

ATSSB Region 8
Winter Meeting
Saturday, January 17, 2020

The meeting was called to order at 1:01 by Marc Nichelson.

The minutes from the fall meeting were approved with a motion from Mark Dorsey and a second from Marshall Hughes.

Webmaster's report (Sara English) –Sara has brought the directory up to date. Please let her know if you want any changes made. Marc adds that we are moving to the new ATSSB sponsored website, and leaving the old “new” website behind. The new web address for ATSSB Region 8 is <https://www.atssb.org/region-8>.

Treasurer's report (Stephanie Schmidt) – Financial reports were distributed to directors. We may not realize how much the region pays out and takes in, but stipends (officers, clinicians) cost the region \$7,000 and we still pay the bills. The region jazz contest broke even with \$30 left over. We did not have to pay to hire any region judges this year. The bank balance is \$1000 greater than this time last year. Complaints ... when you turn in check requests, a lot of business departments will not turn in copies of the entry forms with your entry fee checks. 75% of the checks received did not have any paperwork or signatures with them ... it takes just one complaint to get a lot of people in a lot of trouble. So – can you please send Stephanie a PDF of your signed entry fee – that will make everything much better. Also – please make sure your check is mailed 2 weeks before the audition, not the day of – we still have 5 schools and \$700 worth of entries whose checks have not been received, though they are all “in the mail”.

Region vice coordinator's report (Jon Schriver) – if you participate in region jazz, send him suggestions for clinicians.

Middle school Groesbeck zone report (Brian Boecker) – no report. Sara English will get Year C music up soon.

Middle school Robinson zone report (Mark Dorsey) - No report other than, I'm alive after heart surgery!

Region coordinator's report (Marc Nichelson) –

Proposed sites and dates are on the agenda. These were accepted with a motion from Hal McCarty and a second from Mark Dorsey.

There will be no paper programs at the concert tonight. Programs will all be online and we are welcome to print them out. This is a \$600 expense that we are eliminating.

If you have suggestions for region clinicians please let Marc know.

Discussion item: are we in favor of continuing to distribute region music online?

Directors indicated yes. Marc will therefore more specifically define region coordinator roles and duties, and streamline how the music gets posted online.

Accordingly, there will be a proposal to increase stipends for band organizers, as well as for contest hosts.

Action items: paying for lunches at the region clinic/concert. This was discussed last year but not acted on. Increasing entry fees by \$2 (to \$11 per student) will allow ATSSB to cover the cost of lunch and do away with individual schools paying for student lunches. If we don't approve this, there will be a bit of extra paperwork with your lunch invoice. Also, Probst Audio, who has been doing concert recordings, is moving towards streaming services, since the sale of CDs is no longer profitable; this costs about \$3000 (or \$6/performer), including all copyright licenses, for another \$2 per entry fee.

Discussion: Centex Honor Band already builds lunch fees into entry fees and it works very well. Mark Dorsey motioned to add \$2 to entry fees for lunches, Adam Debes seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Discussion on streaming fee: we can either wait until Probst Audio starts streaming and then increase the fee, or we can vote to raise the fee now and have the money ready. Live streams of the concert would be audio recordings on a website that can be listened to anytime. Josh Nowlin spoke against the motion. Rebecca Kroll asked, why would we offer streaming when CDs aren't selling either? Wylie Gore asked when this change would occur; Marc answered, during the 2021-2022 school year (two years from now). Tim Grace asked, is Probst being paid now to record? Marc answered, no, he is here for the profit on CDs. The implication is that Probst may no longer record our concerts if we don't let him offer the streaming service since CDs no longer sell. Rustin Honeycutt offered a motion to table the discussion and vote one year, Adam Debes seconded, and directors approved the motion.

OPS deadline – Collin Anderson reported that all relevant information is online.

The ATSSB state meeting at TMEA is Friday, February 14 at 1:00 in CC304 – please support our region officers who are running for state office.

The spring region meeting will be Saturday, May 2 at Midway HS.

Region Directory – if Marc gets a hard bounce from your email account, he deletes the email. If you have not been receiving emails, please reach out to Marc so he can have your correct email address.

If you have any proposals for rule changes, contact Marc before the spring meeting.

If there's anything you liked or disliked about the audition process, let Marc know so he and Jon can try and improve/streamline things.

Marc is finishing his 2nd year as region coordinator and needs reelecting. Collin motioned to reelect Marc, Jon Schriver seconded, and directors approved by acclamation.

Contest Announcements:

Riesel hosts Solo & Ensemble contests on February 28 and May 1.

Have your students join the FCA Victory Bowl Band ... about 85 kids from 30 bands participated last year. Visit FCABand.org for information.

McGregor hosts two pre-UIL concert/sightreading contests. February 19 is for HS (only 5 slots left), March 18 for MS.

Connally hosts a pre-UIL contest on February 26.

Itasca hosts a solo & ensemble contest on February 29.

New business:

Marc (and the Groesbeck directors) would greatly appreciate help stacking chairs from rehearsal areas once clinics are done.

The meeting adjourned at 1:38 with a motion from Mark Dorsey and second from Rebecca Kroll.