



**District Council Conference Call Minutes  
October 24, 2016  
8:00pm**

**I. Call to Order**

- a. Director Aronson called the meeting to order at approximately 8pm.

**II. Roll Call:**

**a. Members Present:**

- i. Patricia Aronson, PhD, ATC – District 3 Director
- ii. Jim Berry, EdD, ATC – District Secretary
- iii. Ray Davis, MS, ATC – District Treasurer
- iv. Jennifer Rheeling, ATC – President, DCATA
- v. Nick Pitruzzella, ATC, President MATA
- vi. Scott Barringer, ATC – President, NCATA
- vii. Sheila Gordon, ATC – President, SCATA
- viii. Matt Gage, PhD, ATC – President, VATA
- ix. Drew Mason, ATC, President, WVATA

**b. Guests Present:**

- i. Amy Hand -YPC Representative
- ii. Brad Drake - SCATA President-Elect
- iii. Lori Bristow – MAATA Secretary-Elect

**c. Members and Guests Absent:**

- i. Martin Baker, MS, ATC – Past District 3 Director
- ii. Destinee Grove, NATA SLC Representative
- iii. Scott Powers - VATA President-Elect
- iv. Shawn Dash – DC President Elect
- v. Bret Wood – VP NCATA

**III. Opening Comments:**

- a. Director Aronson welcomed everyone to the call and introduced new members to the Council and guests.

- b. Director Aronson reported that she had visited the DC meeting in the past week and will be visiting Virginia and West Virginia in 2017.

#### IV. District 3 Updates:

- a. Constitution Changes – Director Aronson asked for input from the District Council on the following proposed changes to the Constitution:
  - i. 6.2.4 – a member may not hold two offices at the same time on the Executive Council.
    - 1. The members of the Council all agreed that this was a good change and would help to avoid conflicts of interest in the future.
  - ii. 8.1.4 – a candidate who is running unopposed is will be automatically re-elected with no need for a formal election.
    - 1. VA questioned whether or not a vote of confidence should still be held in this situation, in case the membership was not happy with the current officer.
    - 2. Director Aronson explained that if a vote of confidence was taken and the officer did not receive that vote, there would be no one to replace that member on the Executive Council.
    - 3. Secretary Berry explained that there was also a financial cost to conducting an election, regardless of the number of candidates and this should be taken into account when considering this question.
  - iii. 8.1.5 – Change the wording of this section to read that no candidate may run for more than one district office at one time.
    - 1. There was unanimous support from all members of the Council for this change.
  - iv. 8.1.6 – If no candidate runs for an office, the Executive Council may appoint someone for one term.
    - 1. Director Aronson noted that if the Council was not comfortable with awarding an appointee a full term, the period of time could be limited to one year until an election could be held.
      - a. NC asked what process would be used if this situation were to arise? Director Aronson explained t that she would hope that state presidents and district leaders would recruit someone to run, but if no one steps forward you need to appoint someone.
      - b. NC indicated he was ok with this proposal following the explanation.
      - c. MD expressed that perhaps 1 year would be better than one term.
      - d. The consensus of the Council was that the appointment be for *one term*, not just one year.
- b. By-Law Changes – Director Aronson asked for input from the District Council on the following proposed changes to the By-Laws:
  - i. 2.5.2 – Change this so that a Treasurer could serve up to a maximum of 3 terms, for a maximum term of 6 years, but he/she must stand for re-election every two years.

1. A task force was appointed in the June District Council Meeting and brought this recommendation to the Executive Council.
  2. The consensus of the District Council was that this is a reasonable change and to move forward with the request for the change during the May 2017 members meeting.
- ii. 2.5.5 – Would be changed to allow the Executive Council to appoint a new District Treasurer or District Secretary if the officer was unable to complete their terms.
1. MD suggested that this appointment be done by the District Council instead of the Executive Council.
  2. VA suggested that the District Council be allowed to provide recommendations, which would then be voted on by the Executive Council.
  3. Director Aronson indicated that she was going to table this change and do some more investigation; then come back to the Council with more information and a request for input from the Council once she had gathered more information.

**V. District 3 Annual Symposium Changes:**

- a. Director Aronson explained that Treasurer Ray Davis and Meeting Chair Jason Mitchell had done a complete overview of the symposium expenses and activities and they have made several suggestions and changes for the 2017 meeting which were shared with the District Council members previously. Director Aronson asked the Council members if anyone had any specific concerns regarding the changes that will be made.
- b. The consensus of the Council was that everyone was OK with the suggested changes for the 2017 meeting.

**VI. KSI Atlas Project:**

- a. Director Aronson reiterated the importance of our District 3 states and the high schools within those states to report this information to ATLAS.
- b. Director Aronson is asking the state presidents to encourage their members to register their school(s).
- c. NC indicated that NC has sent out numerous reminders to the members in his state. He expressed that they are having problems getting the private schools to respond.
- d. VA indicated that he was experiencing the same issues in VA. He stated that they are considering setting up a computer at their annual meeting and asking every member to register their school as a part of the registration process for their state meeting.

**VII. New District 3 Leadership:**

- a. Director Aronson provided the Council with a summary of the recent District 3 elections.
  - i. Lori Bristow has been elected District Secretary and will assume office in June, 2017.
  - ii. There is currently a run-off election between Robert Cable and Katie Flanagan for the District Director's seat. Those results will be available after October 29<sup>th</sup> when the run-off election ends. The winning candidate will assume the seat in June, 2017.
- b. Treasurer Davis also pointed out during this discussion that the NATA is likely going to be moving to a new July to July fiscal year format. As a result of this, dues payments to the states may change in regards to when the states receive those payments. Treasurer Davis will provide more information to the states following the NATA Joint Committee Meeting in January, 2017.

**VIII. Services of the District:**

- a. Director Aronson shared with the Council the various services that the District has available to our states should they choose to use them. They include:

- i. District 3 Survey Monkey system. States should contact the Webmaster for assistance with this.
  - ii. District eBlasts; states should contact the Webmaster for assistance with this.
  - iii. State and District Surveys; states should contact the Webmaster for assistance with this.
  - iv. Honors and Awards Database information; states should contact the District Secretary for assistance with this.
- b. Director Aronson also encouraged the State Presidents to nominate deserving members for District 3 Awards as the deadline is November 1<sup>st</sup>.

**IX. State President Best Practices:**

- a. Director Aronson used the balance of the remaining meeting time to allow each state president an opportunity to share their best practices pertaining to the following topics:
- i. How do you get volunteers?
  - ii. How do you determine when it is time to change committee leadership?
  - iii. What is the most effective form of communicating with your leadership?
  - iv. How does your association communicate/collaborate with state high school associations, lobbyist, etc. to promote AT?

**X. Reminders:**

- a. **Director Aronson reminded the Council of the following upcoming important dates:**
- i. MAATA District Council Meeting in Virginia Beach: May 19, 2017
  - ii. MAATA District Council Meeting in Houston: June 27, 2017

**XI. Director Aronson adjourned the meeting at 9:20pm.**