



**MD5 Council Business Meeting Minutes  
Holiday Inn – Bismarck ND  
August 17, 2024 – 10:00 AM**

**COG Attendance:**

CC LeeAnn Haisch, Secretary Lion Lois Reiersen, Treasurer PCC John Emmett,

**State/Provincial Reps:** SK Rep Don Morris (via Zoom), ND Rep Rick Stark, SD Rep Dave Pigors

**DGs:** 5SKN DG Ray Tatro, 5SW Frances Waits, 5SE Dennis Bohmont, 5NE Kirk Tingum, 5NW Lynn Helms, and 5SKS Heather Vermeersch (via Zoom)

**FVDGs:** 5SKN Brian Starkell, 5SKS Page Newton, 5SW Daryl Moll, 5SE Reid Christopherson, 5NW Karen DaSilva

**Absent FVDGs:** 5NE Paula Swanson,

**2<sup>nd</sup> VDGs:** 5SE Jackie Cerkowniak (via Zoom), 5NE Kristi Swenson,

**Absent 2<sup>nd</sup> VDGs:** 5SKN Randy Braaten, 5NW Jacob Thrailkill

**GAT Team:** GET Chair Lynn Grabow, GST Chair Jeanette Bean, GMT Mark Koller, GLT Tim Haight

**Committee Chairs:** IT/Marketing Chair Kevin Bean, Constitution & By-Laws Chair Scott Hildre, New Voices Chair Crystal Dueker, 2025 Convention Chair Marianne Kramchynsky (via Zoom)

**PIDs:** Bruce Schwartz

**Others in Attendance:** CAII GAT PDG Gail Haight and Lion Kathy Emmett

**Meeting called to order** at 10:00 AM by CC LeeAnn Haisch.

All in attendance introduced themselves.

It was noted that PIDs, State/Provincial Reps and DGs can make motions and vote.

**Anthems** Oh Canada and Star Spangled Banner were sung led by PID Bruce Schwartz.

**Adopt Agenda** – Additions to the agenda under New Business Action items:

Add #7 – Resolution to endorse PID Tony Benbow as candidate for International Third VP

Add #8 – Access to Reserve Funds

Motion by DG Lynn Helms and seconded by DG Frances Waits to adopt the agenda with the additions. Motion carried.

**Correspondence** – None

**SECRETARY'S REPORT**

Minutes from the May 17, 2024 meeting were emailed and posted on the MD5 Council of Governors One Drive by Lion Lois Reiersen. Motion by DG Dennis Bohmont and seconded by DG Lynn Helms to approve the May 17, 2024 meeting minutes as emailed and posted. Motion carried.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

PCC John Emmett provided the year-end financial review. Revenue exceeded expenses, which was partially due to the March council meeting being held via zoom.

Designated funds – RLLI fund has \$3000 and LCIF Calendars has \$6,000. MD5 is in the last year of the five-year commitment on calendars. Each district is billed \$1000.

The 2024 MD5 convention in Minot had a \$81.15 profit which was after the \$2000 advance was paid back.

All DGs were provided with a copy of the financial statements for the year ending June 30, 2024 as prepared by Hopfinger & Merriman, Ltd.

Motion by PCC John Emmett and seconded by DG Kirk Tingum to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. Motion Carried.

PCC John Emmett reviewed the proposed 24/25 budget. The committee met and established a proposed budget that was emailed. The committee met again on August 16<sup>th</sup> and recommended an addition of \$3,000 for GET. Proposed budget page 2 – GMT and GLT requested \$4000 each and GST requested \$400. No budget amount was included for GET. PDG Lynn Grabow stated he was asked to come to SKS to assist and there will be expenses involved. GET is requesting \$500 for each district for a total of \$3000. It was noted the GET committee can come back to the council and request additional funds, if needed.

\$15000 is budgeted for a summit. Summit costs last year were more than previous years because the MD5 paid the convention registration fee for anyone who attended the summit.

The finance committee recommends including \$3000 for GETs. Motion by DG Ray Tatro and seconded by DG Frances Waits to approve the budget with the addition of \$4000 for GET to be in line with the GMT and GLT budgets.

It was noted the funds for the committees can be used at their discretion.

Motion carried.

## **REPORTS**

### **State and Provincial Representatives**

PDG Dave Pigors submitted his report. He was assigned to GST. He noted he doesn't believe the district GST coordinators know they are on the MD5 GST committee even though they have been invited. It was suggested to be aware of time zones when sending out invitations for meetings.

VCC Don Morris submitted his report with nothing further to report.

PDG Rick Stark submitted his report with nothing further to report.

DG Kirk Tingum moved, and DG Lynn Helms seconded to accept the State/Provincial Rep reports. Motion carried.

