



MD5 Council Business Meeting Minutes
Zoom
March 23, 2024

COG Attendance: CC Jeanette Bean, Secretary Lion Lois Reierson, Treasurer PCC John Emmett, 5SKN DG Bernie Kramchynsky, 5SKS SK Rep Alvin Matechuk, 5SE DG LeeAnn Haisch, 5NE DG Rick Stark, 5SW SD Rep Richard Waits, 5SW DG James Treloar, 5SW 1st VDG Frances Waits, 5NE VCC Scott Hildre, 5SKS 1st VDG Heather Vermeersch, 5NW 2nd VDG Karen DaSilva, 5SKS 2nd VDG Page Newton, 5SKN 2nd VDG Brian Starkell, ND State Rep Kevin Bean, 5NW DG Lynn Grabow, 5SKN 1st VDG Ray Tatro, 5SE 1st VDG Dennis Bohmont, 5NE 2nd VDG Paula Western Swanson, IPCC Marianne Kramchynsky

COG Absent: 5NE 1st VDG Kirk Tingum, 5NW 1st VDG Lynn Helms, 5SW 2nd VDG Darryl Moll,

PID's Attendance: IPID Pat Vannett, PID Robert Littlefield and PID Bruce Schwartz

GAT Attendance: GMT Chair PDG Mark Koller, GST Chair Karen DaSilva, and GLT PID Robert Littlefield

GAT Absent:

Others in Attendance: Lion Crystal Dueker, PDG Gail Haight, PDG Jay Norby, PDG Rob Hill, PCC Tim Haight, PDG Gary Roadifer (Wyoming) and PDG Craig Thompson (Wyoming)

Meeting called to order at 10:33 AM by CC Jeanette Bean.

Anthems Oh Canada and Star Bangled Banner

Adopt Agenda – Motion by DG Lynn Grabow and seconded by DG Bernie Kramchynsky to adopt the agenda with the addition of SWOT Analysis to Old Business. Motion carried.

Protocol – PIDs in attendance and Area Leaders PDG Jay Norby and PDG Gail Haight were introduced. Pat introduced PDG Gary Roadifer, ID candidate from Wyoming. He asked for support from MD5 Lions attending the International Convention.

VDG Heather Vermeersch reported that DG Lane Johnson has resigned from his DG position effective immediately and asked that Lions refrain from sending any correspondence to him. VDG Heather has stepped up into the DG position for SKS.

Correspondence – Thank you note from William Gackle family for the flowers sent from MD5.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Minutes from the November 18, 2023 Zoom meeting were emailed and posted on the MD5 Council of Governors One Drive by Lion Lois Reierson. Motion by DG Rick Stark and seconded by DG LeeAnn Haisch to approve the November 18, 2023 meeting minutes as emailed and posted. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

PCC John Emmett reported there has been little change since the last meeting. The Accounts Receivable are due to bills sent out and not paid. PCC John is working with the one district that hasn't paid their dues. The mileage reimbursement for council members was raised in November but the budget wasn't changed. The Balance Sheet shows the designated funds. The CD includes accrued interest. \$19.47 interest was received on the savings account and \$2600 interest on the CD.

The committee agreed to renew the current CD and add another \$25,000 CD with 4.6% interest rate. The Finance Committee discussed the funding request received from the Lions of Canada, which can be found on the One Drive, and is recommending that MD5 not donate to this but refer it back to each district to decide if they wish to donate.

Reimbursement was paid for a Lion that attended an ALLI. Their district paid a portion and \$800 was paid by MD5.

Peace essay checks have not been sent because PCC John has been unable to get the names and addresses of the students. DG Rick Stark will contact Tracy Wicken.

MD5 is in a strong financial position. Marketing and training are areas the MD might consider.

Motion by DG Lynn Grabow and seconded by PDG Alvin Matechuk to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. Motion carried.

REPORTS

Mission 1.5/Global Membership Approach (GMA) – PDG Gail Haight and PDG Jay Norby submitted reports. PID Pat Vannett showed a graph with a positive 127 membership for MD5. The three-year retention rate is low which indicates people coming in may be losing enthusiasm. Adding members brings back service to communities. The MD has over 3000 members over age 65 so focusing on adding members under age 50 is important.

PDG Gail reported the progress we are making is good.

