

Minutes of the Board Meeting of Tuesday, January 27, 2026

This meeting was held in the Board Room at the Holiday Inn North Oxnard

Officers Present	Officers Absent
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ John Zaruka, President ❖ Cynthia Torres, President-Elect ❖ Josh Carsman, Immediate Past-President ❖ Hugh McManigal, Immediate Past-President ❖ Marty Moss, Treasurer ❖ Gary Davis, Secretary 	

Directors Present	Directors Absent
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Cindy Kroeger ❖ Dennis Longwill ❖ Sam Monroe ❖ Diane Moss ❖ Jack Pollock ❖ Suki Sir ❖ Juan Soto 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Kendall VanConas ❖ Mark Spellman (<i>ex officio</i> member)

Guests Present
none

- I. This meeting was called to order at 10:30 a.m. by President John Zaruka. A quorum for the meeting was declared.
- II. Motion (Juan) / Second (Suki) / Passed: That the minutes of the Board meetings of December 2, 2025, and January 13, 2026, be approved as presented.
- III. The current agenda was approved as presented with no recommendations for new topics under “New Business” or any changes in the order of presentation.
- IV. Club Administration
 - A. Club president’s messages and updates:
 1. Reflections from the visit by District Governor Mike Dutra: John believed that the visit was a positive one for the club and underscored the primary objectives of increasing the club’s membership and also increasing the use of social media to brand the club in our community.
 2. *Mardi Gras* fundraiser event: John noted that there is over \$100K in sponsorship commitments. Approximately 200 attendees are expected. Major gifts are still to come in.
 - B. Membership
 1. President-Elect/Membership Chairperson Cynthia reviewed the names of those being considered as prospective new members, including Sandy Duong (Gary), Ariceli Fox (Gary), Baljender “BJ” Singh (Alan Kosh), Golara Parsapour (Cynthia), Brian Carlson (Juan), and Rajju Bajracharya (Juan).
 2. Motion (Sam) / Second (Juan) / Passed: That Luke Beer be approved for membership in the Rotary Club of West Ventura County.
 3. Motion (Marty) / Second (Gary) / Passed: That Juan Soto, Brian Carlson, and Rajju Bajracharya be accepted as corporate members.
 4. Tiered Memberships: Jack provided a review of the agreed-upon tiered memberships (Standard, Corporate, Premium, Legacy, and Emerging Leaders). The revised and updated “New member Proposal” form was also reviewed.

5. Motion (Marty) / Second (Gary) / Passed: That the resignation of Rosanna Colin from the Rotary Club of West Ventura County be accepted with regrets.
6. Cynthia noted that the next new member orientation “fireside chats” are tentatively scheduled for March 26th and May 28. Cindy graciously offered her home to host these events.

C. Club Service

1. Immediate past-presidents Josh and Hugh recommended the following slate of officers for the 2026-27 Rotary year:
 - ✚ President Cynthia Torres
 - ✚ Immediate Past President John Zaruka
 - ✚ President-Elect Nominee Sam Monroe (to serve as club president 2027-28)
 - ✚ Treasurer Marty Moss
 - ✚ Secretary Gary Davis
 - ✚ Diane Moss to serve as club president 2028-29
2. It was noted that Cynthia will appoint Directors to serve during her Rotary presidential year.
3. President John asked that the club’s Bylaws be reviewed to see if the Board is allowed to appoint a President-Elect 3 years in advance.
4. Cynthia overviewed a *Membership Survey* which she will distribute in April. She also mentioned the possibility of holding a club meeting along with the school principals of the OUHSD, in order to increase their awareness of our Rotary club.
5. It was agreed to adopt the District’s Rotary Bear (Roary) as also the club’s mascot. Details regarding the shared and coordinated use of the mascot are to be finalized. Cynthia also noted that another bear costume is available for the club’s use. Motion / Second / Passed: That the Rotary Club of West Ventura County fund \$500 for the use of the Rotary Bear as the club mascot.
6. It was agreed to set aside the *Pi Day* fundraiser for this year.

