

**CSD Fall 2022 Board of Directors Meeting
Double Tree Hotel, Lawrence, Kansas
Thursday, October 6, 2022, 7:00 p.m.**



Where the Harmony Began



President Duane Lawson opened the meeting at 7:02 p.m. with the *Old Songs*. We have a **quorum** with nine of the ten board members presents. The meeting is conducted according to the Robert's Rules of Order for Small Boards.



Recognition of Past Presidents: Immediate Past President Chad Schuetz, Past Presidents Harvey Kiser, Don Fuson, Jim Nugent, John Marshall. Guests: Society President John Donehower; Harmony Foundation International President and CEO, Perry White; and Society Representative, Luke Davis.

Self Introduction of District Board Members: Kansas V.P., Kevin Barker; Nebraska V.P., Jake Bartlett; Treasurer, Larry Warrick; Secretary, Mark Fuerniss; Iowa V.P., Jeff Arians; Immediate Past President, Chad Schuetz; President, Duane Lawson; Executive Vice President, Matt Suellentrop; Missouri and Arkansas V.P., Mike Bass. Absent, South Dakota V.P. David Stephenson.



Song Break. "Down Our Way" led by District Contest and Judging V.P., Carter Combs.

Special Announcement. City of Joplin 150th Anniversary Celebration, April 14 – 15, 2023. Bobby Gray, Chairman of the Association of Tri-States Barbershoppers Committee, six chapters in the southwest Missouri area, spoke about a youth, high school vocal clinic Friday April 14th in Joplin, MO, with Dr. Jim Henry as head clinician, culminating in a barbershop show featuring quartets *Titanium* and *Quorum*. On Saturday night there will be a barbershop tribute to Percy Wenrich, the Joplin Kid, part of the City of Joplin's 150th Anniversary Celebration featuring youth choruses, barbershop choruses, Steve Spracklen and the Heartland Rag Time Band. Every barbershopper is invited to take part in a mass chorus under the direction of Jeff Veteto Friday night and in the Celebrations chorus under the direction of Jim Henry Saturday night. Local chapters are donating to this effort. Harmony Foundation International has contributed \$8,500 for the event. Other donations are welcome. The venue is the Missouri Southern State University, 3950 Newman Road, Joplin, 64801.



Treasurer's Report, Larry Warrick. Treasurer Warrick briefly reviewed the Financial Report which consists of three reports:

- Spring Convention 2022 Report
- Financial Report Income and Expenses as of September 1, 2022
- Balance Sheet as of September 1, 2022



Spring Convention 2022 Report. Warrick pointed out an expense of \$5465.30 on page 2 because we did not meet our negotiated room/nights with the Hotel. The Spring convention in Wichita ended up

\$16,446.58 in the red. Luckily our reserves were able to take care of this. We lost a lot of revenue as choruses didn't show up.

Income and Expense for the third quarter. As of September 1, 2022 we were \$12,862.85 in the red. We will probably make some money with the fall convention. Deficit in the spring carried over to the third quarter.

Balance Sheet as of September 1, 2022. We have \$62,763.47 in our checking account; \$16,846.81 in our Money Market Account, and \$22,278.98 in our Certificate of Deposit. Total cash assets are \$101,889.26. Other assets of \$3,000. Total assets of \$104,889.26. (We had \$116,000 in cash assets in 2011.) We had income during the pandemic from dues, Harmony Foundation donations and BHS Development donations. These reports are posted on the District website <https://www.singcsd.com>.

Lawson added that a decision was made to have the Spring Convention knowing we would not have choruses competing.

Bass made a motion was made to receive the treasurer's report. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Proposed 2023 Budget.

Net income (Expense) for 2023 Proposed Budget has \$1,650.45 in the black. Projected Total Revenue of \$115,571.00, includes Spring and Fall Contests, district dues, interest, Harmony Foundations and BHS donations, as well as contest recordings and Miscellaneous Revenue of \$3,500.

