

BELLEVILLE CHAPTER E005 BOARD MEETING MINUTES of April 13, 2026

I. President Bill Rathmann called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm at the Union United Methodist Church in Belleville. Attending the meeting were President Bill Rathmann; Chapter Development VP Don Koch (via telephone); Music & Performance VP Paul Schulte; Marketing & PR VP Chuck Cook; Secretary Jim Morgan; Treasurer Tom Cunningham; and Board Members at-Large Steve Hand and Bill Heine; Immediate Past President, Mike Dohogne. Absent: Program VP Steve Martin.

II. Additions to Agenda: President Rathmann added Restricted/Unrestricted chapter funds under New Business. A motion was made by Paul Schulte, seconded by Steve Hand to approve the agenda. Passed.

III. Secretary's Report: Secretary Morgan sent the March 16, 2026 minutes to the board by email. Secretary Morgan said that he did not receive any notifications of any errors/corrections prior to the meeting. Tom Cunningham made a motion to accept the minutes as corrected, seconded by Bill Heine. Passed.

President Rathmann reminded the board that the annual chapter review (audit) needed to be submitted by Secretary Morgan or Treasurer Tom Cunningham via the BHS Member Center by May 15, 2026.

IV. Treasurer's Report: Cunningham distributed his report for March 2026 to the board. Beginning balance: \$12,317.31. Ending balance March 2026: \$12,132.50.

Cunningham said that his report was pretty straightforward this month. He still had some money from Singing Valentines coming in and going out after March 1, 2026.

He also reported that he had submitted a form to the State indicating our continuation as a not-for-profit organization. This form also has to list our officers. He indicated that he spent about \$15 in filing and late fees. Cunningham also said that he would confirm that our IRS Form 990N was filed with IRS and a copy submitted to BHS through the Member Center.

A motion was made by Hand, seconded by Schulte to receive the Treasurer's report. Passed.

V. Vice-Presidents' Reports

A. Chapter Development: Koch told the board that following discussions with President Rathmann, Bill Heine and Dave Howe, he had asked them to take over Chapter Development/Membership while he continues to recover from his ongoing health concerns. Koch also offered to allow the chapter to display any chapter or barbershop memorabilia at his auction on May 16, 2026.

B. Program VP: Martin was absent. No report.

C. Marketing and PR VP: After some discussion, the board agreed to solicit for sponsors similar to those of the 2025 Christmas show. President Rathmann agreed to work up another sponsorship letter for the 2026 spring show. The show would be free to the public, though we would accept donations at the door.

Cook also agreed to buy radio ads from WCXO in Carlyle, IL for the Spring show (along with recruiting plug for membership). Schulte suggested possibly getting Improv to do a live interview on Scott Patric's radio show. Cook said that he would still have some print ads (fewer this year) along with an updated flyer.

D. Music and Performance VP: Schulte has a firm show date of June 6, 2026 at Breese Central High School. Food and snacks will not be available for purchase at the show. The show will be set up theater style. (similar to our Christmas show). Donations to the school or another charity will be discussed at a later date.

Schulte has also secured South of Normal as our Featured Quartet for the show. Their talent fee would be \$800 and did not include any travel expenses at this time.

Schulte is still working on Quartet lodging and a location for the afterglow. He asked the board to forward any afterglow location suggestions and he will check them out. He will have an estimated budget for this year's show to present to the budget committee later.

VI. Committee Reports

A. Sunshine: President Rathmann reminded everyone to contact Jim Bostick in the event of any chorus member's illness, or hospitalization. He had Bostick send a card and flowers to Don Koch for his recent hospitalization and rehab.

B. YIH: Rathmann will develop another form letter for local high schools/colleges inviting them to experience barbershop harmony with the Sounds of Harmony Chorus. He asked the board to provide the name of a school or college/university and a phone number and he would do the rest.

C. Parades: Hand said we'll begin the parade season in June and will begin soliciting for parades shortly.

D. Fundraising: Spring show sponsorships were discussed during the Marketing & PR report.

E. Uniforms: A brief discussion ensued during the marketing and PR report about the chapter possibly purchasing some insurance to cover the chapter's physical assets (e.g.: float, uniforms, etc).

VII. Communications: None received.

VIII. Unfinished Business

A: Budget committee: No report at this time. First meeting scheduled for Tuesday, April 28, 2026 at 6:00 pm at the rehearsal hall (Bill, Tom, Chuck & Steve Martin).

IX. New Business

A: During the House of Delegates meeting on March 20, 2026 in Bloomington, President Rathmann had a discussion with District Treasurer Leif Wildman regarding Restricted versus Unrestricted chapter funds. Rathmann briefed the board about this discussion:

Restricted Funds: May only be used for chapter-related expenses (e.g.: music, costumes, etc.) These funds may not be used to pay a chapter member's dues or for chapter-related recreational use.

Non-Restricted Funds: Funds received from dues, gifts or donations (e.g.: money used to pay for the installation banquet dinner). In the case of our Spring show, the chapter must post on the flyer for the event what these donations are going to be used for. Any money that has not been declared goes into the Restricted Fund. Bill stated: "it's a gray area." Schulte stated that it's safer for these undeclared funds to go into the Restricted Funds. Our mission as an organization is two-fold; 1 Music Education and 2) Fellowship.

B: Dohogne asked if moving rehearsal sites was off the table. Rathmann said that it is not off the table; just on the back burner. One major reason for not moving was the cost of \$50/week or \$200/month at the Church of The Nazarene in Fairview Heights.

C: Rathmann said that Don and David Koch informed him that they may need to start charging the chapter for utilities at the new storage shed. More discussion to follow.

X. Next Meeting Date: Monday, May 18, 2026.

XI. Motion to adjourn: Motion by Hand, seconded by Cook at 8:20 pm. Passed.

Respectfully Submitted:

Jim Morgan

Chapter Secretary