

DRAFT—KMEA Marching Band Committee—DRAFT

Tim Allen, Chair

May 9, 2020

Teleconference

MINUTES

I. Marching Band Chair Tim Allen called the roll at 9:02 am.

Dist. 1 Beth Stribling P	Dist. 5 Patrick Brady P	Dist. 9 Pauletta Smith P
Dist. 2 Cory Mullins P	Dist. 6 Austin Bralley P	Dist.10 Curtis Ervin P
Dist. 3 Grant Jones P	Dist. 7 Michael Stone P	Dist. 11 David Ratliff (proxy for Jason Bowles) P
Dist. 4 Brian Ellis P	Dist. 8 Jenny Hipple P	Dist. 12 Mike Arthur P

Also present were President George Boulden, Vice-President Terry Thompson, President-elect David Graham, Band Chair Joe Craig, and Executive Director John Stroube

II. Chair Allen shared his perspective on the current fluid situation.

III. Motion by Brady, seconded by Stone, to approve the agenda. In the absence of objection, the agenda was considered approved.

IV. Motion by Brady, seconded by Ervin, to approve the minutes from April 9, 2020. In the absence of objection, the agenda was considered approved.

V. Reports

A. George Boulden, KMEA Marching Band Evaluator Coordinator, stated he had no update regarding judges for fall.

B. John Stroube, KMEA Executive Director, SMBC manager, explained a little about a survey to the membership, and what he is hearing from across the country.

C. Brian Ellis stated he had no update regarding the judge training module.

VI. Unfinished Business

SECOND READINGS

A. Revise IV.D.2.d: A drawing for the order of performance in each class for finals will be held at the conclusion of each semifinal event. This drawing will be held immediately after the finalists are announced. The top three scoring bands in Semifinals will 6 DRAFT draw for slots 4, 5, and 6 for Finals, and the next three scoring bands would draw for slots 1, 2, and 3.

MOTION PASSED THE SECOND READING UNANIMOUSLY.

VII. New Business

- a. Chair Allen led a discussion about different pandemic scenarios for fall 2020. He shared his conjecture that there would be no competitive marching band if the schools use full remote teaching, if instruction were delayed until spring, if in-person instruction were delayed until October or November, or if schools employ staggered schedules with less than the total student population in the building.

He proposed three possible scenarios in which there might be competitive marching band.

1. In-person classes resume, full marching band can meet as normal (no social distancing, no PPEs), summer camps are allowed in July or August, and fans are allowed at competitions. Obstacles include lost revenue (fund raising, stipends for staff, props, equipment, etc.) and a late start for training.

To mitigate the effect of lost revenue, Tim suggested that, as was done in Indiana, the weight of the sheets could be changed such that there is more weight on music and less on visual. Discussion was held. No conclusive consensus was found, and Tim suggested members could be polled and the topic could be addressed again in June.

To address the late start for training, Tim suggested the possibility of reducing the minimum show time requirements? Discussion was held including several proposals and modifications, and a determination that it is too late to reduce the maximum number of minutes.

MOTION BY STRIBLING, SECONDED BY SMITH, FOR 2020 TO ELIMINATE THE MINIMUM SHOW TIME REQUIREMENT DURING THE FIRST TWO WEEKS OF THE SEASON, THREE MINUTE MINIMUM ON THE THIRD WEEK, FOUR MINUTE MINIMUM ON THE FOURTH WEEK, AND FIVE MINUTE MINIMUM FROM THE FIFTH WEEK THROUGH THE CHAMPIONSHIPS. MOTION PASSED.

2. Same as above, but fans are not allowed at competitions. Additional obstacles: with no fans there will be no revenue from gate so financing the competition becomes impossible, and less motivation for students to perform.

Tim asked if it would be possible to clear the stadium between classes, and to limit seating capacity. Joe Craig said we should think toward the end, and whether we would be allowed to use Kroger Field. Conversation touched on contest standing alone as events despite no championships, relocating the finals round to the semifinals sites, David Graham said we could advise sanctioned contest hosts to consider seating options designed to provide sufficient social distancing during their

contest. Pauletta Smith asked about students on busses, and how that could be allowed under social distancing directives.

3. In-person classes resume, but the band must practice social distancing (no PPEs). The obstacle this adds is that indoor rehearsal space might not accommodate large numbers in compliance with guidelines. A possible solution is to hold sectionals only for indoor rehearsals, with proper spacing, whereas the outdoor rehearsal space could handle larger numbers, and possibly the full band).

Tim's overarching question was whether we can/should KMEA be proactive and submit a viable, safe plan to Kentucky governance that would allow marching bands to continue the activity this fall? John Stroube mentioned that others in music across the world are studying this sort of question, and we should be hearing more about this soon.

- VII. Chair Allen asked what other topics might need to be brought up. Beth Stribling pointed out that the number of bands that will sign up under any circumstances may be few enough that the MBC will need to make changes in the championship. Joe Craig said that possibly the Band Council will need to be involved in discussions due to the broad effect of the circumstances.
- VIII. After discussion, the next meeting was scheduled for Friday, June 5 at 10:00 am EDT.
- IX. Motion by Stribling, seconded by Brady to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 11:02 am.

Respectfully Submitted,

John Stroube
Executive Director