Expenses included: New item for storage of history displays, \$800; \$10,500 for Travel-Chorus & Quartet Intl Subsidy and \$2500 for Next Generation quartets. \$500 of the original \$5000 money for CSD Festivals has been spent, so \$4500 was put in for CSD Festivals. Festival money was an encouragement for area chapters to get together to celebrate barbershop harmony in their community. Line 8330 Hospitality is for After-Glows during the conventions for spring and fall conventions, president's and judges' room. Last year we spent \$174 for an ad for International convention, so \$180 was put in this budget. Subtotal for above expenses is \$83,565.22. Rest of budget is expenses for board and PAT members, travel and room expenses. Under Membership, Fuson asked for \$250 travel for chapter visits. Line 8100.18, Lawson requested \$5,000 for chorus director development. Total expenses \$113,920.55. This gives us a black balance of \$1650.45 for the 2023 budget. Lawson added Larry Monson will be the Chorus Director Development V.P. assisted by Jake Bartlett. Hopefully half of the \$5000 will cover Monson's expenses to both conventions and the other half used at the discretion of CDD, possibly for scholarships to Harmony U. Line 4010, "Endowment Fund Contributions – HFI" is for both spring and fall. Donations received from BHS is listed in line 5839, "Member donation thru BHS". Fuson pointed out Line 5112 "District Convention" income is based to a large extent on number of convention registrations, difficult to predict.

Line 5210, District Dues based on current, active, members, at current dues rates, less 4%. Actual amounts in 2021 and 2022 are as of September 1.

Suellentrop would like to have separate meeting for board and PAT members, and would like to see an expense item in budget for this strategic planning meeting. Lawson proposed amending the budget to add a \$2500 expense for a Strategic Planning Meeting. Resulting budget would be \$849.55 in the red.

\$8,000 of Reserved Funds was used to keep the budget in the black. Increase this to \$9,000, leaving a budget of \$150.45 in the black.

Motion made to accept budget as amended. Motion passed unanimously.



“Sweet and Lovely” led by Jeff Veteto

Minutes of Spring 2022 meetings and Fall 2022 Consent Calendar Mark Fuerniss, Secretary. Minutes and Consent Calendar have been posted on the District web site. President Lawson suggested that perhaps approval of the photos of district leaders in Consent Calendar be obtained. There were no other corrections, additions/deletions to the minutes nor to the Consent Calendar. Lawson asked for a **motion to approve the minutes and Consent Calendar**. Mike Bass moved to approve the minutes and Consent Calendar. Motion passed unanimously.

Election of Officers Past President and Nominating Committee Chairman Scheutz announced the **slate of district officers** for 2023 – 24. Matt Suellentrop, District President; Brett Randolph, District Executive V.P., Duane Lawson will be the Immediate Past President; South Dakota State V.P. will be Dave Stephenson; Nebraska State V.P., Rick Pape. Slate will be presented to House of Delegates.

Program Administration Team Report highlights, Matt Suellentrop, Executive V.P.

- **Leadership Academy** Brett Randolph, Chapter Support and Leadership V.P. reported that we are planning a one day Leadership Academy in Shawnee, Kansas, for Saturday, November 19, 2022. \$42 includes lunch. Can register five for price of four. Open to everyone, current, future, prospective chapter leaders, barbershoppers as well as non-barbershoppers.
- **Convention Report**, Doug Brott, CSD Events, V.P., Currently we have around 510 registrants. We will be complimenting registrations for a number of volunteers, providing free registration to any student with a student ID. We booked out the hotel and had to get another hotel for overflow. We won't have the attrition charges we had last spring. There may be some football traffic Saturday morning we might have to work around. There have been some changes in the judges. We need to make sure everyone knows about the liquor policy in the hotel after 1:30 a.m. The bars set up for the ACSC show will close at 1:30 a.m. Rooms will be open for singing but ABSOLUTLY NO ALCOHOL after 1:30 a.m. This will be announced at the Lied Center.
- **HEP (Harmony Education Program)** school will be decoupled from the Leadership Academy. Date is February 25, 2023 in St. Joseph, MO. Should have venue, Wyatt Park Baptist Church, locked down soon. Estimated cost is \$50/person. May try to have something for the non-quarteters. Will try to have space for choruses.
- **Contest and Judging** Carter Combs appears all judging categories will be covered. Thrilled with the quartets that will be here and a dozen choruses. Gender neutral awards in Charlotte; the award structure we use at CSD is up to us. We haven't had discussions yet. Next year will be start of new cycle for judge candidates. A fabulous opportunity to give back to the Society.
- **Membership Development**, Don Fuson. There has been a slight downturn in membership the last couple years due to Covid. Several chapters are growing again, and more than several chapters that are not growing. Chapter leadership is essential. Rely on chapter by chapter

reports from State V.P.s. State V.P.s may not have access to resources on Member Center to generate the reports they need. John Donehower stated Society membership is currently at 13,790 members; Fuson added district membership is about 1,090 members, down from about 1600 pre Covid. New member expectations. Communication is important.