D. Youth Service

1. Hugh provided an update on the annual Grade 3-8 basketball tournaments:
 - 57th Annual Oxnard Girls’ Basketball Tournament – February 14-20
 - 78th Annual Oxnard Boys’ Basketball Tournament – March 2-13
 - Will need approximately \$1,200 of club funds to cover costs for referees
 - \$1,500 for trophies and medals to be paid from the Charitable Trust of the former Rotary Club of Oxnard
 - The club members’ involvement will be primarily during the championship games.
2. Hugh reviewed the club’s expected involvement in the OUHSD Career Expo, to be held at the Oxnard Performing Arts Center on Friday, March 13th from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. A contribution of \$500 has been sent to support this event with proceeds from the Charitable Trust of the former Rotary Club of Oxnard. It was noted that this event was initiated in 1986 by Bernie Bernacchi, former president (1985-86) of the Rotary Club of Oxnard.
3. Dennis announced that the Scholarship Committee had met and agreed to expend \$40,000 for 2026 scholarships -- \$2,500 each for 16 scholarships / 4 each to Pacifica HS, Oxnard HS, St. Bonaventure HS, and Ventura HS. \$10,000 of the total \$40,000 will come from the Charitable Trust of the former Rotary Club of Oxnard.

E. Community Service

1. Diane reported that the Ventura USD no longer wished to participate in a *3rd Grade Dictionary Project*. In its place, the club will help fund books for school libraries, as recommended by the VUSD.
2. Cindy provided an update on the *Coats for Kids* project, noting that the coats had been delivered, although there were fewer coats collected this year than previously. It was recommended that this Community Service project be reconsidered for 2027.
3. Gary provided an update on the *Teacher Recognition* project.

F. Treasurer's Report:

1. Marty overviewed his Treasurer's Report. He noted that approximately \$8,000 of potential project donations have been moved to the Foundation. He announced that the poinsettia fundraiser netted \$3,440 for the club's operations account. Motion (Juan) / Second (Suki) / Passed: That the Treasurer's Report be accepted as presented.
2. It was agreed that any reduction in Standard Membership dues would become effective July 1, 2026.
3. It was also agreed that the 2026-27 club budget should allow adequate funding for increased marketing, branding, and the use of social media.
4. Treasurer Marty distributed a Member Data Sheet which will be used to update club members' information in ClubRunner.

G. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 noon.

**The next Board meetings will be held
Tuesday, February 24th at the Holiday Inn North Oxnard – starting time TBA**

Rotary Club of West Ventura County – Membership @ 1-30-2026

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. David Aviles 2. Peter Barry 3. Lalaine Braime 4. Robert Braitman 5. Sondra Briggs 6. Lawrence Bushey 7. Josh Carsman 8. Daniel Cervantes 9. Andy Conli 10. Rich Cooper 11. Melanie Cota 12. Gary Davis 13. Robert Davis 14. Davina DeCant 15. Ana DeGenna 16. Tracy Eriks 17. Ralph Garcia 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 18. Brant Gerckens 19. Kelton (Lee) Gibson 20. Valeria Gonzalez 21. Juan Guerrero 22. Alan Kosh 23. Cindy Kroeger 24. Rob Leatherwood 25. Dennis Longwill 26. Pete Marcus 27. Kendall Mattina 28. Thomas McClain 29. Tom McCoy 30. Hugh McManigal 31. Matt Meyring 32. Samuel Monroe 33. Emma Morata 34. Diane Moss 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 35. Marty Moss 36. Patrick Mullin 37. Bert Partida 38. John Pollock 39. Michael Reese 40. Jaclynn Sanchez 41. Suki Sir 42. Juan Soto 43. Mark Spellman 44. Cynthia Torres 45. Paul VanAcker 46. Kendall VanConas 47. Kirsti Vomund 48. Bonaventure Wakam 49. David Wilk 50. Anita Zamora 51. John Zaruka 52. Stacy Zaruka 	<p>Honorary Members:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jaimene Nichols, Faculty Advisor – Interact Club of Pacifica HS • Sara Tauber, Faculty Advisor – Interact Club of St. Bonaventure HS • Marie Frick • Peter Higgins • Ellen Honorico • Larry Matheney • John Mattina • Erik Nasarenko • Melody Thurman • Sandy Warren • Linda Zaruka
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Rotary Club of West Ventura County—2025-26 Board members

Club Officers:

- ❖ John Zaruka, President
- ❖ Cynthia Torres, President-Elect
- ❖ Josh Carsman, Immediate Past-President
- ❖ Hugh McManigal, Immediate Past- President
- ❖ Marty Moss, Treasurer
- ❖ Gary Davis, Secretary

Club Directors:

- ❖ Cindy Kroeger
- ❖ Dennis Longwill
- ❖ Sam Monroe
- ❖ Diane Moss
- ❖ Jack Pollock
- ❖ Suki Sir
- ❖ Juan Soto
- ❖ Kendall VanConas
- ❖ Mark Spellman (*ex officio* member)