### **Long Range Planning**

PDG Don Morris reported the committee met and PID Pat submitted a report. He highlighted the four things the committee is working on which are listed in the Long-Range Planning report submitted by PID Pat Vannett.

Motion by Dennis Bohmont and seconded by DG Frances Waits to accept the Long-Range Planning Committee report. Motion carried.

### **GLT**

PCC Tim Haight submitted his report with his plans for training. The committee is waiting for the information regarding more things for VDGs that were listed in PID Pat's report. The committee is considering an RLLI in the spring and will look to the council for direction on an ELLI next year.

Motion by DG Kirk Tingum and seconded by DG Ray Tatro to accept the GLT Committee report. Motion carried.

### **GMT**

PDG Mark Koller submitted his report and noted that he attended the summit in Chicago which targeted Mission 1.5. Four of our six districts were represented at the summit. Information was shared between multiple districts, and they reviewed goals. +338 members is the MD5 goal. DGs should talk to their GAT team and see what we need to change to get to the goal. Our MD was number two in the CA for growth. PDG Lynn Grabow was a speaker in a plenary session. DGs were advised to revise their plans as soon as possible and those changes should go into LCI ASAP.

There is an overlap with membership and extension. Districts should consider specialty clubs which are clubs that are passionate about an idea. GET to help start new clubs and GMT is to help clubs build on membership. Retention as well as recruitment is important. It was noted that taking the +2 concept is more achievable when talking with clubs than talking about mission 1.5. CAI has a net goal of +3 per club. Some clubs promote replacing yourself so bring in one new member every year to replace you. Some are considering an incentive to bring in new members.

Motion by DG Kirk Tingum and seconded by DG Dennis Bohmont to accept the GMT Committee report. Motion carried.

### **GST**

PCC Jeanette Bean submitted her report. The Rookie Lion Award certificate and criteria were circulated. This award will help with giving new Lions more information. Mentors should encourage new members with this award. The Roarin Lion Award was used in 5NW at one time. DG Lynn Helms moved, and DG Frances Waits seconded the motion to accept the GST Committee report. Motion carried.

### **GET**

PDG Lynn Grabow reported he is getting plans put together to assist districts. He was encouraged to do a video about starting a new club that can be used by LCI. Moosejaw will be his first commitment. It was suggested that more Certified Guiding Lions be trained so districts are prepared when new clubs are started. There were twenty-four new Guiding Lions trained in MD5 this past year. The training should be open to everyone and not just those in an area where a new club is being considered. There is a class available through LCI but having a group of people together is a valuable experience rather than taking the course online individually. The DG cannot be the Guiding Lion for a club. Districts could consider adding Guiding Lion training at spring rallies to get more trained.

A Faculty Development Instructor should be in charge of the training. Member orientation should be considered at the club level for all members and not just new members.

Motion by DG Kirk Tingum and seconded by DG Ray Tatro to accept the GET Committee report. Motion carried.

### **2024 LCON Melbourne**

PCC John Emmett reported on the Melbourne LCI convention with 14,900 in attendance. All MD5 DGs attended the convention. The five US candidates were elected to the LCI Board.

Attendees must be certified by their club to be a delegate. LCI sends voting credentials to the member. If going to a convention look at tours post-convention.

Motion by DG Dennis Bohmont and seconded by DG Frances Waits to approve 2024 LCON Melbourne Convention report. Motion carried.

### **Protocol International Guest**

PID Bruce Schwartz noted the LCI name change to Lions International. DGs were provided with a packet with information on the LI awards. There are five awards given by Lions International. Ambassador of Good Will is given to 55 – 70 people each year. The President's Medal, President's Leadership Medal and Certificate of Appreciation (the 4<sup>th</sup> highest award) are all given by the LI President. DGs will receive a call from their convention visiting speaker and will be asked for suggestions for Certificates of Appreciation. The visiting speaker will bring the completed certificate to the convention for presentation at the state/provincial convention. It is recommended to only do three certificates. Individuals can receive additional certificates at any time. Certificates can also be presented at spring rallies. The fifth award is the GAT Certificates of Appreciation but those were not covered at this meeting.

A list of past recipients of the Presidential and Leadership Medals was provided in the packet to assist in the selection process. These are presented at the MD convention. A nomination doesn't mean they will receive the award. Motion by St. Rep Rick Stark and seconded by DG Frances Waits to approve the Protocol International Guest report. Motion carried.

Recessed at 11:51 AM and reconvened at 1:05 PM.

