Meeting Minutes Submitted by Sharon Helt

9/9/14 7:30-8:00 a.m.

**Present:** Tyler Kalina, Mary Greiner, Sharon Helt

**Purpose:** Tyler Kalina and Sharon Helt met to follow up on previous emails related to questions WMA had regarding the marching band show.

Mary Greiner provided an update on the status of the Color Guard and materials being ordered prior to the next scheduled WMA meeting on October 9.

**Color Guard**-Lack of a coach throughout the summer was previously identified as a barrier by Mr. Kalina. Mary Greiner agreed that having a coach available all summer would allow the Color Guard to begin choreography with the music available throughout the summer. They could also have the staff/coach available to accompany the squad to a camp, begin costume selection, and ordering of items.

Mr. Kalina reported that the 2013-14 Color Guard coach resigned at the end of April. He reported the school was responsible for hiring. The position was posted on teachiowa.gov and in the local paper. There were no applicants. He then began asking people and offered the job to Mary Dhondt in August before the start of the August 2 band camp. Since then Mary Greiner has taken on the position. She has attempted to sign a contract, yet has not had success. Mr. Kalina suggested she talk to Cindy Gingerich.

There are not any existing flags in a quantity of 20, as needed for the squad. Mary has $1000 budget from WMA and will purchase body suits, gloves, shoes, and swing flags not to exceed this amount.

**Color Guard Practice**-Color Guard will practice separate from band on occasion. Mr. Kalina and Mary Greiner will communicate when the Color Guard and band will practice together as they learn more choreography and pages of the movements.

**Color Guard Choreography**-being completed by older girls on the squad with coach’s final approval. Sharon reported this is a practice similar to BlackOut and cheerleading.

**Marching Band Practice**-3rd and 4th movements are written as of 9/4/14. Mr. Kalina reports they are on page 22 of 55 for the complete show (Movements 1-4). He reported the show will not be ready for a complete performance for the September 26 home game. Homecoming is October 3 and two of the four competitions are October 4. Mary inquired about using the podium for directing during practice and for a better view of the field and movements. Mr. Kalina reported a ladder is missing so it’s been difficult to get onto the podium safely. Mr. Kalina will try to locate the ladder used last year. Mr. Kalina reported they do not have any plans for props yet ($1500 budgeted for this purpose) and will wait to see what they need as they get closer to competition.

**Band Performance at Football Games**-Mary inquired about the playing the school song as the team entered the field. Mr. Kalina reported the team has requested they enter with their own music through speakers. A change in the band formation on the field was suggested for the national anthem, allowing the band to be more visible with the lighting.

**Clarification**-Mr. Kalina asked for clarification on the questions WMA had (previously asked by email) regarding the status of the show and why some members thought this was not an acceptable situation. Sharon reported that WMA has budgeted an investment of $7000 for the show ($4500), color guard ($1000) and props ($1500). With this percent of money being spent from our fundraising efforts we wanted to know why the show was not received in entirety by August 1 as contracted and when the drill could be expected? It has now been received. The questions were being asked from a business standpoint, considering the investment we are making and our return (how many times the band can perform the entire show). Sharon explained that less than half of the show is complete with the majority of practice time having passed. She stated that by having the show August 1 as intended, the students would have a longer time to practice the show in entirety prior to the competitions and the show could be available for all home games as well. Mr. Kalina explained how the process is different this year than last when they had the entire show introduced by now and used the remaining time to polish it. He reported he does not think this will hinder their success in competitions. Sharon explained that progress is being monitored so we can make an informed decision when approached to approve money for various shows next year.

Mr. Kalina was asked to clarify the barriers to meeting the deadlines to fulfill the contract agreements on our end by May 1. He will look at his rosters to see how his numbers have fluctuated, yet thinks two new students joined band this fall and 2 have quit since May. The delay in hiring the color guard position is explained above.