

MWR-AMTA Annual Business Meeting Minutes
Saturday, March 22, 2025 |4:45-5:45 PM Central
Iowa City, IA

Call to order - 4:53 PM - Felicia Magaña Voorhees called the meeting to order.

Approval of agenda - Felicia Magaña Voorhees entertains a motion to approve the agenda. Kirsten Nelson moves. Hannah Gross seconds. None opposed - motion carries.

Motion to suspend Robert's Rules for this meeting - Felicia Magaña Voorhees entertains a motion to suspend Robert's Rules for this meeting. Kyle Fleming moves. Lee Ann W. seconds. None opposed - motion carries.

Proposed Bylaws Revisions

Please see page 7 of this document for a full list of the proposed bylaws revisions.

Because all of the proposed revisions are similar, Kyle Fleming moves to approve all the proposed revisions in bulk. Natalie Wlodarczyk seconds.

Membership voted with a show of hands. None opposed to the motion. All revisions passed.

Election Slate for 2025-2027 Officers & Delegates

Nominating Committee:

- Kirsten Nelson, chair
- Natalie Wlodarczyk
- Tyanne Mischnick

Election Slate as of Friday, March 21, 2025:

Officers:

- President-Elect - Becca Kurtz
- Vice President-Elect - Naomi Davis, Kailey Campbell
- Secretary - Sydney Winders
- Treasurer: Katey Kooi

Assembly of Delegates:

- | | |
|-------------------|------------------------------------|
| ● Jess Rushing | ● Ellyn Donahoe |
| ● Rachael Willeke | ● Meghan Ross |
| ● Xavier Fleming | ● Alisa Kandel |
| ● Adam Summers | ● Angela Meier (need confirmation) |

Floor opens for nominations:

- Naomi Davis nominates Natalie Wlodarczyk for President-Elect - accepts.
- Annie Roberson nominates Madison Robinson for Assembly of Delegates - accepts.
- Kyle Fleming nominated for Assembly of Delegates - accepts.
- Maggie Rodgers nominates Grace Troesser for Secretary - accepts.
- Katey Kooi nominated for Treasurer (incumbent) - accepts.
- Ryan Smith nominated for Assembly of Delegates - accepts.
- Hannah Gross nominated for Assembly of Delegates - accepts.

Nomination slate is now closed. Slate is as follows:

Officers:

- President-Elect: Becca Kurtz, Natalie Wlodarczyk
- Vice President-Elect: Naomi Davis, Kailey Campbell
- Secretary: Sydney Winders, Grace Troesser
- Treasurer: Katey Kooi (incumbent)

Assembly of Delegates:

- Ellyn Donahoe
- Kyle Fleming
- Xavier Fleming
- Hannah Gross
- Alisa Kandel
- Angela Meier
- Madison Robinson
- Meghan Ross
- Jess Rushing
- Ryan Smith
- Adam Summers
- Rachel Willeke

Question raised about the frequency of meetings. The BOD meets quarterly via Zoom. Assembly of Delegates meets a few times a year via Zoom. BOD officers are asked to be present at conferences to do business.

AMTA Update: Leslie Henry

- Welcome to the New AMTA Vice President-Elect, Nicole Bowen. She is currently in training to host the online music therapy symposium. She will take over on January 1, 2026.
- AMTA Board of Directors:
 - Angie Snell, President
 - Lori Gooding, Past President
 - Jennifer Sokira, Vice President
 - Nicole Bowen, Vice President-Elect
 - Mia Ilioupolos Krings, Speaker of the Assembly
 - BriAnne Weaver, Assistant Speaker of the Assembly
 - Alison Derran, Assembly Representative
 - Kendall Joplin, Assembly Representative

- Appointed Members of the AMTA Board of Directors
 - Jeffrey Angell, Secretary
 - Leslie Henry, Treasurer
 - Gary Verhagen, Parliamentarian
 - Chelsea Mabes, Council Coordinator for Association Services
 - Becky Engen, Council Coordinator for Education & Clinical Training
 - Megan McCausland, Council Coordinator for Professional Practices
- *Music Therapy Perspectives* welcomes Noah Potvin, PhD, LPC, MT-BC as Co-Lead Editor.
- *Journal of Music Therapy* welcomes Dr. Amy Smith as Associate Editor.
- 2024 Highlights: Arthur Flagler Fults Research Award
 - Congratulations to Elizabeth L Stegemöller, PhD, MT-BC.
 - Project is entitled: Virtual Group Therapeutic Singing for Persons with Parkinson's Disease in Rural Areas.
- 2025 Arthur Flagler Fultz Research Award: Look for the application deadlines near the beginning of April.
- General Updates:
 - AMTA Website: Database information
 - There are two components to our website that advance the mission for our association. The outward facing website that the public sees and an inward facing association management software that interfaces with the website, services, & products.
 - The successful migration that recently occurred was a new association management software package, the inward facing software that helps us run the business aspects of our mission. Instructions were sent out through social media and email to help the public to update their personal profiles within the system. If you have not yet please check this new software out, it will allow you to look for other music therapists and student members as well as providing increased opportunities for engagement.
 - The Association is preparing for a new website!
 - Last year, AMTA was awarded a \$326,000 grant from the Music Man Foundation.
 - A committee reviewed bids for website companies and selected In Concert Web Solutions to build our new website.
 - A website usability survey will be sent out to the music therapy community in the coming weeks as it is determined what to place on our new website.
 - Input from the community will help us identify the most important features for music therapists, prospective music therapists, and the public.