### **LCIF Report**

PDG Dave Czywczynski and PDG Rob Hill submitted their reports. DGs are asked to have their cabinets donate to LCIF. Clubs donate but LCIF needs individual donors as well. Kudos to MD5 for their donations. Motion by DG Frances Waits and seconded by DG Dennis Bohmont to accept the LCIF reports as written. Motion carried.

### **2025 MD5 Convention**

PCC Marianne Kramchynsky reported the resort is asking for \$25,000 at this time. This is unique to this resort because most venues request payment when the convention is done. This is a higher end resort. She was not aware when signing the contract that they were requiring the \$25,000 now. The resort accepted the \$2000 payment but stated 50% is due on signing. She is requesting a check from MD5 for \$10,000 which will be refunded from registration fees when they come in. She wants to charge less than \$240 Canadian funds to encourage registrations if the LI President will be the guest. She wants guidance on registration fees. With 150 registrants, the \$6,000 expected shortfall is low. Food costs are estimated at \$120 per day per person and room costs are \$189 plus tax Canadian. The Dunes does not provide any comp'd items but there may be some room for negotiation. She is hoping the Dunes will accept a down payment now with the \$10,00 and work with them for the rest. She indicated the credit application is not needed at this time. She will put together a budget. No outside catering is allowed at the resort. PCC John Emmett stated the DG expenses are not a convention expense but are covered under their LCI expenses.

PCC John Emmett stated the convention is allowed \$2000 to get the convention off the ground with the expectation that the \$2000 is repaid. Expectation is all money comes back so MD is not paying anything. The Dunes opened about 2 years ago so there is no concern about it going out of business. The Dunes is being declared a UNESCO world heritage site in 2025. PCC Marianne will develop a budget.

Motion by DG Lynn Helms and seconded by DG Frances Waits to accept the 2025 MD5 Convention report as written. Motion carried.

### **2024 Youth/Camp Exchange recap**

PCC Ken Wetz submitted a report. MD5 is appreciative of Wetz's and clubs that provided meals as well as other donors. Motion by DG Frances Waits and seconded by DG Kirk Tingum to approve the 2024 Youth/Camp Exchange report. Motion carried.

### **2025 Youth/Camp Exchange**

Lion Darryl Oster submitted a report. DG Ray Tatro reported for Lion Darryl Oster. Lion Darryl worked at the camp this year and learned how campers become attached to hosts. The proposed date of Aug 10 – 16 is late for some US students so he is looking at July dates and working on getting a place to do the camp in July. Motion by DG Ray Tatro and seconded by DG Dennis Bohmont to accept the 2025 Youth/Camp Exchange report. Motion carried.

### **Marketing/IT**

PCC Kevin Bean submitted a report. FVDG Page Newton reported for the committee. The committee met again August 16<sup>th</sup> with only two members. The committee decided not to move forward with the MD5 website initiative to get grant funding. The committee felt it was important to go back to the drawing board and explore where members are such as considering social media. They will come back in November with a plan.

Action item #4 under New Business will be removed at the request of the Marketing Committee.

Motion by DG Lynn Helms and seconded by DG Frances Waits to accept the report with changes. Motion carried.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **June 11, 2024 Organizational Meeting**

CC LeeAnn Haisch reported on the leadership meeting held in June. The purpose was to get everyone organized prior to the year beginning. A calendar of events was sent out following the meeting.

## **COG Venue for 2024-2025**

CC LeeAnn Haisch stated the November council meeting is via Zoom and a decision needs to be made on the March meeting to have an in-person or Zoom meeting. This will be an action item.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **ACTION ON RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COMMITTEES**

#### **i. GLT - training budget/approval**

The committee meets the last Wednesday of each month. VDG training to be held Sept 13 – 14 in Estevan and a proposed RLLI April 23 – 26 2025 to be held in Estevan. Considering an ELLI to be held in each district rotating instructors. LCI will provide funding for an ELLI.

VDG training – cost will be approximately \$7000 Canadian for meals and meeting room. Hotel rooms will be approximately \$130 Canadian. Hotel rooms and meals would be covered, and districts would be responsible for mileage. \$4500 is in the budget for expenses. Grants are available. Motion by DG Lynn Helms and seconded by DG Dennis Bohmont to support the Sept. 13 – 14 FVDG and SVDG training in Estevan using the budget in place and reimbursement for mileage to each VDG. The reimbursement form will be sent to PCC John to write the checks for each VDG. It was noted, in the past, expenses for SVDGEs have been paid for them to attend the March council meeting.

The RLLI is being considered for April due to farmers. The proposed dates are April 23 – 26. The grant covers \$63 per person attending. LI has a minimum 20 maximum 25 for an RLLI unless special permission is given. An advance of 50% is sent to the Council Treasurer and the person in charge has to send information to LI before the remainder of the funds will be sent. There are two instructors in US and six in Canada. Motion by DG Kirk Tingum and seconded by DG Ray Tatro for the MD5 Council to go forward with the RLLI. Motion Carried.

