

ILL District BOD

**the Illinois District**  
association of Chapters / Barbershop Harmony Society

*a state of close harmony*

Minutes

## Illinois District Association of Chapters Board Meeting

March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2025

**Location:** Via Zoom**Date/Time:** Saturday, Mar 2, 2025, 7:00pm**Roll Call**

Name	Governance Role	Operations / Other Role	Present	Quorum Count
Benjamin Dirks	President		P	+
Glenn Mills	Exec VP	Marketing & PR, webmaster	P	+
Mike Isely	Secretary		P	+
Leif Wildman	Treasurer		P	+
Doug Finkbiner	BMAL	Membership	P	+
Jeff Bowyer	BMAL	Events	P	+
Terry Ludwig	BMAL	C & J	P	+
John Q. Morris	BMAL	CSLT	P	+
(Terry Ludwig)	Imm Past President	YIH	-	-
Kevin O'Keefe		Membership	P	
Mark Servos		Music & Perf	P	
Nathan Gross			A	
Rich Hansen		Historian	P	
Evan Patrick		YIH		
Doug Ferrier		Awards		
Carrie Marcotte		CDD		

Totals: 11 of 15      8 of 8



**Called to order:** 7:05 PM

## **ADMINISTRATION**

- Minutes
  - Minutes posted from 3-Aug-2024
    - ♦ Motion to approve Feb minutes had a second from a non-governance board member; thus motion was invalid. Re-doing that motion here...
    - **Motion**
      - **Subject: Approve Minutes from 16-Feb-2024**
      - **Motion: Jeff Bowyer, Terry Ludwig**
      - **Result: Approved, Unanimous**
    - ♦ Budget report attachment marked in wrong spot
    - ♦ Fix off-the-record comment
  - **Motion**
    - ♦ **Subject: Approve Minutes from 3-Aug-2024**
    - ♦ **Motion: Mike Isely, Leif Wildman**
    - ♦ **Result: Approved, Unanimous**
- Record online motions
  - [Attachment: "01a-idea\_req\_vote.pdf"]
- Submitted reports – Mike Isely
  - Chorus Director Development Report
    - ♦ No report
  - Chapter Support & Leadership Report
    - ♦ [Attachment: "08a-rpt-cslt.pdf"]
  - Historian's Report
    - ♦ [Attachment: "09a-rpt-historian.pdf"]
  - Contest & Judging Report
    - ♦ [Attachment: "06a-rpt-drcj.pdf"]
  - Marketing Report
    - ♦ [Attachment: "05a-rpt-marketing.pdf"]
  - Membership Report
    - ♦ [Attachment: "04a-rpt-membership.odt"]
  - President's Report
    - ♦ No report
- Treasurer's Report – Leif Wildman
  - [Attachment: "02a-rpt-treasurer.pdf"]
  - As of Jan balance, \$80,126
  - Convention loss of \$4,000
    - ♦ not a concern – keep in mind that this is a service of the district and dues help defray this.
    - ♦ We did get our room rebate
  - **Motion**
    - ♦ **Subject: Receive Treasurer's Report**
    - ♦ **Motion: Mike Isely, Terry Ludwig**
    - ♦ **Result: Approved, Unanimous**



## **OLD BUSINESS**

- Fall Convention Update – Jeff Bowyer
  - [Attachment: “07a-rpt-events.pdf”]
  - Report stands as submitted
- HCMW Update – Nathan Gross / Mark Servos
  - [Attachment: “10a-rpt-hcmw.pdf”]
  - Everything is moving along fine
  - No pending issues
  - 11 of 11 quartet slots have been filled, including one for the QCA scholarship
  - 2 of 10 IDEA scholarship awarded
  - Only 32 individual registrations, but this follows a historical pattern of a rush of registrations at the last minute
  - An idea for the future: Can we do for individual registrations like we do for quartets?
    - ◆ Less “history of barbershop” and more actual individual vocal coaching
    - ◆ Even small pick-up VLQs with coaching in some form
    - ◆ This may seriously pick up on individual registrations
      - And since financially HCMW really gets their income from individual registrations, this may help financially as well
    - ◆ And it could help the “riser guys” up their skill level which elevates the choruses.
- Chapter President’s Council – Bill Rathmann / Mike Isely
  - Summary of group status / events
  - Desire to have a CPC rep at the HOD meeting
  - Summary of upcoming April 5<sup>th</sup> inter-chapter event
- Website Update – Glenn Mills
  - See marketing report for additional info
  - Report stands as-is

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- District-wide survey – Ben Dirks
  - Ground-up approach to running / leading the district
  - We work for our members
  - Proposal for a survey aimed at leadership for each chapter, “Illinois District Health and Engagement Survey”
    - ◆ High level draft exists now, to be reviewed for feedback from the district board
    - ◆ Looking for results by Fall HOD
  - Second survey, more urgent, regarding the convention.
    - ◆ A bunch of update / proposals regarding the convention.
    - ◆ Find out who is attending / not attending and why.
    - ◆ Participation for the entire weekend?
    - ◆ What would encourage Friday participation?
    - ◆ Change in schedule? Put chorus competition in the morning?
    - ◆ Boxed lunches on Saturday to help / encourage people to get back to the hotel on Saturday?
    - ◆ Increase registration for competing quartets – to help defray judging expenses, while decreasing price for non-competitors – to encourage attendance from family members.
  - Feedback: Surveys can be misleading – ensure there are multiple reviewers before sending it out
  - Feedback: Maybe assess an ensemble fee for competitors – else it penalizes larger choruses

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- Feedback: Put the cool activities Saturday afternoon with the chorus contest in the morning – thus chorus singers get a chance to participate instead of further rehearsals.
- Feedback: The effective cost is dominated by the hotel not the registration. Thus things we do which encourage staying over Friday may have a negative impact on overall attendance.
- Feedback: Would a district dues increase make more sense as opposed to tweaking the registration?
- Chapter Liaison Assignments – Ben Dirks
  - Dedicated individual from the board for each chapter in the district
  - Rough draft of assignments, exists, to be sent out later tonight
- BHS The Big Leap workshop – Leif Wildman / Rich Hansen
  - “Another BHS workshop about leadership”. Rich wasn’t thrilled. But with Joe Cerutti heading, this turned out to be the best conference sponsored by BHS that Rich has ever attended
  - Looking outside the box from being about performance ensembles to being community assets.
  - Every chapter can benefit from this.
  - This is about research and best practices that can be applied to a chapter.
- District President’s Council – Ben Dirks / Glenn Mills
  - BHS at Harmony University is offering 2 free paid registrations for district leaders “district leadership bootcamp” – email Ben if interested
    - ◆ This follows Denver International, at Denver, at the end of July.
  - Summary of other various items going on at the Society level, including an attempt at rebranding.
  - Building at BHS is still for sale, but the sale is no longer required for financial stability. Still want to downsize.
- Illinois Music Educators Conference – Ben Dirks
  - BHS wants to get back in front of music educators
  - So they are sending staffers to various music educator conferences
    - ◆ But ILL is not on the radar at the moment (they going for larger states)
  - Should we have a booth at local the IMEA conference?
    - ◆ Visibility to school music teachers will help us to get more YIH programs going
    - ◆ Anything to nurture more good singers
    - ◆ A booth is \$400 – not exactly a big expense
    - ◆ We used to do this but it fell to the same people every year but it got old. New people need to be involved.
- Next Board Meeting date – Mike Isely
  - Aug 10<sup>th</sup> 2025 via Zoom

**Adjourned:** 9:11pm

Respectfully submitted by Mike Isely