- The new website is expected to be built mid/late fall and will be reduced from 1,000 unique webpages to approximately 250.
- Workforce Survey
 - We are currently finalizing the 2022 Workforce Survey Report and will be distributed soon.
 - The AMTA Workforce Committee and CBMT are partnering to seek out participation for the 2024 Workforce Survey.
- 2025 is our 75th Anniversary! Watch for announcements on how to celebrate.
- Past President Updates
 - Elections
 - President-Elect for the 2024-2025 term is still open. We are in discussion with potential candidates.
 - We will be releasing a call for the 2026-2027 President-Elect and Vice President-Elect elections. Please reach out to amtapresidentgooding@gmail.com if you are interested in learning more.
 - Commission Report & Competencies Update
 - Commission Report available on AMTA-U.
 - Commission feedback was collected from the community.
 - APAC & AIAC are reviewing the Commission Report.
 - Assembly is reviewing the Competencies Review Task Force (CRTF) Report.
 - Commission Report & Competencies Update: Next Steps
 - Board will work with Assembly, APAC/AIAC, and CRTF to address outstanding questions, conduct additional review, and ultimately compile a draft plan to be sent to the Assembly to be voted on.
 - The process will be iterative, and updates will be shared as available.
- Vice President Updates
 - Save the Date: AMTA Symposium, September 14-17, 2025.
- Treasurer Updates
 - Highlights of AMTA Finances
 - Clean 2023 Audit provided by SB & Company.
 - 990 forms filed with the IRS for AMTA and AMTA Affiliate Regions for

2023 on time.

- AMTA is now preparing for 990s and next audit.
- AMTA has received \$200,000 of the \$360,000 grant money from the Music Man Foundation to renovate our database system and website. Be sure to refer to the recent AMTA email blast regarding important member information regarding the recent data migration update.
- 2024 Membership Percentage Facts
 - Membership Tier Usage
 - Tier One (\$150) - 24.8%
 - Tier Two (\$200) - 23.2%
 - Tier Three (\$250) - 52%
 - Membership Breakdown
 - Professional - 70.2%
 - Student - 15.2%
 - Graduate Student - 8.1%
 - Retired - 3.1%
 - Honorary Life - 2.4%
 - Affiliate - 0.6%
- Government Relations Update
 - Huge thank you to Government Relations Director, Judy Simpson, who is helping us navigate the rapid changes that affect our students and clients.
 - Some ways to be involved as you are able:
 - If you are a VA employee, please fill out the Google Form (distributed in the March 7, 2025 Government Relations email blast) to describe how you may be affected.
 - Use Voter Voice to find information on contacting your legislators. This platform makes it easy to contact your legislators on issues you care about. (Also in March 7, 2025 update)
 - There will be a weekly update from the Government Relations Director on changes happening that may affect our clients and students.
 - Email legislation issues to governmentrelations@musictherapy.org and add "2025" to the topic line.

- Donate to the Andrea Farbman Government Relations Advocacy Fund.
- Consider becoming a member of AMTA. More members allow us to pool financial resources to provide more paid staff to serve the community.

Announcements/Questions

Felicia Magaña Voorhees: Anyone interested in serving on a committee should contact Felicia with any questions.

Natalie Wlodarczyk: Where is the next in-person conference in 2027?

Morgan Henderson: MWR will alternate between online and in-person conferences. The conference in 2026 will be online, and we would like to partner with universities for satellite sites. The 2027 conference locale has not been decided. Please send suggestions.

Maggie Rodgers: Positive feedback about satellite sites. Asked BOD to consider allowing students to attend conferences for free for the next few years. An idea to raise money could be to challenge other AMTA regions to contribute money for us to match. We would give it back to the membership/region.

Kelly Carlson: Coffee and breakfast items will be available in each concurrent session room tomorrow. With some extra funds, we were able to provide some refreshments.

Ryan Smith - is on the Disaster Response Task Force. If you are impacted by a disaster, he would reach out. If you do not hear from him, reach out to him. There are budgets in place to help music therapists after natural or man-made disasters.

Meeting Adjourned at 5:35 P.M. Central.

Bylaw Changes (highlighted sections reflect proposed changes)

ARTICLE II. OFFICERS AND ASSEMBLY

Section 1. The elective officers of the Region shall be elected by ballot following a regular annual meeting and shall continue in office for a term of two years, or until the next subsequent election. The regular term for office shall commence ~~the next fiscal year (July 1)~~ following the completion of the election.

