

Meeting Minutes

August 11, 2025 / 7:00 PM / OHS Band Room

Attendees: Mitch Piersma/Director, Jessica Grove/Director, Tami Stout/Co-President, Sarah Patin/Co-President, Tracy Marks/Vice President, Jena Jacobs/Treasurer, Jessica Wilson/Secretary

Absent: None

Agenda:

1. Approved June 9, 2025 Meeting Minutes

2. Next Meeting: September 9, 2025

3. Fundraiser Updates

➤ Upcoming

- Food booth at Gus Macker- Aug 23-24
- SnapRaise- Start date Sep 2nd
- Band-A-Thon- Nov 21-22, 4:00 pm - 4:00 pm
 - Consider combining with Every Quarter Counts for silent auction (Tracy will reach out to them to see if they would partner with us, and how much of a percentage they would require)

➤ Ongoing

- RaiseRight
- Amazon Wish List - <https://a.co/8Ee8U12>

➤ Other Ideas

- Allegan Event Center (after marching season 2025). We would receive 20% of all sales generated by Otsego Bands, when we have 20+ signed up. The combo ticket (allowing all activities) is \$35.50. That would give us roughly \$7 per combo ticket sold. They also have tickets for specific activities that cost less. A good date for this may be December 11th or 18th (must be on a Thursday).
- Pizza Hut and other local restaurants (Culvers, Noodles and Co) offer different percentages to our group for helping in the restaurant for an evening.
- Hype Socks (?poor quality)
- WMU Tickets for an athletic event (hockey, basketball). We would receive \$6 from the sale of each ticket from the band.
- Pretzel Sales. We would receive 50% of all sales. Product arrives 3 weeks after order is received.

- A blanket/towel sale. This could be a fun item we sell to have a new towel for the beach or for the bus ride on the way to Florida.
- Coupon Books for the Plainwell, Allegan, Kalamazoo and Battle Creek Areas. The books are \$25 each, we receive \$12.50 for each book sold. No upfront fees, sold on consignment. Would make great holiday gifts. If we run the sale before Thanksgiving they will arrive before Christmas.
- Growlers Base Ball Game in the spring. This would be a great opportunity to help replenish our accounts after our Florida Trip. The band would play the National Anthem before the game. Similar to WMU, we would receive a portion of the tickets our Otsego Bands sell.
- Book fundraiser

4. Bank Balances

Honor Credit Union (Updated 08/11/2025)

Savings:	\$ 5.00
Checking:	\$31,710.53
Marching:	\$ 44.45
Tengam Band	\$10,088.97
Tengam Choir	\$ 68.85
<u>Trip</u>	<u>\$70,309.12</u>
Total:	\$112,226.92

PayPal Balance: \$13,727.03 will be transferred to bank account after noting payments for students/OBI entries/OBI ads)

TOTAL for all accounts (Bank and PayPal): \$125,953.95

5. Upcoming/Recent Purchases

- Mallets- \$1285.06
- Grill: Estimates for what we require \$550-\$650. This is an item we would need to order in advance.

6. Upcoming Events

- Aug 11 & 12, Marching band rehearsal
- Aug 23-24, Gus Macker
- Sep 5, Home Football Game (**no purple game this year)
- Sep 12, Home Football Game
- Sep 20, Portage Central Invitational
- Sep 27, Otsego Band Invitational
- Oct 3, Home Football Game
- Oct 4, Hastings Invitational
- Oct 11, Kenowa Hills & Vicksburg
- Oct 17, Home Football Game
- Oct 18, Reeths Puffer at Mona Shores

- Nov 21-22, Band-A-Thon

7. Old Business

- Theme shirt order/Whites order
 - Expected shipping date: Aug 12
 - Whites order should be arriving by 8/13: may have a few items delayed until the end of Aug/beginning of Sept but Jen has some items in extras supply to cover late items
- Generic band merchandise sale
 - Sarah finalized orderform with B&C Trophy
 - Timeline- will go live tomorrow, closes 8/24/25, individuals pick up their orders at store
- OBI planning underway
 - Next meeting- Aug 26
 - OBI program 10 business/5 student ads placed. Ad deadline 8/29

8. New Business

- Band camp recap- meet & greet, senior breakfast, water jugs, cookout
- Gus Macker menu- eliminate candy and brats
- Chris Creviston (1986 OHS grad, professional sax player, Arizona State Univ professor) visit planned during week of MS/HS Christmas concerts, will also hold a saxophone master class on that Wednesday in OHS auditorium for area sax players. He will play with symphonic band during their concert.
- When to pay Florida trip money from band account? Ideally, this needs to be paid before families have paid too much, which would require reimbursement. OBB plans to make this payment after SnapRaise and OBI fundraisers are complete. Jena will reach out to travel company to confirm details.
- BOE meeting attendant suggested getting in front of parents/students earlier in elementary rather than waiting until 5th grade. Another suggestion was to promote music education opportunities in our communities. This is already done in several ways (elementary tour at Christmas, Marching Band performance for elementary schools, instrument petting zoo at elementary school, community Jazz Band Concert; maybe we need to invite BOE to watch some of these events)
- We will have an Otsego Band Booster table at the OMS open house on Monday, Aug 18, to give info, recruit parent volunteers, etc.
- Plan to have senior banners at the stadium this fall, Sonia Kling took photos of seniors 8/11. Will need to reschedule senior group photo. Sonia is available to take individual photos of non-seniors on 9/5, parents will have opportunity to order individual photos of their student.
- Opportunity to purchase Yard Signs and "Big Heads" of your band student. This is a fundraiser for the Cheerleaders this fall. Traditionally the yard signs are displayed before OBI, so the visitors to Otsego can see our support. The Big Head is a photo of your band

member that is large and on a stick so you can easily wave this at competitions and football games.

Reminder: When making purchases, please take a picture of the receipt and email to the treasurer@otsegobands.com so Jena can reconcile with the account as the charges come through.