**Midland Concert Band**

**Board of Directors Meeting**

**June 19, 2025**

**Board members (current and incoming) present:** Sue Gessford, Taylon Honeman-Earle, Angela Kalcec, Brittany Perry, Dave Selley, Kerry Smith, Beth Thomas, Joel Wiseman, Jacob Wisenbach

**Band members present:** Aaron Enszer, Jim Lile, Rachel Morr

**Meeting called to order:** 7:01 pm, by Dave Selley

**Review and approve minutes from the last meeting (April 27, 2025, and membership meeting May 1, 2025)**

Sue moved to approve both sets of minutes with no corrections. Beth seconded, and the motion passed.

**Treasurer’s Report (Beth)**

At this point, the spreadsheet looks like we are very much under budget but there are other expenses (insurance, PO box, etc.) yet to come that will close that gap. Ticket sales were under budget for the season but so were MCFTA expenses. The spring concert was not sponsored but other concerts had some level of sponsorship. Sue moved to approve the treasurer’s report with no corrections. Dave seconded, and the motion carried.

**Conductor Report (Joel)**

No new business or new announcements at this time.

**Jazz Band (JB) Next Season (All)**

Dave started with a clarification – there has been no board discussion about ending jazz band activities, but members have expressed concerns to Dave which need to be brought to the board at large since he is stepping down soon.

The most frequent topic raised concerned dues, including whether all JB members should pay dues and what the money would cover. Beth could give JB a brief explanation of expenses to address that question (and MCB members need to know that too). Discussion followed concerning the number of JB members that have paid dues and special cases (students, subs, guest musicians, etc.) to clarify. Meetings are always open to members, but we might consider especially encouraging members to attend the budget discussion meeting (except when discussing compensation). Sometimes a band member donates to cover dues for other musicians, and we can raise that point to the membership.

Another frequent question raised involved whether the MCB and JB should plan to perform entirely separate concerts in the future. Logistics and programming for both groups might be more straightforward with separate schedules, and the groups could promote each other’s concerts.

Action items:

* Define which JB musicians need to pay dues and publicize the need for a donor to cover costs as needed.
* Project the number of concerts for next season.
* Continue discussions to clarify expectations and work out details of scheduling and budgeting (JB growth has moved faster than the ability to work out the details).
* Encourage more small ensemble programming at MCB concerts.

**Concert Dates – 2025 Season**

As of now the 2025-26 season concert dates are:

* Fall: October 19 (confirmed)
* Holiday: December 14 (confirmed)
* Winter: March 15 (There is a possibility of moving to March 22 to avoid conflicts with St. Patrick’s Day events. The March 22 date would not conflict with spring break for Midland schools.)
* Spring: May 3 (confirmed)

**Website Changes**  
Taylon had previously distributed a proposal document to board members for review with a plan for changes in website hosting, content management, and rebranding initiatives. Brittany confirmed that working with the current host has been extremely frustrating and change is needed. With approval now, the updated website and associated elements could be ready for the first rehearsal in the fall. Dave made a motion to approve the proposed action and expense, and Sue seconded. The motion passed.

**Roundtable/other topics**

Sue: Picnic shelter is reserved for August 28. Dave moved to schedule the picnic, and Sue seconded. The motion passed.

Jacob: Nothing other than previously discussed action items.

Taylon: Community engagement needs to be prioritized. He is open to ideas.

Rachel: Would like to see more socialization and sense of community in the band. The hospitality director position could be brought back in some way to promote this. The website needs to document the responsibilities of board members to meet requirements.

Kerry: We need to find new ways to encourage volunteering by band members. Filling board positions and getting volunteers for hospitality initiatives continues to be a challenge.

Angela: None

Joel: Needs feedback on programming idea for next season (Maslanka 4th Symphony). Send feedback to him. Also, the member handbook can clarify some of the membership/dues questions previously discussed.

Brittany: None

Dave: Proposing to resign at the end of the meeting to allow Taylon to step in and fill the board chair’s role early. Beth made the motion to appoint Taylon as interim chair until September 1 when his term officially starts. If approved, Taylon would immediately take over all the duties previously carried out by Dave. Taylon’s name would be added to any Midland Concert Band financial account (along with Beth Thomas as treasurer), and Dave Selley’s name would be removed from any financial account. Brittany seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Beth: Greg reminded us that the upcoming season is the 50th for MCB so we should think about special promotion opportunities.

Taylon: Will collect availability information for the August meeting, and for potentially setting a consistent meeting day/time during the season. Also, we should schedule a short meeting in July to discuss 50th anniversary plans.

**Next meeting: TBD**

**Meeting adjourned:** 8:30 pm. Beth moved to adjourn, and Taylon seconded.

Submitted by Kerry Smith, Secretary