

DISTRICT 5970 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
AUGUST 19, 2025 – 6:15 P.M.
ZOOM

Present:

Carole Bernhard – PDG and Board Chair
Michelle Bell – PDG and Foundation Committee Chair
Jeff Halverson – DGE
Shannon Duncan – Immediate PDG
Ward Budweg – DG
Gary Winterhof – District Treasurer
Suellen Kolbet – District Executive Secretary

DES Kolbet declared a quorum present.

Moved by Winterhof, seconded by Halverson; That the Consent Agenda as follows, be approved:

Board of Directors meeting – 5-15-25
DG Line meeting – 7-15-25
Foundation Committee meetings – 5-15, 6-19, 7-15, 2025
Grant Application review meeting – 7-1-25

All ayes. Motion carried.

Written reports were received from the District Executive Secretary, the Membership Committee Chair, and the Rotary Youth Exchange Chair. DG Budweg reported that he has visited seven clubs so far, and reviewed what he is doing to engage members.

District Treasurer Winterhof reported on the District Financial Reports. Moved by Budweg, seconded by Halverson; That Financial Reports as presented be approved. All ayes. Motion carried.

The Board was informed that Marion-East Cedar Rapids has proof that they sent an email with their grant application before the deadline, but it was never received. The Foundation Committee reviewed the grant request and proposed we fund it from District reserves, since all District Grant funds have been allocated. Moved by Bell, seconded by Winterhof; That the District fund the Marion-East Cedar Rapids grant application with District Reserves in the amount of \$2,950.00. All ayes. Motion carried.

The Zone Conference that will be held in Minneapolis on October 1-4, 2025 was discussed. The rate for the hotel block ends on August 31. Those possibly attending are the Public Image Chair, Membership Chair, Foundation Committee Chair, DISC Chair (funded by Zone), and DG, DGE, and DGN. There have not been any applications from Future Leaders.

Kolbet will email ADGs and ask them to promote the conference to future leaders in their clubs.

Carole Bernhard updated the Board on PELS (formerly PETS). She hopes that registration is open by September 15, 2025. She explained why PELS is in a budgetary crisis. They are exploring different options for 2027. PELS will be held in Minneapolis on March 12-14, 2026. The PELS Executive Committee is proposing to the full Board a registration fee of \$475 (early bird), \$525 (regular), and \$300 (virtual). The Committee is working on ways to cut costs. The virtual training will be held in April.

The Board discussed new presidents who have not yet been trained. Bernhard reviewed the PELS resources and felt there was not enough information to conduct training. She is proposing that new presidents who have not been trained be required to take the president elect course in The Learning Center and then she will have a zoom meeting on September 16 at 7:00 p.m. with the DG Line and Leadership team to complete the training. After that, they will try to schedule monthly meetings with DG Budweg and club presidents.

The District has budgeted for Rotaract/Interact Grants (five - \$500 grants) and Public Image Grants (10 \$250 grants). DES Kolbet will send information and applications to club presidents.

DG Budweg reported that the 2026 District Conference will be held on May 1-2, 2026 in Iowa Falls at Ellsworth College. He has not heard if we incurred any costs when he decided not to have the joint conference with District 6000.

DG Budweg proposed that we do some sort of District education with a cash incentive to the club for those who attend. DES Kolbet will share the Club Information link with the Board so they can see what kind of questions members have. She will also poll the District on what types of training they want. The Board wasn't sure that a cash incentive was the best option, but Budweg is just looking for different methods of engagement.

PDG Shannon Duncan is the Action Plan Champion.

Assistant District Governor training is being arranged by Lowell Stoolman and Dick Moeller. They are planning training in the Waterloo/Cedar Falls area on Saturday, September 20 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. A "Save the Date" has been sent to all ADGs and Board members.

Carole Bernhard is reviewing the Strategic Plan – Rotary Road Map to see if there are any changes and will report back.

DG Budweg will reach out to several Rotarians to see if they are interested in applying for the District Governor Nominee-Designate position.

Information received from the District Insurance carrier suggests that if someone handles District funds, they should be a Board member, since Board members are covered by a bond. Moved by Halverson, seconded by Winterhof; To remove funds handling from the position of Fundraising Chair. The District Secretary will handle the funds. All ayes. Motion carried.

Moved by Halverson, seconded by Budweg; That the meeting adjourn at 7:41 p.m. All ayes. Motion carried.