



**WMTA Executive Board  
Meeting Agenda  
Sunday, February 5, 2023  
via Zoom**

- I. Call to Order/Welcome: The meeting was called to order at 7:02pm. Members present: Sydney Alexander, Opala Bilhorn, Rachel Fritz, Justin Krueger, Mickey Lytle, Tricia Marton, Mary Anne Olvera, Nicholas Phillips, Sandra Statz, and Catherine Walby.
- II. Adoption of Agenda: Approved by: Rachel Fritz; seconded by Opala Bilhorn. Motion approved.
- III. October 2022 Meeting Minutes: Note the corrected version. Mickey reviewed Rachel's changes to the meeting minutes communicated to the board prior to the meeting and stated she would update accordingly. No other changes or modifications to the minutes: Motion to approve with changes by Rachel. Justin seconded the motion. Motion approved by consensus.
- IV. December 2022 Meeting Minutes: Approved by Nick, seconded by Sandra, Motion approved by consensus.
- V. Reports of Officers
  - a. President Mickey Lytle, NCTM
    - i. See report, no more to add. Nick appreciated the extra push for MTNA funds.
  - b. Immediate Past President Rachel Fritz
    - i. Database: Cadence is moving forward. We're getting logins started. Every single time there are challenges that we run into in the test, we work on it. The testing is effective. Background checks: We are doing background checks regularly. We are finding emails are getting lost in junk/spam. Rachel will also work on customization of the email so it doesn't look like spam.  
We are sometimes getting pushback on sending in SSN. However, that is standard. You have to do that for a background check. The checks have taken 24-48 hours. Sandra will follow up on DCs to make sure they know it needs to be done. Rachel hasn't gotten UW information to clarify.  
From Sydney- why are charges different on some of the billings? Rachel believes because of different names on individuals. Nick asked shouldn't it be based on SSN? Rachel will ask. Rachel doesn't see the invoice so can't verify. Sydney will share the invoice with Rachel to investigate further.
  - c. 1<sup>st</sup> VP-Conference Hector Landa
    - i. See report below.
  - d. 2<sup>nd</sup> VP-Membership Justin Krueger, NCTM
    - i. Nothing to report.
  - e. Treasurer Sydney Alexander
    - i. See below.
    - ii. Rachel discussed that the Slingshot contract has been paid. She discussed the challenges with Ovation. She discussed we achieved a better financial package with a 5-

year non-profit contract. This pre-payment also affected how WMTA reinvested the different CD funds.

- VI. Reports of Program Chairs
  - a. Arts Awareness and Advocacy open chair
    - i. Teresa Drews has resigned; see report below. If you have suggestions for that person to fill that position, please let Mickey know.
  - b. Badger Keyboard Competition Mary Anne Olvera, NCTM
    - i. Nothing new to report. Getting trophies now.
  - c. Badger Vocal/Instrumental Opala Bilhorn, NCTM
    - i. Nothing new to report. Looking forward to auditions. Judges are set up.
  - d. College Faculty Representative Nick Phillips, NCTM
    - i. Nick is cleaning up language on collegiate chapter website information.
    - ii. This spring will encourage participation in the fall conference. Nick would like to bring back the collegiate poster session for the conference. He will be organizing that.
  - e. District Auditions Sandra Statz, NCTM
    - i. Nothing to add. Sandra would like to have a shout out to Roberta Grube. She's been great to help with the systems and get the new district chairs and scheduling. Roberta has been very helpful. Louise Mann has also been a great help. It's been a great community to work with.
  - f. Independent Music Teachers Forum Tricia Marton
    - i. Nothing new to report. Got a great compliment on the newsletter. It was a hit.
  - g. Local Associations Catherine Walby, NCTM
    - i. Nothing to add. Nick suggested considerations to recruit more involvement from the Membership Committee. He heard Arizona created a postcard to try to engage the senior population. Maybe seniors aren't seeing the communication. Catherine says some groups send handwritten notes to some to try to get others involved. Catherine will create a note to get to LAs to help get others involved.
- VII. Standing/Special Committees
  - a. Finance Sydney Alexander
    - i. Nothing extra to report.
    - ii. Mickey asked about scholarships. Do we need to make them better known on the website? Finance Committee needs to meet prior to the board meeting in June. Sydney is planning on a reminder in the next newsletter next and maybe a separate email.
  - b. Nominating committee seeking chair
    - i. Mickey stated President-Elect needs to be in place in time for the October 2023 annual meeting. It needs to be announced in the August newsletter. This person will be the President-elect for the 2024 year. We will vote in 2024 for the remaining three positions.
    - ii. We need a chair for the nominating committee: Catherine suggested three people to do this job; she can be the head chair. Any general membership person could be the other three. Nick suggested Catherine to find others from her pool of people. Catherine agreed.
- VIII. Old Business
  - a. Slingshot database Mickey Lytle/Rachel Fritz
    - i. Reference above in Immediate Past President report.

