

**DRAFT MINUTES (29-Aug-2021) – NOT APPROVED**

BHS Illinois District Board Meeting

29-Aug-2021

**Illinois District Association of Chapters  
Board Meeting**  
Aug 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021

**Location:** Via Zoom

**Date/Time:** Friday, Aug 29, 2021, 7:00pm

**Roll Call**

Name	Governance Role	Operations / Other Role	Present	Quorum Count
Jeff Lathom	President		Y	+
Terry Ludwig	Exec VP		Y	+
Mike Isely	Secretary		Y	+
Jim Wagner	Treasurer		N	+
Jeff McMorris	BMAL	Membership	N	+
Jeff Bowyer	BMAL	Events	Y	+
Tim Pashon	BMAL	C & J	Y	+
Benjamin Light	BMAL	(CSLT)	Y	+
Brett Mulford	Imm Past President	YIH	N	+
Tim Beutel		Music & Perf	Y	
Rich Hansen		Historian	Y	
Evan Patrick		YIH	Y	
Raymond Schwarzkopf		CDD		
Joe Gurreri		Marketing & PR, webmaster		
Bob Cearnal	Guest		Y	

Totals: 8 of 13 6 of 9

**Called to order:** 7:04 PM

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### ADMINISTRATION

- Quorum
  - 6 of 9 Governance Board members present
  - Attendance 67% overall

### TOPICS

- Fall Convention pros & cons
  - Tim Pashon
    - ♦ Judges are sitting close to quartets during the contest
    - ♦ BCPA is to be fully masked indoors, however performers on stage can be unmasked, given social distancing from the audience
    - ♦ We're currently the first district to go forward – we are effectively the guinea pigs in the society
    - ♦ Other activities, e.g. Sing with The Champs, will require full masking
    - ♦ No ideas yet for a substitute Spring Convention, work still to be done, if we cancel
  - Tim Beutel
    - ♦ “This thing could be going on for a long time.”
    - ♦ Everyone needs to evaluate their personal risk level
    - ♦ There are already large events going on, full stadiums with shouting crowds
    - ♦ We may have to change, less face-to-face activities. We may need to reimagine barbershop. It's a new world we're living in.
    - ♦ “Why would I keep wanting to be a dues paying member of a Society that isn't having events?”
  - Terry Ludwig
    - ♦ We're probably going to have less than 250 people at this convention, at an auditorium that seats 1100 people.
    - ♦ “I am at peace with whatever decision we arrive at here.”
    - ♦ We should be able to have a lot of spacing within the venue.
    - ♦ Probably should be discouraging hospitality rooms this time
    - ♦ Sing tags outside
    - ♦ We can still have the convention experience but we can do this safely.
  - Mike Isely
    - ♦ We may be stuck with Covid forever, but the concern right now is that things are still changing and we haven't really gotten a handle on it. After things settle down to a long term pattern then it becomes possible to better evaluate risk.
    - ♦ For us to cancel this on our own volition, this may cost us real money.
    - ♦ Concern over recent elevated concerns further depressing attendance – but there's a pretty fair number of registrations already.
  - Jeff Bowyer
    - ♦ Hotel numbers: \$23500 cancellation fee at this point, if the contract is strictly enforced, but they offered to lower the fee to \$5000 and have waived the attrition clause. If the decision is forced upon us from outside, there will be no fees.
    - ♦ No contact with the BCPA yet, but cancellation fee can be \$5000 - \$7500

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- ♦ If we choose to cancel right now, it may cost us a 4 digit sum. If the BCPA however closes up and forces the cancellation, the fees will be waived.
- ♦ Given that things are still evolving, perhaps we should just delay any decision further.
- Tim Pashon
  - ♦ We still have a full judging panel.
  - ♦ Judges will be masked of course
  - ♦ Evals may get tricky – maybe have the eval sessions in the main ballroom inside of close-quarters hotel rooms.
  - ♦ Judges to be asked about sending written feedback instead.
- Jeff Lathom
  - ♦ If we do have a convention it's really going to be more a contest and not a convention.
  - ♦ Hospitality suites just don't look workable.
  - ♦ Other non-contest activities can be problematic.
  - ♦ QCA show (BCPA ballroom) should still be doable.
  - ♦ We do not want to be push in the position of canceling at the very last moment.
  - ♦ We need to do what is best for everybody.
  - ♦ Based upon registrations – ahead of where we would normally be at this point – this would suggest people are excited to attend.
  - ♦ If we cancel and pay fees due to this, then those losses will compound with expected losses at a substitute Spring convention.
- Jeff Bowyer
  - ♦ “drop dead date”?
  - ♦ We should delay the decision to have a conversation with the BCPA first.
  - ♦ Jeff wants to ensure that hotel reservations get cancelled with no fees for the members.
- Rich Hansen
  - ♦ We have alternatives / mitigations that should make this doable.
  - ♦ Last year was “survival mode”. This year is different.
- Evan
  - ♦ Would like to see this convention go forward. We will have to find a way to deal with this.
- Mike Isely
  - ♦ We don't have enough information to make a decision now. Let Jeff Bowyer do his information gathering first.
- Bob Cearnal
  - ♦ If we have only 200 registrations, this seems like a financial loss
    - (Jeff Lathom – we planned for this one to be a loss, focusing on encouraging people to come back.)
- Ben Light
  - ♦ Risk for the district is a financial
  - ♦ Risk to individuals is health
  - ♦ Risk of cancellation is going to bring bad press and we need to be ready for it.
  - ♦ We should continue moving forward.
- NO CHANGE OF COURSE AT THIS POINT

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**Adjourned:** 7:56pm

Respectfully submitted by Mike Isely