PDG Jay congratulated MD5. He is here to help. If you have a membership drive or other needs, reach out to him because he is ready to come out and help.

Thank you to PID Robert for organizing the build a vision session with all districts during the VDG training.

State and Provincial Reps

PCC Kevin Bean – IT, Marketing and PR

PCC Kevin will present a recommendation for the website under new business.

The target date for the LCI Portal change is April 15 to May 15. It will be rolled out in phases. April 12, LCI and insights will no longer be available under the current method. May 13, all visitors will be redirected to the new portal. Insights will still be there but must use the portal to get there. Experience for Lions and officers will be good because once you get used to the format it is simple. There are visual aids on YouTube. A preview of the new portal will be shown at the 5NW spring rally.

PDG Alvin Matechuk – Convention

No report. DG LeeAnn is on the committee. PDG Alvin will add a PID on the committee.

PDG Richard Waits – Finance, Constitution and By-Laws –

Constitution changes – Thank you to PDG Rob Hill and PCC Rick Pockett. The changes proposed by the committee were emailed. In the emailed version, the yellow highlighted is in old MD5 Constitution, black and white is what is in Int'l Constitution and changed in the MD5 Constitution to align with LCI.

1.Article VI Sec 2 – the committee brought forward a suggestion to change who will fill the MD5 Vice Council Chair position.

Current Constitution

Article VI

Section 2. OFFICERS

The officers of the Multiple District shall be:

B) The Vice Council Chairperson of the Council, who shall be the immediate Past District Governor of the District in the state or province hosting the next Multiple District Convention. The Vice Council Chairperson shall fill the position of state or provincial representative for their respective state or province.

Proposed change from the committee

Article VI. 2. B

B) The Vice Council Chairperson shall be filled by the state or provincial representative of the state or province hosting the next Multiple District Convention.

2.The committee brought forward a suggestion in Article VI. 1. B to eliminate the last sentence - The State or Provincial Representatives shall serve for a one-year term only and cannot serve in that capacity again. The committee suggested that limiting the Rep position to a one-year term is a handicap to the council and to build up the committees, more than one year in the position is needed. The committee thought the fact that this didn't get changed may have been an oversight when the constitution was changed last year. It was suggested that the reps could still serve on the committees. There were two letters of interest submitted for the Rep positions. One from SD and one from ND. It is good to allow other PDGs to move into these roles and further their leadership. Since this is the first group, it was suggested to see how it works and make future changes if needed. It was noted there is a \$1500 budget for state/provincial reps. By changing from two to four years of PDGs, this expands the pool to 5 from each district. Current reps can stay involved by being committee chairs. The council agreed the one-year limit to serve as state/provincial rep. should remain in place.

3.Proposed change in Article VI. Sec 1 B – the committee proposed a change to change the number of PDGs that can be considered for the State/Provincial Rep. positions.

Current Constitution

Article VI. 1. B

Three immediate Past District Governors and/or Past District Governors from the previous **two** years, which number cannot exceed one-half of the number of District Governors who shall have been elected by the voting delegates of their respective province or state at the Multiple District Convention meeting of the previous fiscal year. There shall be at least one (1) immediate Past District Governor or Past District Governor from the previous **two** years each from Saskatchewan, North Dakota, and South Dakota. The State or Provincial Representatives shall serve for a one-year term only and cannot serve in that capacity again.

Proposed Constitution Change

B) Three immediate Past District Governors and/or Past District Governors from the previous **four** years, which number cannot exceed one-half of the number of District Governors who shall have been elected by the voting delegates of their respective province or state at the Multiple District Convention meeting of the previous fiscal year. There shall be at least one (1) immediate Past District Governor or Past District Governor from the previous **four** years each from Saskatchewan, North Dakota, and South Dakota. The State or Provincial Representatives shall serve for a one-year term only and cannot serve in that capacity again.

Changes made to the constitution are effective July 1 the following year rather than the current year. DGs should identify who may run from your state. Policy and procedures would change after the Constitution is modified. The Constitution currently doesn't explain the process to replace a rep.

Recess taken at 12:50 pm and reconvened at 1:35 pm.