- b. Background checks/communication Rachel Fritz
  - i. Reference above in Immediate Past President report. Mickey will contact the UW again in March on their progress.
- c. State dues for 2023-24 Mickey Lytle
  - i. When Mickey filled out the 23-24 dues form (she did this instead of Justin because the minutes from October had not been published yet so Justin did not have a record of what was approved), she made an executive decision on the Associate line and the Proration line, as those were not items specifically discussed at the October board meeting. Associate was previously \$20, raised to \$22 to be in line with the others. Proration was halved, as it had been previously.
    - Active 25 to 32
    - Senior 18 to 20
    - Collegiate 5 to 5
    - Associate 20 to 22
    - Retired NA
    - Prorate 12.50 to 16
- d. June 2023 meeting venue Mickey Lytle/Catherine Walby
  - i. At the October meeting, Catherine suggested Lawrence University. Mickey suggested that we use that as a venue with a guest speaker to get leadership engaged. It was discussed that we can give back to local and state leadership. Catherine is not sure the speaker will be available. Sandra was concerned it's not centrally located. Catherine suggested Stevens Point. Mickey and Catherine will brainstorm on this separately. Rachel suggested Waupaca and do a curling club team building event during the day. Mickey thought people wanted enrichment based on feedback from the last meeting, not entertainment. Sandra and Nick also believe people were looking for enrichment. Mickey and Catherine will discuss separately and come back with a solution.
- e. Sponsors/advertising committee Mickey Lytle
  - i. Mickey brought up possibly raising money through advertising at the True state event. Concern is that there's not much viewing on that state event. We can use social media and event advertising. We have the ability to advertise much like conference and newsletter advertisers. Mary Anne will consider it. Nick and Mary Anne discussed what are the big music supporters of Stevens Point area. Mary Anne will think about it and look at options.

IX. New Business

- a. Judge lunch stipend increase Mickey Lytle
  - i. Judge lunch stipend is currently \$10/judge and \$25 per group for extra. Mickey has heard that it's hard to serve at \$10/person. Mickey reviewed the notes from the 2022 auditions fees and expenses increases, but noted that we didn't discuss this then. Opala said if districts are often going over budget, we should consider raising it. Mickey suggested setting it at \$15. When we have to use University food services, you can't bring in your own catering. Nick agreed \$10 is low for lunch. It's possible, but hard. Mickey noted that prices have gone up. Sydney suggested we do \$15, but not do the \$25 float cost. Nick made the motion to move the judge lunch stipend to \$15. Rachel seconded. Nick suggested the \$25 stipend be removed if we move to \$15. Rachel agrees. Mickey

suggested keeping the \$25, but make sure others know they don't need to use that if not necessary. Sydney also wants to make sure it's clear that if they go over because they are required to use University, it may be reimbursed extra. Sandra remembered that some sites require a certain level of money spent. Sandra will make sure that the groups know that it's reimbursed receipts, not that you "get" \$15. Motion approved to move it to \$15 but leave the extra \$25 float money for things like snacks or coffee. Sandra will reiterate to the group that they don't have to use that. Voted by hand vote and it passed.