An ELLI is being considered for the fall of 2025, possibly October. The GLT committee would explore options of having an ELLI in each state/province or one in each of the six districts. DG Kirk Tingum moved, and ND St. Rep Rick Stark seconded the motion to explore ELLI to be held in the fall of 2025. Motion carried.

#### **ii. GMT – approve goals**

These are just goals, and no action is required. GMT Mark Koller noted the Club Excellence Award criteria has changed so clubs need to look at the new application. It requires plus two members instead of plus one membership. Other criteria are the minimum amount of funds donated to LCI increased from \$5 to \$10 per member and must do leadership training.

#### **iii. 2025 MD5 Convention – budget and registration fee**

The convention committee is requesting \$10,000. PCC John stated there is \$6000 in a reserve account to cover a convention loss. Some members requested to see a convention budget. PCC Marianne stated \$25,000 is ½ of the cost for 150 registrants to cover food and meeting rooms. The \$52,000 expense is primarily food cost. Marianne believes the deposit would be refunded if there was a cancellation. Also requested was a marketing plan to promote the convention.

The summit is planned with the convention and compensation for those that attend will be up to the council. The Dunes has the potential to be a memorable experience and to connect with Frist Nations people as well as be a memorable experience for IP Fabricio. If they switch venues at this time, the \$2000 deposit would be forfeited. PCC Marianne expects the Dunes will work with her if the \$10,000 is provided.

The convention is not responsible for meals for the summit. The guarantee for rooms deadline is April 28<sup>th</sup>. Prov. Rep Don Morris moved and DG Kirk Tingum seconded the motion that MD5 give the convention committee \$10,000 as an advance to the Dunes. Motion carried.

DG Lynn Helms moved, and DG Frances Waits seconded to set the registration fee at \$250 Canadian and \$175 US. Motion failed with a majority no vote.

DG Heather Vermeersch moved, and SD St Rep Dave Pigors seconded that a budget be provided to the council prior to setting the registration fee. The discussion was that the registration fee in the past has been set by the committee and not the council. Motion failed with a majority no vote. The committee will set the registration fee.

**iv. Marketing – MD5 website**

Removed – no action needed

**v. COG venue for March 2025**

DGs typically try on their red jackets at the March meeting. SVDGEs are reimbursed expenses for the March meeting. DG Ray Tatro moved, and DG Lynn Helms moved to have an in-person meeting March 21 – 22 at Bismarck Holiday Inn with a Zoom option. Motion carried.

**vi. 2025 Youth Camp – camp/dates/cost**

DG Lynn Helms moved, and Prov Rep Don Morris seconded to approve the 2025 youth camp exchange to be held in Saskatchewan with \$400 US cost with the July date to be announced. Motion carried.

**vii. Resolution to Endorse PID Tony Benbow as candidate for Intl Third VP**

DG Kirk Tingum moved and DG Dennis Bohmont seconded to endorse PID Tony Benbow as candidate for International Third VP.

**viii. Access Reserve Funds**

The ID Reserve line item under the Designated Funds has \$13,000. In the past \$8,000 was given to two IPP Patti Hill's campaign. PCC John Emmett is seeking a position on the LCI board. He was endorsed by MD5. He has been certified by LCI but not endorsed. He has three years to get on the LCI ballot. He is seeking funds to assist with campaign expenses. He has campaign plans in MN, MT and WY. Funds will be deposited into the campaign fund, Sari Merriman treasurer, and there will be a full accounting of the funds. Motion by DG Ray Tatro and seconded by DG Frances Waits to allow transfer of the \$13,000 ID Reserve funds to PCC John Emmett's campaign fund. Motion carried. PCC John Emmett abstained from the vote.

**Future Meeting Dates and Conventions**

September 5 – 7, 2024 - USA/Canada Forum – Louisville KY

September 13 – 15, 2024 – FVDG/2<sup>nd</sup> VDG training – Estevan,

September 27 – 28, 2024 – SD State Convention - Gulch – Deadwood SD

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

October 25 – 26, 2024 – SK Convention – Moosejaw

November 23, 2024 – Council of Governors Meeting – Zoom

February 11 – 13, 2025 – FVDG/DGE Seminar – St. Charles, IL

March 21 – 22, 2025 – Council of Governors Meeting – Bismarck Holiday Inn

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

**Adjournment** – Meeting adjourned at 3:24 pm – Motion by DG Dennis Bohmont and seconded by DG Lynn Helms to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lion Lois Reiersen  
MD5 Council Secretary