Proposed Wording

Section 1. The elective officers of the Region shall be elected by ballot following a regular annual meeting and shall continue in office for a term of two years, or until the next subsequent election. The regular term for office shall **commence on July 1** following the completion of the election.

ARTICLE II. OFFICERS AND ASSEMBLY

Proposed Addition

Section 3. The President shall preside at annual meetings, or additional meetings of the Region; shall call and preside at meetings of the Board of Directors; shall appoint all standing committees as well as representatives to committees of the National Organization, subject to approval of the Board of Directors; shall be an ex-officio member of all Regional committees without the Right to Vote; shall serve as a delegate to the Assembly of Delegates; shall approve all expenditures of the Region; and shall perform the other duties implied by the title. **The President may request the cost of a hotel room, registration waived, mileage at federal rate or airfare, and stipend if they attend in person MWR of AMTA conference. They may request a waived registration if they attend an online MWR of AMTA conference.**

ARTICLE II. OFFICERS AND ASSEMBLY

Proposed Addition

Section 4. The immediate Past President shall serve as advisor to the President and Board of Directors, as a delegate to the Assembly of Delegates, and as nominating and election chair for one election cycle. **The Past President may request registration waived and stipend if they attend in person MWR of AMTA conference. They may request a waived registration if they attend an online MWR of AMTA conference.**

ARTICLE II. OFFICERS AND ASSEMBLY

Proposed Addition

Section 5. The President-elect shall assume all the duties of the President in the case of the resignation, disability, or absence of the President; shall act as chairperson of constitution and bylaws revisions; shall act as chairperson of membership, coordinating efforts with National

Office; shall serve as a delegate to the Assembly of Delegates; and shall have such other duties as may be assigned by the President and the Board of Directors. The President-elect may request registration waived and stipend if they attend in person MWR of AMTA conference. They may request a waived registration if they attend an online MWR of AMTA conference.

ARTICLE II. OFFICERS AND ASSEMBLY

Proposed Addition

Section 6. The Vice President shall assume all the duties of the President-elect in case of resignation, disability, or absence of the President-elect; shall act as program chairperson; shall serve as an alternate delegate to the Assembly of Delegates; and have such other duties as may be assigned by the President and the Board of Directors. A vacancy in the office of Vice President is filled by the Vice President Elect. The Vice President may request the cost of a hotel room, registration waived, mileage at federal rate or airfare and stipend if they attend in person MWR of AMTA conference. They may request a waived registration and stipend if they attend an online MWR of AMTA conference.

ARTICLE II. OFFICERS AND ASSEMBLY

Proposed Addition

Section 7. *The duties of the Vice President Elect are to assist the Vice President as requested, to study the duties of the Vice President in anticipation of assuming the responsibilities of the Vice Presidency, and to assume all duties of the Vice President in case of resignation, disability, or absence of the Vice President. A vacancy in the office of Vice President Elect is filled by presidential appointment with approval of the Board of Directors. The Vice President Elect shall serve as Regional Information Coordinator, assuming responsibility for coordinating efforts of state contact persons to facilitate flow of information to the Online Media Coordinator. The Vice President-elect may request the cost of a hotel room and stipend if they attend in person MWR of AMTA conference. They may request a waived registration if they attend an online MWR of AMTA conference.*

ARTICLE II. OFFICERS AND ASSEMBLY

Proposed addition

Section 8. *The Secretary shall keep the minutes of all business meetings of the Region and all meetings of the Board of Directors; shall send copies to each member of the Committee within thirty (30) days after the meeting; shall report the annual meetings to the Executive Director of the National Organization; shall notify all officers of their election and committees of their appointment; and, in general conduct the correspondence of the Chapter. The Secretary may request registration waived and stipend if they attend in person MWR of AMTA conference. They may request a waived registration if they attend an online MWR of AMTA conference.*

ARTICLE II. OFFICERS AND ASSEMBLY

Proposed addition

Section 9. *The Treasurer shall pay all bills upon authorization of the President; shall keep an itemized account of all receipts and disbursements; shall present a financial report to the President at any time upon request; shall submit a Region fiscal report to AMTA; shall submit a written financial report to the Board of Directors and the General membership at the annual regional conferences shall close the books at midnight on the last day of the fiscal year. The Treasurer may request registration waived and stipend if they attend in person MWR of AMTA conference. They may request a waived registration if they attend an online MWR of AMTA conference.*

ARTICLE II. OFFICERS AND ASSEMBLY

Proposed addition

Section 10. *The Delegates to the Assembly will represent the Region on the legislative body of the American Music Therapy Association, Inc. The assembly delegates may request their registration at the student rate if they attend in person MWR of AMTA conference.*

ARTICLE IV. FISCAL YEAR

The fiscal year shall be from ~~July 1 through June 30.~~

New wording:

*The fiscal year shall be from **January 1 through December 31.***