- **Marketing**, Newest member of the Program Administration Team is Sandi Wright, CSD Marketing and P.R. V.P. Sent out a fact sheet with information obtained from the web site to chapter presidents. Sent invitation to local media regarding workshops put on by *Vocal Spectrum* sponsored by Harmony Foundation International this weekend. Working on a brochure for Leadership Academy, sent to chapter presidents. Will reach out to other organizations such as Sweet Adelines to expand our image, invite them to our Leadership Academy. Presidents have the “Save the Date” for LA, HEP and the convention.

State V.P. Goals,

- **Missouri and Arkansas**. Mike Bass. Started auditing chapter web sites on Member Center. Will continue this project into 2023. Encourage barbershoppers to invite back members who have stepped away.
- **Kansas**. Kevin Barber. Would like to get a combined Kansas chorus together to sing National Anthem at an athletic event. Try to get more participation in Zoom meetings with chapter presidents. Disappointed there are not more Kansas chapters represented here.
- **Iowa**, Jeff Arians. Visited Iowa City and impressed with their cookie festival. Goal is to try to get Iowa barbershoppers together. There is a new Des Moines Metro chapter. Noted there are not many Iowa choruses here. There are a couple chapters looking for directors.
- **Nebraska**, Jake Bartlett. Nebraska chapters good at collaboration and getting together. In particular singing the National Anthem at the Nebraska/Georgia Southern game and the Spring game with 180 barbershoppers. Fremont hosted a quartet/chorus invitational with judges to unofficially score competitors. The Lincoln Chapter has two new directors, Aaron Zart and Logan Langholdt. Rick Pape will be the new Nebraska State V.P and will work with him until he takes over.

Unfinished Business

Chapter Festivals Immediate Past President Chad Shuetz stated the need for a formal process that chapters should use to request funds through their State V.P.

Bylaws Revision Committee, Schuetz, Erikson, Fuerniss, Lawson, Suellentrop, have met over the past year to review our District Bylaws and the BHS Standard District Bylaw. The Committee’s proposed Standard District Bylaws are posted on the District website. Biggest change was to align our bylaws with the BHS Standard Bylaws which removes references to gender. Our revisions to the BHS Standard District Bylaws have been approved by the BHS Governance and Bylaws Committee, and will be voted on by the House of Delegates tomorrow.

Lawson introduced the **Society Representative** to our convention **Luke Davis**. About 5,000 attendees at International Convention. Positive revenue from the convention. Customer Service manager as of October 1. Member Center is aware there is a lot of work to do. Prioritizing tasks to help members, staff processes, bugs that pop up, Items that maximize processes for staff, internal optimizations,

communicating updates, streamline doing what we can, as much as we can, to help members as quick as we can, data integrity clean-up. New features, e.g., a singing community dues calculator. Will be glad to help chapter leaders with Member Center while he's here. Fuson asked how we know when new features have been added to Member Center. Member Center intends to make a log listing up-dates as they occur and post on Livewire. Fuson suggested sending a note to chapter secretaries. Davis acknowledged problems with certain memberships not being carried forward possibly because of credit card issues.

Perry White, CEO of Harmony Foundation International addressed the board. **Vocal Spectrum** will be in Raytown, MO, Paseo Academy, and later in Liberty, MO tomorrow putting on youth clinics.

Duane wished the incoming officers luck. Thanked the board for their work the last four years. Suellentrop moved to adjourn; motions passed unanimously. 9:05 p.m.

Society President John Donehower directed the closing song. "Keep the Whole World Singing".



Minutes compiled by
Mark Fuerniss, Secretary
Central States District