Motion by DG LeeAnn Haisch and seconded by DG Bernie Kramchynsky to approve the following amendments to be effective July 2025:

1. Article VI Sec 2 B to change who serves as the Vice Council Chair.
2. Article VI Sec 1 B to change the pool of PDGs eligible to run for State/Provincial Reps from two to four.

It was noted that the Policy & Procedures/Standard Operating Procedures Manual will be updated when the constitution is changed.

Long Range Planning – PID Pat submitted a report.

Recommendations from PID Pat's report:

- A. To provide continuity and long-range effectiveness, it is recommended that the major committees of the council be chaired by the State Reps. These committees include Membership, Leadership, Service, Extension and LCIF.
 - a. Each committee will develop an action plan with a proposed budget to meet the Target objectives of Mission 1.5
 - b. The proposal received regarding leadership development received from DGE Heather Vermeersch is referred to the Global Leadership Team to be considered in their plan of action.
 - c. The plans with budget requests are to be provided to the incoming CC and the Finance Committee no later than 30 days prior to the first Council meeting.

- B. It is recommended that the Leadership Development Committee provide the incoming council of governors and committee chairpersons orientation/onboarding during June of each year.

- C. To improve the effectiveness of the council meetings, it is recommended that all committees meet and provide a written report with any action items to the council chair thirty days prior to the next scheduled meeting.

- D. The Long-Range Planning Committee will work toward realigning the committees to be more closely with the standard structure that was adopted in 2017 by MD5. This will be completed prior to the May council meeting.

Under this structure, the GLT committee would work collaboratively with the Rep assigned to that committee to set up their committee. VDGs are part of the committees. The GLT oversees the training and leadership is more than training. The Rep would convene the team.

Motion by PDG Richard Waits and seconded by PCC Kevin Bean to accept the Long-Range Planning Committee recommendations. Motion carried.

Personnel – Scorecard results – CC Jeanette reported that she heard from three of the six DGs. Treasurer PCC John and Lion Lois are both doing a great job and the council is fortunate to have them and she recommends they continue in their positions for the next year.

GLT Report

PID Robert Littlefield submitted a written report. VDG training was completed with five sessions. The Summit is being held at the MD5 convention on May 16th. The Council of Governors has \$6500 and PID Pat has \$1600 to be used for the summit. Attendees may be reimbursed \$300. The focus is Aspire to Lead. The 3rd Int'l VP Mark Lyons will be part of the summit. DGEs are encouraged to bring their GATs. MD5 has funds for two zone chairs from each district.

There will be a Council officers organizational meeting on June 11th from 7:00 – 9:00 CDT.

GMT Report

PDG Mark Koller submitted a written report. MD5 has +127 members and growing.

Membership Development Grant money ran out but may be available again May 1st. He may do a Zoom meeting to assist with completing the application and come up with a frequently asked questions sheet.

\$1500 is available for each district and if used, they can apply for \$1500 more. \$4500 is available for the MD but only if the districts don't use the funds. More funds are available if the districts apply individually. The only way to be reimbursed is to start a new club. \$500 is for the new club. The funds can't be used for alcohol beverages.

PDG Mark would like to be part of monthly meetings that are happening. Membership, leadership and service should be meeting together. The 5NE leadership meets weekly.

GST

VDG Karen daSilva submitted a written report. VDG Karen is emailing a Haiti mission pledge form to DGs tomorrow. There are several pages of old future activities hanging out on the MyLion website. The event date has passed but the club has failed to follow up and report it as a completed activity. She will email DGs about outstanding events on MyLion in their district.

2024 LCI Melbourne Convention Update

The 106th LCI convention will be held in Melbourne, Australia June 21 – 25, 2024. Registration is currently \$265 and will be higher if paid at the convention. The Parade of Nations and first plenary sessions are on the 22nd. The President's address is the 23rd. The 2nd plenary sessions are on the 24th. The DGs are sworn in on the 25th. Voting takes place on Monday and Tuesday. The delegates will receive an email. Attendees need a current passport and visa. There is information on LCIcon. The weather will be cool so plan accordingly. Those attending should consider how many are going and what to bring for flags and banners. Lion Lois was asked to contact LCI to obtain a list of MD5 delegates.

