AMTA Board of Directors
Work Session
January 26, 2026
7:00-9:00pm ET / 6:00-8:00pm CT

Present: Leslie Henry, Angie Snell, Brian Jantz, Nicole Bowen, Marta Hernández Candelas, BriAnne Weaver, Krista Cole-Furstenberg, Nicole Hahna, Steven Franco-Santiago, Megan McCausland, Peter Bendoris, Mia Krings (second half of meeting?)

7:00 pm ET — Welcome/Introductions — Leslie Henry

Meeting called to order. President Henry welcomed the 2026-27 Board of Directors and facilitated introductions.

President Henry oriented everyone to the meeting documents, previous communications, and reviewed how a consent agenda is utilized.

Discussed the meeting agenda, including the consent agenda. Use of a consent agenda supports both flexibility and efficient use of time.

7:15 pm ET — Agenda and Logistics — Leslie Henry

Motion 1: Move to accept the consent agenda as presented.

Author: Leslie Henry — Motion carried.

01/26/26 Board of Directors Work Session Agenda
2026 AMTA Symposium Dates October 4-7, 2026

Approval of Board of Directors Appointees
DEIAJ Board of Directors Members - Dr. Melanie Kwan
Council Coordinator on Professional Services - Mia Krings
Parliamentarian - Gary Verhagen

AMTA Standing Committee Chairs (Co-Chairs)
APAC Dr. Maureen Hearns & Carmen Osburn
AIAC Chrissy Watson & Rachael Lawrence Lupton
Continuing Education Dr. Dawn Iwamasa
Professional Advocacy Tracy Wanamaker & Maggie Conners
Workforce Retention and Development BriAnne Weaver & Jessica Fletcher
Technology Committee Noa Ferguson

Special Appointees
AMTAS Advisor Dr. Flor del Cielo Hernandez
Crisis and Disaster Recovery Task Force Dr. Becky Wellman & Dr. Jen Sokira

7:30 pm ET President Updates Leslie Henry

President Henry

- Thanked the Board for responding to the board communications this month and for casting votes for the online motions. The following items were approved:
    - o Re-appointment of Dr. Becky Engen, Council Coordinator for Education and Clinical Training
    - o Re-appointment of Megan McCausland, Treasurer
    - o Approved the following people as Ad Hoc Member of APAC: Brea Murakami, Dr. Christopher Beach, Barbara Ashton
    - o Approved a new Bachelor of Arts in Music with a Concentration in Music Therapy / Equivalency degree program at the University of Louisiana Monroe, pending the hiring of a qualified Academic Program Director.
- President Henry is gathering APAC transitional information from Past President Snell and the co-chairs to support efficient work balance and workflow.
- AMTA is discussing various webinar topics to add to the AMTA-U platform, such as psychological first aide, ethical decision making, and sustainable practices during a crisis.
- President Henry is working with AMTA ICOO Peter Bendoris and Communications Consultant Michelle Muth on the AMTA communications plan and schedule that is already in process. The plan includes:
    - o Regular Community Updates
    - o Government Relations Reports
    - o Quarterly Board of Directors Updates
    - o Information to Update the Community about the upcoming new AMTA website

- President Henry recently represented AMTA at the NCCATA meeting. Each organization was encouraged to share three opportunities with their membership, including an NEA research grant, openings on a review panel, and a practitioner's grant. The next NCCATA meeting is scheduled for April, 2026. The organizations present shared information and association management strategies.
- AMTA ICOO Peter Bendoris updated the Board on progress being made toward a more efficient book management system for AMTA The vendor, Bright Key Solutions, will provide third-party book fulfilment for the Association and AMTA will retain all sales decisions and copyrights for the AMTA inventory.
- Reviewed ongoing practices in monitoring association finances as AMTA continues to gradually build staff capacity to allow the Board to more fully focus on its visionary role and responsibilities.

- President Henry discussed the board work schedule to include a regular monthly schedule.
- Reviewed the partially anonymized process used to identify and recommend appointees. President Henry accepted the appointee recommendations for the Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Access, and Justice Representative Board positions from the review committee who's work carried over from the previous term.

7:50 pm ET **Board Orientation** **Leslie Henry**
Brian Jantz

- President Henry and President Elect Jantz presented Part I of the Board Orientation. Each section of the orientation will be spread out in digestible portions over the new few Board meetings.
    - Board of Directors Guiding Questions
    - Presidential Strategy
    - Proposed 2026 meeting schedule
    - Subgroups of the Board to work on targeted priorities between Board meetings
    - Member Recognition
    - Community agreements
    - New Income Streams
    - Board Communication

8:15 pm ET Competency Review Task Force Recommendations
Angie Snell
BriAnne Weaver

Speaker Weaver and Past President Snell reviewed the CRTF history and timeline, along with the work of the Assembly from the previous term in providing feedback and questions to the Board.

- Discussed
    - Documents
    - Feedback
    - Next Steps, including
        - Explore options to support the competencies as a living document
        - Explore options for an AMTA body/committee/workgroup to review and update competencies on a regular basis
        - Consult with APAC and AIAC
        - Board responsibility to format the document
        - Board members available to meet before the 02/09/26 Assembly Meeting to further explore action steps
        - Speaker Weaver and Past President Snell to update the Assembly 02/09/26

8:52 pm ET **Treasurer Update** **Megan McCausland**

Treasurer McCausland reported that the 2026 budget was approved during the last term. She provided an overview of income and expenses for the 2026 budget year.

- Budgeted Income of $952,598
- Budgeted Expenses of $949,075
- Net Income of $3523.00

9:00 pm ET Communications Discussion Leslie Henry

- The Board of Directors agreed to compose a statement on ICE activity in Minnesota. Due to varied members time zones, it was agreed to have a voluntary discussion after meeting adjournment and continue drafting a statement via a shared Google Document.

9:25 pm ET Final Points Leslie Henry

President Henry provided reminders.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, February 25, 2026
8:00 PM AT / 7:00 PM ET /6:00 PM ET / 5:00 PM MT / 4:00 PM PAC

Motion 1: Move to adjourn the meeting.
Author: Angie Snell Motion carried.

9:27 pm ET Adjournment