**Minutes from 1/4 (Cabot, AR Akers’s room)**

Members in Attendance: Peerbolte, Akers, Campbell, Alaquinez, Sawyer, Valentine (left early), Hall, Beith (left early)

Meeting called to order by President Peerbolte at 1:13 pm

 - Terri was super early and the Secretary was late

moved to accept the minutes and Akers seconded it

 - voted on by those present; minutes are approved

**Officer Reports**

1. President – Peerbolte

 - interesting year so far

 - good and bad things that need to be discussed

 - do not name blame but question how we can grow from issues

 - looks forward to passing the baton

2. 1st Vice President – Alaquinez

 - up the price for conference

 - we didn’t make any money this year at conference

 - still $505 in unpaid dues

 - it was a successful conference and Alaquinez thoroughly enjoyed being the host

 + we had a member “get out of hand” and it was addressed properly

3. 2nd Vice President – McCutcheon

4. 1st VP Elect – Beith

 - Basin Park Hotel in Eureka Springs, AR; people wanted something close

- one of the concerns is about parking but they will shuttle (until 11 pm) you when you need to go between buildings

- one concern was the amount of space but that has been addressed with Beith visting the premises

-“The Adventure Begins Here”

- Speaker – former student trying out for the Special Olympics (could be Saturday speaker)

 + would like to invite Barrett if possible (Tim will call and see what he can do)

 + Paul Tucker is a former student who may can fill in for a speaker on either day

- PD speakers could be Cindy Isner

- PD options could include: 504 modifications, teaching to the new Obama Administration’s Education policy,

- Exec Council dinner would be some place in walking distance (Desota’s?)

- Presiden’ts Recption could be moved before the dinner (on Friday) instead of after the banquet

- they need to know by August 20th so they can start releasing rooms (THIS WILL BE THE BIGGEST BATTLE)

- Beith could make a packet that includes the prices, price changes due to dates, and any other relevant information needed for Fall Conf 16

5. 1st VP Elect Elect – Valdez

6. 2nd VP Elect – McCutcheon

7. Executive Director – Ham/Campbell

 - so glad to be here and drank Aker’s Diet Coke

 - she sent Tim an funny voicemail message today before the meeting

8. Treasurer – Akers

 - we are missing $10 memberships which is the bulk of the missing Membership fee money

 - more was spent at Fall Conf 15 than we took in

 - there were charges for copies, and small things of the such

- we were charged for 4-5 rooms that didn’t make; the problem is that people are NOT staying at the conference hotel

 - Alaquinez inserted we could have this set before the summer time

 - Conley Hall inserted a heartfelt story about helping Tim pick food for his conference

 - Overall total is 28, blah blah blah

 - CD = $6,109.19

 - Another area of concern is StuCo; it ALWAYS costs more than we take in

 - Campbell stated that the left over ribbons could be a problem

- Akers suggested that we up the price for StuCo $25 across the board (it will need to be brought up to the membership)

 - we will need to contact AAA to up the price of StuCo

 - with Scholarship we have $10.47 donated to scholarship

 + Demo Day made $1,750; cost 15.55

 + Made 25 on ACTAA buttons and 282 on the ACTAA tumblers

 + Tournament buttons (individual) made is $1,925

 + Makes us 574 short of what we give (2,500) every year

- TOC profit was $2,350; it was suggested that we take 1K off TOC proceeds and give towards scholarship (add another debate and forensics scholarships)

 + TOC might be too close to establishing if there is enough to cover the costs

+ the buttons/tumblers are things the kids purchased and suggested that this might be best method of using this money

 - Akers got a thank you card from Angie Wooley

- Akers will send out a letter, through snail mail, about suspended memberships because of unpaid balances to

9. Recording Secretary – Gilbert

10. College Rep – Gale (via Peerbolte)

 - a lot of this is about Journal Editor

11. HS Rep – Terri Valentine

 - all is well in the high schools

 - no rumblings of anythings

13. Webmaster – Sawyer

 - all is well and life is good on the website

 - it’s rocking and rolling

14. PD Coordinator – Tucker

 - husband didn’t want her to drive in this weather

 - tornado problems

 - wanted to say that PD went well at Fall Conf 15

 - PD is going great

- Lana Hallmark contacted Tim; the state Department is putting on training for theatre teachers. They picked Peerbolte, Armbrust, Higdem to go teacher PD on behalf of ACTAA to help certify people in Theatre Education

15. Archivist –

16. Immediate Past President – Strickland

17. Journal Editor –

18. Lifetime Membership – Hall

 - working with the lifers

 - handed out a report of the Lifetime Members meeting minutes

**Committee Reports**

1. Audit – Gilbert

 - Akers isn’t stealing

 - AJ from Conway is the new member

2. Ethical Practices – Gale

 - he has agreed to chair this committee

 - Gale is evaluating the document to see if it needs revisions

 + document doesn’t have reprimand clauses

2. Scholarship – Akers

 - see above

 - all of them last year were paid

 - info will be sent to the body at the beginning of January

 - each school sends ONE (1) nomination for Debate and ONE (1) nomination for Forensics