PID Pat is attending as well as Marianne and Bernie Kramchynsky. Matching umbrellas was a suggestion to coordinate the group. PCC John will register the MD for the parade which can be done upon arrival on Thursday or Friday. There is no specific hotel assigned. VDGs will be notified which hotel they are in. The US districts will march together in the parade. VDG Heather Vermeersch said they purchased red jackets for DGs and partners with the MD5 emblem. Let VDG Heather know if there is interest in ordering one of these.

Protocol and Intl Guests Reminder

Guests confirmed for next year have been sent to incoming DGs. DGEs were sent the guest and protocol information. SW, SKS and NE have their Spring Rally LCI as paid guests. The other districts received their LCI paid guest for the convention.

LCIF Report – PDG Dave Czywczynski and PDG Rob Hill submitted written reports. PDG Rob indicated that contributions are low in both Canada and the US. Recognizing Melvin Jones Fellows at the convention is a way to bring awareness. There is no plan for recognition at this time.

Upcoming Conventions

MD5 Convention May 16-18, 2024 – Lions Kristin Michels/Kaylee Bourquin submitted their written report. There are 73 registered. The \$140 registration is open through March 24th. A \$95 one day registration and \$50 banquet only tickets were added.

Dining in the Dark – Only 1 table sponsorship has been received from 5SE. Table sponsorships are \$500. There are 17 registered as of now. It will be held at 5:00 on Friday which will give sufficient time for those attending to get back and attend the other convention festivities at 7:00. Council members are encouraged to support Dining in the Dark. All districts were challenged to sponsor a table. Thank you was extended to Kristin, KayLee and the entire committee for a great job. It was noted IVP Mark Lyons is coming in on Wednesday.

Summit Update – PDG Rob Hill – previously reported.

Red Jacket Luncheon – PCC John the DG name tags were ordered and received, and he will get those to the DGs at the convention. The red jackets are in, but PDG tags need to be reordered. Incoming DGs should verify their jacket size, since they don't have the opportunity to try jackets on at the March meeting and send the information to PCC John. Patches will be on and ready for the ceremony at the convention.

Senior Counselor Award Luncheon – Lion Lois Reiersen reported the PDGs from each district were identified and some have responded. It doesn't appear that there will be any senior counselors in attendance at the MD convention. Current DGs could talk about the Senior Counselor from their district even if they are not in attendance. Another speaker needs to be identified for this and shouldn't be listed as Senior Counselor luncheon if none of them will be attending.

Credentials Committee – Club voting delegate number change with discounted memberships – CC Jeanette Bean read the notice from LCI regarding what constitutes a full dues paying member to count toward the club

delegate number for conventions. A family member doesn't count to determine the delegate number, but a family member can be a voting delegate. Club voting delegate numbers are based on the previous year. A club has to be in good standing with their paid dues to vote. PCC John will have the list of districts/clubs in good standing. DGs should have a list of clubs in their district of which clubs are in good standing and speak with clubs prior to the convention that are not in good standing. A district that hasn't paid dues loses voting rights.

State Conventions

North Dakota State Convention will be held in Fargo on October 18 – 19, 2024 -

South Dakota State Convention will be held at the Gulch in Deadwood on Sept 27 – 28, 2024 – Lion Sharon Martinisko is the chair.

Saskatchewan State Convention will be held in Moosejaw on Oct 25 - 26, 2024

Youth Camp

There was no report from PDG Judy Beaudry. PCC Kevin Bean shared camp information from Lion Donna Wetz. Youth camp will be held at Bear Butte, SD on July 7 – 13. Many events are planned for the youth. The fee is \$500. Applications are due by June 1. Lion Lois emailed camp information to council members. The camp accepts children ages 15 – 22. They are looking for host families.

They are possibly accepting students outside of MD5.

OLD BUSINESS

SWOT

Agenda item moved the November to March agenda. Many of the things identified in the SWOT analysis have been incorporated. It was suggested to review again in August to see how we are doing. Long range planning was part of the SWOT analysis.

Ice Breaker Responsibility for August Meeting

SK is responsible for the ice breaker/breakfast at the August council meeting.

