA will negatively impact high school band enrollment by allowing only one fine arts credit in high school.** Reid warned that this development will have negative affect on enrollment and recruiting for community college band and music programs. Phillip Lowe (Hill) emphasized Reid’s point and added that TAMS is concerned about the new THECB 120 hour rule and its potential impact on Community College curricula.
- **Only chosen clinicians are to be listed on the TCCBDA website. Nominees who are not selected are not to be publicly posted other than in meeting minutes.**
- **Jose Compean (Laredo) recommends sending information to Texas community college presidents that do not currently participate in TCCBDA activities.** No action was taken on this proposal.

**Meeting adjourned at 9:56 a.m.**

**Submitted by James Stubbs, TCCBDA Secretary/Treasurer.**