- b. Composition Competition proposal Mickey Lytle (via Amber Bruns, see PDF)
  - i. Amber Bruns asked for the changes outlined in the attachment. Mickey has had a variety of discussions to get more individuals involved and encourage people to participate. See the attachment with suggestions of changes. Mickey outlined Amber's suggestions. Overall review of suggestions:
    - 1) Cash prize discussion: Nick and Catherine and Rachel discussed if we still have the need for a cash prize.
    - 2) Applications and Entry Payment: Nick and Sydney asked if they can use Jotform or Cadence for this? Sydney said it would be very easy to use Jotform. Nick said it is different from district auditions. Mickey suggested using Cadence but not this year. Rachel suggested that maybe in the future Cadence will be able to manage this. For simplicity, payment by check would be the best way to still handle this for 2023.
    - 3) Judge pay: Mickey is collecting information from other states as to how they pay their judges.
    - 4) Deadlines: Mickey suggested moving to the end of the summer. Sandra and Sydney agreed.
    - 5) Points: Mickey suggested moving to only points for entering. Rachel says this is the same as Regionals used to be. Catherine confirmed it's the same as the regional model. Sandra suggested since there's not a regional level of this, then maybe points higher for Non-competitive vs. Competitive. Opala says the kids don't do it for points, it's nice, but not key to this.
    - 6) Certificates: From Mickey: we sent to everyone last year and people loved them, so we will do that again. Opala said kids get awards, but not many music awards. Let's do awards for these kids, these kids should be celebrated. Justin agreed on need to celebrate their music work.
- c. Further discussion and decisions on Composition Competition:
  - i. Naming: WMTA Young Composer Festival was agreed upon in the group.
  - ii. Format: Change to "Competitive" and "Comments only" options.
  - iii. Instead of Entry Ages, call it Entry Categories:
  - iv. Categories: Elementary ages: 8-10 , Middle High school ages: 11-14 High School ages: 15-18 with ages. Do not list grades as some kids skip grades, or home school or don't have a grade. Please set ages as of a certain date. It was decided that the date would be you must be an age as of of June 1, or as of some certain date so there's no questions as to what age bracket to compete in.
  - v. Entry fees: Agreed as recommended
  - vi. Payment: Checks only

- vii. Cash prizes: Discussed to eliminate. Nick moved to do away from cash prizes beginning with the 2023 composition festival. Rachel seconded. Catherine said it's to make it in line with others. Vote was unanimous.
  - viii. Judge payment: Mickey suggested this become a June vote after further investigation. Rachel suggested that we'd need to manage expectations of judges at the same time so they are appropriately giving feedback. Mickey and Amber are working on a rubric to help clarify judging. This item has been tabled.
  - ix. Application deadline: August
  - x. Points: Keep current model. Matches the Regional points.
  - xi. Certificate: Yes. All agreed.
  - xii. Final discussion: Sandra asked to make sure the District Chairs know this. Mickey suggested in March there will be an email about it all. Rachel said we don't need to go to District chairs first. Sandra said she just needs to make sure they have the information, and does not need to be first. Catherine said it's just nice to let us all know the information. Sandra just wants to make sure the District Chairs know.
- d. Competition titling as it relates to bylaws and positions Mickey Lytle/Rachel Fritz
- i. Rachel: in the bylaws that we have a Badger Chair and Badger V/I/E. We need to change the bylaws. Changes need to be in the August newsletter, then voted on at the October annual meeting. We will be making the suggested bylaw changes at the June meeting. Opala also mentioned we need to have discussion at the June meeting on Track names to also get that changed.
- e. Mileage cap for MTNA and True state clarification
- i. At the October meeting, the board discussed raising the mileage cap for State Keyboard and MTNA Competitions but it was not clear what we had decided to raise the cap to. Mileage cap was previously 400 miles round trip. Justin suggested maybe the judge must be from Wisconsin. Nick said some judges need to come from MN and IL. Rachel suggested a 600-mile radius instead. Nick suggests for those two events, the cap is 600 miles round trip unless approved for the board. Sydney suggested the finance committee would approve exceptions, not the whole board. Motion from Rachel: MTNA and State Keyboard events be 600 miles round trip cap and above that would be approved by finance. Seconded by Sandra. Motion approved by consensus.
- f. Announcements
- Next Executive Board and Administrative Council Meetings are tentatively set for Friday, June 16, 2023.
- X. Adjournment: 8:53 PM

Respectfully Submitted,  
Heather Reeder

### **Reports of Officers**

#### **President**

**Mickey Lytle, NCTM**

New appointments:

-MTNA Certification Chair (Stacey Kraus, NCTM); MTNA Competitions Coordinator (Dr. Joao Paulo Casarotti, NCTM), WMTA Student Compositions (Amber Bruns, NCTM)

Vacancies:

-Arts Awareness & Advocacy (effective 1/5/23)

-District Auditions State Chair (effective 6/1/23)—we have a “near” commitment here

-Highlights:

Much time has been spent taking resignations and filling/onboarding new positions. Also working with Amber Bruns and gathering information from other states as we work on restructuring and improving our WMTA composition event.