Reminder of DG's Annual Reports - due May 1, 2024 – send to CC Jeanette and she will send to PCC Rick Pockett

NEW BUSINESS

Act on recommendations from committees –

PCC Kevin Bean brought forward a recommendation for a new MD website. The MD5 website is outdated and not functional. It doesn't have the capability to advertise and get the word out to Lions and the public. PCC Kevin spoke with Drew Ogden who owns the marketing development company that MD35 utilizes. The cost would be \$15,000 per year and would cover the MD and all 6 districts plus the cost would be \$150 per club, if they want to be included. MD5 currently has a free website. The website would have the capability to access other links such as district websites or newsletters. This company would update the website. All Lion emails would be in his database so an email can be sent out directly to all Lions. He has been working with MD35 in Florida for 3 years. He reports directly to the Council of Governors and is a trustworthy vendor. VDG Page Newton is on the Marketing Committee and expressed her thoughts that it works well but information has to be fed into it so there are still challenges. She would like to see what Sales Force, through LCI, will have to offer. Drew stated his company manages the website for MD35, one district and 50 clubs. They utilize the website to communicate with Lions what used to be communicated in a newsletter. All websites must be ADA compliant and the LCI website may not comply. The agreement with this company would be for one year so could end the agreement after one year. There is funding through an LCI grant so the cost to the MD would be \$1500. The grant requires a report from the District Governors. Questions were raised about whether it will serve the members or is money better spent on training or using Sales Force and how we pay for the cost on a continuing basis. Florida did not raise dues for this service. It could also be used for a district directory. It was suggested to have the Finance and Marketing Committees meet to further discuss the options. Motion by DG LeeAnn Haisch and seconded by DG

James Treloar to table discussion. DG LeeAnn Haisch amended the motion and PCC Kevin Bean seconded to table the discussion or vote until the May 17th council meeting.

Future venue – Lion Lois informed the council that the Grand in Minot has been sold and the costs are increasing significantly. Alternate venues are being considered in Bismarck. The casino in Devils Lake was suggested as a possibility. A venue in Estevan was also suggested. It was noted there are more that travel from the US than SK. It was suggested to form a committee from SK, SD ND to bring options to the May meeting for the August meeting. VDG Heather Vermeersch will be part of the committee. It was suggested to ask for bids from hotels. The November meeting is always a Zoom meeting per motion in May 2023. The suggestion was to have CC Jeanette select a committee and they meet prior to the MD5 convention. DG Lynn Grabow is interested.

Other Business

2024/2025 Council Chair Election – CC Jeanette Bean - State/Provincial Reps – Council of Governors to ratify State/Provincial Reps Applications GMT, GLT, GST Elections

CC Jeanette Bean reported interviews for GMT and GLT were conducted. There was only one applicant for the GMT and GLT positions. There were no applicants for the GST position. PDG Mark Koller was recommended by the interview committee for the GMT Chair position. PCC Tim Haight was recommended by the interview committee for the GLT Chair position.

DG LeeAnn Haisch was the only one that submitted a letter of intent for the Council Chair position.

DG Bernie Kramchynsky moved, and DG Rick Stark seconded to nominate DG LeeAnn Haisch for the 24/25 Council Chair. Motion carried. PDG LeeAnn addressed the council. With only one candidate, a vote to support or not support PDG LeeAnn as CC was completed via Zoom Chat to PID Robert who tallied the votes and announced that it was a unanimous ballot for PDG LeeAnn Haisch for Council Chair.

DG Lynn Grabow moved and DG Bernie Kramchynsky seconded to approve PDG Mark Koller for GMT and PCC Tim Haight for GLT as presented. Motion carried.

PCC John Emmett moved from the floor and DG LeeAnn Haisch seconded to nominate CC Jeanette Bean for the GST Chair position pending a successful interview. Motion carried.

CC Comments – CC Jeanette thanked all council members.

Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 4:30 PM.

FUTURE MEETING DATES and CONVENTIONS

May 16, 2024 – MD5 Convention – Sleep Inn – Minot, ND

August 16 – 17, 2024 – Council of Governors Meeting - Place TBD

September 27 – 28 – SD State Convention - Gulch – Deadwood SD

October 18 – 19, 2024 – ND State Convention - Fargo ND

October 25 – 26, 2024 – SK Convention - Moosejaw

March 21 – 22, 2025 – Council of Governors Meeting - place TBD

May 29 – 31, 2025 – MD5 Convention - Dakota Dunes Casino and Resort south of Saskatoon. They have RV parking.

Respectfully submitted,

Lion Lois Reiersen
MD5 Council Secretary