

Rotary District 6000 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

February 20, 2025

Presented in person and via zoom

In Person Attendance: DG Dave Cook, DGE Norlan Hinke, DGN Bill Bruce, Nominated DGND Gretchen Nollman, PDG Steve Dakin, PDG Steve Wieneke, Tim Trudeau (Treasurer), Steve SchraderBachar, Darrell Limkeman

Online Zoom Attendance: PDG Dennis Drager, Marie Pipes, Allyson Walter

Ex Officio: Carolyn Scharff, Megan Van Kooten, Matt Corwin

DG Dave Cook called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m.

PDG Steve Dakin moved to approve the Agenda, seconded by Gretchen Nollman, Motion Approved.

PDG Steve Wieneke verified a quorum was present.

Approval of Minutes: DGN Bill Bruce moved to approve the minutes from November 21, 2024, meeting, seconded by Marie Pipes, motion approved.

Budget & Finance Committee Report – PDG Steve Wieneke provided a summary of the following two reports:

1. District Annual Financial Statement, to include 990, presented by Matt Corwin. PDG Steve Dakin made a motion to approve, and DGND Gretchen Nollman seconded, motion approved.
2. DGE Norlan Hinke's 2025-2026 District Budget. Darrell Limkeman made the motion and Gretchen Nollman seconded; motion approved.

District Team Reports:

- **Foundation: Steve Dakin** – Publishing monthly Foundation letters to Club Foundation Chairs and others. Steve Dakin & Dennis Drager have been doing club visits. Steve mentioned a limitation on how many clubs he and others will be able to visit due to reimbursement funds available, currently \$1,500 for Foundation Committee. Norlan commented he would like the committee to visit as many clubs as they can during his DG year. RI tells us that all DDF funds must be used in full within 4 years, otherwise RI can take away our funds. The DDF funds may be designated toward PolioPlus Fund, D6K Endowment, or Peace Scholars. Total amount currently is around \$35,000. \$20,000 went to the PolioPlus Fund. Bill Bruce

made a motion to transfer 20% of the \$35,000 from our current DDF fund to the D6K Endowment Fund. Steve SchraderBachar seconded the motion. Motion approved.

- **Global Scholarship: Jim Patton** - Joshua Nguyen is in England attending the University of Oxford for a Masters of Science and Applied Digital Health with a Rotary focus on Disease Prevention and Treatment. Joshua is doing well. Jim is attempting to get a video from Joshua to play at the District Conference 2025. The Global Scholarship Committee has not been able to find any eligible candidates for the 2025-2026 school year. There was a candidate, Katelyn, from Boone, but she is not eligible because her father has been a longtime Rotarian. Jim will forward a written communication to inform Katelyn that she is not eligible to be considered as a Rotary Global Scholar. Jim is to contact Joshua and ask him to prepare and provide us with an updates news article to publish in the Rotary D6K newsletter to be published in May 2025. Jim suggested that we include the following changes on the Rotary District 6000 website regarding Rotary Global Scholarships.
 - The scholarship amount is to be at least \$30,000.
 - We should not list the number of scholarships we award on an annual basis.
 - Any amount over \$40,000 would be reviewed and approved by the Board of Directors.

The Rotary District 6000 contribution to our Global Scholar, Josh was \$30,000 with an RI Foundation match of \$23,936. Combined tuition that Rotary paid for Joshua's scholarship this year was \$53,936. Joshua will be returning to the United States in July. Upon return, Joshua will be available to speak to Rotary clubs in our district to do a presentation. Jim Patton is to provide our clubs with Josh's contact information.

District Action Team Reports

- **Friendship Exchange: Leslie Dakin, Heidi Drager**
- **Interact: Marie Pipes**
- **PolioPlus Society: Susan Herrick**, currently have 135 members in our district
- **Visioning: Bill Bruce**
- **Learning Facilitator: Gretchen Nollman**
- **Community Service Grants: Gretchen Nollman, Todd Wheeler**
- **Awards: Karin Franklin, Jacque Andrew**
- **District 6000, Iowa RYLA 2025: Pat Englander**
- **Rotary Leadership Institute: Steve Wieneke**
- **Rotary District 6000 Prevention and Awareness of Human Trafficking Action Team: Dr. George Belitsos**

- **Rotary District 6000 Membership Olympics Challenge (2025-2026): Steve Wieneke**
- **Rotary International Board Changes to Rotaract Club Policies & Procedures, related to how a new Rotary District 6000 Rotaract Committee will be formed (effective July 1, 2025): Steve Wieneke**

District Governor Report (Dave Cook):

Dave completed 70 scheduled club visits in early December 2024.

Membership - As of January 31, 2025 we are down 44 members since July 1, 2024. Our current membership as of January 31, 2025 was 2,904. When we include Rotaract members we are down 24 members, not 44, a difference of 20 members. The goal is for all of our clubs to try to attain plus one for the year.

A total of 29 clubs in our district submitted nomination applications for members to be recognized for the Guardian of Integrity Award. The previous high number of these awards was 17. The DG and awards team also recommends the presentation of this award to deceased PDG Bill Tubbs. Bill had never been recognized for the honor in the past. These individuals will be recognized during the Saturday night program at the district conference on April 12th.