3. TOC – Alaquinez

 - designate who is doing what for TOC; by tradition not arbitrary rules

 - being held at Parkview April 4-5

 - using Joy of Tournaments

 - Akers will tab IEs and Rosie will tab Debate

 - will do a “Save the Date” for judges for the weekend of TOC

 - Colton will do a room scan for the building and send to Alaquinez

 - Colton will also request that we at least get access to a piece of the stage

 - StuCo at TOC needs it’s own tabulator

3. Publicity/Promotion – Higdem (via Peerbolte)

 - button sales are going well

 - expectations are high for financial gains

 - think about TOC buttons

4. PD – Tucker

5. TAC – Valdez

 1. Judging situations

 + complaints about schools bringing few entries but taking lots of ballots

 + some of the TD’s needs to be told to share judging across the board

 + TD’s need to be cognizant about building capacity and guest judges

 + more instruction on computer tabbing and capacity requirements

 + a reminder about how much we have added would help understand these problems

 2. Judging fees

 + judges fees are not being paid to the judges who are filling the commitments

 + if you charge a judging fee then you HAVE to pay that out to judges

 + a nuisance fee would be a better fee that doesn’t have to be paid to judges

 3. Notification of Drops

 + big problem; 17 debate drops happened at the Tournament

 + also was a huge problem at StuCo as well

 + TD’s need to assign a student to call coaches and make sure slates are correct

+ We need to inform the membership about recurring problems and ways in which they can make the transition smoother

 4. Coaches being upset about draw

 + complaining about time

 5. We could couple this to the Mentoring Job

+ we need an arm of the mentoring program that could help new coaches not make so many mistakes they may not be aware of

+ Mentors could help with tournament entries and things of that nature

6. Topic Selection – Gilbert

 - Rosie and Colton still working on topic paper

 - I will do a better job of sending out topics in a more timely fashion

 - Final ballot is out and we have until January 4th to vote:

1. Resolved: The USfg should substantially increase its economic and/or diplomatic engagement with the People’s Republic of China

2. Resolved: The USfg should substantially increase its economic engagement with the Republic of India

7. Student Congress – Valdez

 - Rosie is wearing a shirt that says “**THUG WIFE**” which is beyond appropriate

 - there was a recommendation for upping the cost of Student Congress

 - we have been excited to see new schools participate

 - we have more diversity in delegations and awards

 - lack of understanding of how Congress runs

- Top priority: (A) coaches know their expectations and (B) that it not become a dumping ground

- a workshop at Summer Meeting/Fall Conf about how to do StuCo

 + a coaches demonstration would be a good idea

- we maybe need to have the people who focus on StuCo to put together a packet on what would be beneficial to smaller schools

- StuCo committee itself is not functioning at the level that it could be

 + people on the committee have little to no experience

 + Duties of the members needs to be redefined and make explicit to the members

- it would be beneficial if we had a constant person who is there to answer Congress questions and can help maintain any problems that arise (Student Congress Director= they would stay for 5 years)

 + the rest of the committee would rotate assuming some amendments to jobs are made

+ Summer Workshop would be the place where assignments were made for the committee (Martene Campbell would fill the void)

 + Rosie’s phone case says “Don’t Fucking Touch Me” and we ALL want one

- we need a StuCo ballot for all StuCo competitions at ACTAA events

8. Demo Day – Carney (not present)

- Demo Day was awesome; some called it the “Micah Qualls” show yet if it wasn’t for her it wouldn’t have happened

- killing Demo Day would hurt our financial standing

- if we keep Demo Day it needs to go back to the mini workshops

- Cabot will take Demo Day on October 1st if that is not the Bentonville Tournament

- New committee members are Akers, Campbell, Peerbolte, Sawyer, and Flowers

9. Oral Comm Statement/Professional Standards – Reiff (via Ham)

10. Ethical Practices – No Report (John Gale)

 - he is putting together the committee

 - Problems with the blow up between Gilbert and Cooke

- this isn’t something that is an ACTAA problem but it is more of a personal interaction problem

 - “***Professionalism is important; stop and think first***” – Conley Hall

- we have had parents contact us about the way coaches and judges treat the tournament personnel who are working the tournament

+ talking about things they shouldn’t be (cursing, yelling, favoritism, rudeness to tournament staff, etc.)

11. Nominations – Gamble (via Peerbolte)

 - 1 nomination for principal of the year

 - that is early for this time of the year

12. Thespian – No reports

13. NFL/NSDA

**Old Business**

1. Summer Conference –

 - would be at Maumelle HS, Cabot, or Episcopal July 10-12, 2016

 - college campuses tend to be better hosts for conference

2. Words & Music/Reader’s Theatre’s problems

 - qualifications need to change

 - qualify under the current settings or perform it three times

3. Oratory Ballot

- with the rule change they can’t use their binders yet the first line says “does not depend on script”

**New Business**

1. Journal Editor –

 - John Gale talked to Lynn Mead

 - trying to figure out what they want the journal to be (pedagogy based, content specific, etc.)

2. Archivist –

 - all of the stuff is at Tim’s office at Greenwood HS

 - Austin Ross emailed Rosie about his interest in the job

3. Executive Director –

 - Callie is resigning and Martene will be the new one

4. NFHS IE Conference

- at next Fall Conf we vote and nominate someone (could be through the nominations committee)

- Executive Council can pick someone like they do Debate Topic Selection

- Bylaws will need to be amended as well

5. Theatre Event Committee –

 - some letters from people who want to be on it

 ­- Micah suggested that we do an “old ACTAA” events tournament

 - do something like an Oscar’s or Tony’s (Best Actress, musical, student director, etc.)

 - committee should include students

6. Filling Committees –

 - not just going to stick a random person in a position for committees

7. Tournament behavior –

 - let’s be adults and behave accordingly

8. AAA talks

 - AAA delegate would be Dana McCutcheon; she is aware

 - many of the AAA rules are not written with us in mind

 - things like caucus at StuCo are possible violations to these rules

9. Scholarship –

 - Akers recommended we give an extra $1k to give an additional debate and forensics scholarship; Conley Hall seconded it. It was voted and passed

**Announcements**

**Adjournment**

President Peerbolte adjourned the meeting at 4:58 pm