Sydney and I are proud of our efforts with the fellow funding this year; I admittedly fought back with the deadline because we overfunded last year. On 1/4 MTNA had received less than \$550 in donations from WMTA; I sent a mailchimp plea on 1/13 to bring us to \$1122 by the deadline, so WMTA funded the last \$377. This worked better than our Giving Tuesday social media efforts, so we will try this avenue again next year. Rachel Fritz and I have continued to work with Slingshot on the deployment of Cadence. HUGE THANKS to Rachel for her IPP work on both Slingshot and background checks.

**Immediate Past President**

**Rachel Fritz**

Will provide a verbal report.

**1<sup>st</sup> VP-Conference**

**Hector Landa**

Nothing to report at the moment. Heather is helping with call for proposals. Mickey has put me in touch with a potential conference artist.

**2<sup>nd</sup> VP-Membership**

**Justin Krueger, NCTM**

Nothing to report.

**Treasurer**

**Sydney Alexander**

## **Wisconsin Music Teachers Association**

### **Treasurer Report – February 2023**

<b>Account Balances: Jan 31, 2023</b>	
Checking	7,196
Money Market	CLOSED 11/30/22
Square	0
CD 2597 (4.50%, matures 10/28/27)	100,000
CD 2363 (4.00%, matures 10/30/25)	37,401
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 144,597</b>

<b>Income &amp; Expense: July 1, 2022 – Jan 31, 2023</b>		
<b>Programs</b>	<b>Income</b>	<b>Expense</b>
Membership	2,786	0
Advertising	275	0
Grants	0	2,382

Conference	7,050	10,381
WMTA Competitions	1,140	17,397
MTNA Competitions	700	1,101
<b>Administration</b>	<b>Income</b>	<b>Expense</b>
Wages & Stipends	0	2,820
Meetings & Travel	0	1,246
Printing, Postage, Publications	0	832
Supplies, Tools, Services	0	620
Insurance	0	500
Interest	3,202	0
	<b>Net: \$ - 22,126</b>	<b>\$ 15,153</b>
		<b>\$ 37,279</b>

### Reports of Program Chairs

#### **Arts Awareness and Advocacy**

**Teresa Drews**

I need to cut out some things in my life as I reset and make sure I have time for my family and maintaining my health. Because of this, I am stepping down from the Arts Advocacy position and resign from the board, effective immediately (1/5/23). I have enjoyed working with everyone on the board of WMTA immensely and I will miss you all! Here's hoping I can attend next fall's conference.

#### **WMTA Regional/State Keyboard Competition**

**Mary Anne Olvera, NCTM**

Nothing new to report, moving forward with all and dodging bullets as people start registering students with lots of questions about a challenged audition season.....new is hard!

#### **WMTA Regional/State Vocal/Instrumental/Ensemble**

**Opala Bilhorn, NCTM**

Nothing new to report - I'm just holding my breath that the auditions logistics come together so that I can figure out the State process (with or without Cadence)!

#### **College Faculty Representative**

**Nick Phillips, NCTM**

No report at this time.

#### **District Auditions**

**Sandra Statz, NCTM**

Our District Chairs are taking on the 2023 season with enthusiasm and bringing their concerns and questions forward. They are amazing leaders. They are meeting weekly via zoom to serve our WMTA teachers. I have met with a few districts to answer questions. We are happy to move forward with Cadence and the new True State event. I wish to thank Mary Anne, Opala and Heather for ALL the work they have done on the website. I wish to give a huge thank you to Rachel Fritz for all her work with Cadence and with the Background Checks required by the UW school system.

#### **Independent Music Teachers Forum**

**Tricia Marton, NCTM**

Nothing new to report. See newsletter article in February newsletter.

#### **Local Associations**

**Catherine Walby, NCTM**

Nothing new to report.

**Standing/Special Committees**

**Finance**

No report submitted.

**Sydney Alexander**

**Old Business Attachments**

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