The year-to-date Foundation giving is positive. Total per capita giving as of February is \$178 per member. DG Dave thanked Steve Dakin and Dennis Drager for giving Foundation presentations to clubs in the district. After he recognized Steve and Dennis, Dave recognized Gretchen Nollman for her work with the District Paul Harris Society. We are at 58% of the goal for the Annual Fund. We are at 54% of the goal for PolioPlus. We have received \$46,759 in our District Endowment Fund year-to-date. We have 12 new Major Donors. In the near future we will be announcing our newest Arch Klumph Society Member. They will hopefully be announced at the District Conference.

Governor Dave accepted the resignation from Doug Flourney, District Global Grant Chair as of January 20, 2025. District Governor Dave is searching for the next District Global Grant Chair.

District Governor Elect Report (Norlan Hinke)

Cindy and Norlan have completed about half of their DGE club visits.

AG Orientation on March 7 is all set. Looking forward to a great learning session.

Facilitators to lead PETS are prepared and ready to go.

Norlan provided a brief overview of his Rotary International Assembly experience.

District Governor Nominee Report (Bill Bruce)

In the coming year he plans to conduct a District Leadership Planning Retreat to schedule every event for the entire year.

Bill stated that the Youth Services policies, procedures, and requirements are out of alignment with RI, District 5970, and District 6000. Bill has visited with the Iowa RYLA Board of Directors. Bill will meet with a rep from 5970 and 6000 to work on revising the policy and creating a new template that will lead to some decisions about how authority and reporting will take place.

Bill said he needs to work on finding a new Treasurer and Accountant in the future.

Bill Bruce is working on creating an organizational chart to include a scorecard to identify leaders within the district.

Bill is working through taking some courses to learn more about the District Governor position in the RI Learning Center.

Old Business

West Liberty Sanctions Update – DG Dave Cook:

We have not received any correspondence or \$5,000 reimbursement from them.

NC PETS Update – PDG Dennis Drager:

Our district has not received any correspondence from NC PETS.

District Insurance Update – DGN Bill Bruce

Bill Bruce provided hand out materials on insurance. McKay Insurance Agency was the previous insurance company that provided coverage to our district. The committee, made up of Bill Bruce, Norlan Hinke, Loring Miller, and Larry Thein, sent out a request for information (ROI) to seek insurance companies that would be interested in doing business with our Rotary district. They interviewed three separate insurance agencies. At the conclusion of the interview process, the committee selected Knapp-Tedesco Insurance (Steve Goodhue, Owner and President of this company and Ames Rotarian). Bill Bruce provided an overview of the insurance areas of coverage included in the policy. The committee notified McKay Insurance Agency that we are terminating insurance business with them immediately. We got an automated bill for \$1,144. Bill is going to ask them to

stop payment. The projected invoice for the new company is estimated to be \$2,078. At the conclusion of this meeting, Bill will contact Steve Goodhue to let him know we are going to award the contract to his company. The motion is to approve the new insurance agency Knapp-Tedesco Insurance for annual insurance coverage for the district at the cost of \$2,078. Dennis Drager made the motion, Gretchen Nollman seconded the motion. Motion approved. DG Dave commended the work of Bill Bruce Norlan Hinke, Loring Miller, Larry Thein and Carolyn Scharff. Bill Bruce recommended that the Budget and Finance Committee conduct an annual review with the insurance company in the November-December timeframe. Review the renewal of the policy at that meeting and the Budget and Finance Committee approves it.

100% PolioPlus Society Recognition:

No update for club recognition at this time. We currently have 135 members in the district PolioPlus Society.

Update on Administrator Hiring Process:

DG Dave Cook thanked Carolyn Scharff for completion of 18 years of service as our district administrator. He introduced our incoming administrator, Megan Van Kooten. Carolyn and Megan will job shadow through June 30, 2025. We had 34 applicants for this position.

New Business

RI Board Implements Changes to Rotaract Clubs and District Policies and Procedures – PDG Steve Wieneke:

Steve provided a handout that outlined changes that the RI Board of Directors made a decision on in October 2024. These decisions were forwarded to Steve Wieneke on January 21, 2025. The handout summarizes future changes and actions that Rotary districts must implement in assisting Rotaract Clubs within each district. This information will also be shared with all 3 of our Rotaract Club's Officers and Advisors in the near future. Steve will discuss this subject during the Rotaract Club breakout session on April 12. As the current District 6000 Rotaract Coordinator Steve will be meeting with all 3 Rotaract Club Executive Teams before spring semester is over. At our next board meeting, Steve will bring forward the recommendation for who will serve on the District Rotaract Committee and duties and responsibilities the committee will be responsible for performing.

Rotary District 6000 Community Service Grant- Dave Cook:

In 2013 Rotary District 6000 created a \$5,000 cap for Community Service Grant Applications. DG Dave Cook recommended that we consider increasing the community

service cap to \$7,500. To complete a 100% match, clubs could apply for up to \$7,500 and also use \$7,500 from DDF. Bill Bruce made the motion to increase the annual district community service grant up to \$7,500, Steve SchraderBachar seconded the motion. Steve Dakin recommended to add to the motion that on the application form there would be a paragraph that says if the club does not receive the full \$7,500, you will go ahead with the completion of the grant. Second part, the review board should take into consideration grading criteria for club contributions to the Rotary Annual Fund and the District 6000 Endowment Fund. Steve suggested we need a separate signature line for each of these items. These items would be included on the MOU. The motion has been modified to include new verbiage to the MOU that Steve Dakin, Dennis Drager, and Gretchen Nollman will finalize. Motion approved.

Next Board Meeting will be held on May 15, 2025, in person and by zoom, immediately following the B&F Committee Meeting (estimated 11:00 a.m.).

Meeting Adjourned at 1:45 p.m.