

BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING
NOVEMBER 18, 2025 - 6:15 P.M.
ZOOM

The District 5970 Board of Directors met on Tuesday, November 18, 2025 at 6:15 p.m. via zoom. Present were PDG and Board Chair Carole Bernhard, DG Shannon Duncan, DGE Ward Budweg, DGE Jeff Halverson, DGN Dave Jenson, Foundation Committee Chair Michelle Bell, and District Treasurer Gary Winterhof. Also present was DES Suellen Kolbet.

Board Chair Carole Bernhard called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m. DES Kolbet declared a quorum present.

Moved by Winterhof, seconded by Budweg; That the consent agenda be approved. All ayes. Motion carried. Items on the consent agenda were:

- Minutes of 8-19-2025 BOD Meeting
- Electronic votes
- DG Line minutes of 9-9-25
- Foundation Committee minutes of 8-19-25, 9-17-25, 10-21-25
- RYLA Board minutes of August 27, 2025
- Stewardship Letter for 24-25 District Grant Cycle
- Stewardship Report for 24-25 District Grant Cycle

Reports were received as follows:

- District Governor Activity report (in person)
- District Secretary Activity report
- Membership Report
- Rotary Youth Exchange report

DG Budweg reported that he is having difficulty getting club visits scheduled. He will probably need to call Club presidents as he is not getting responses from his emails. Carole Bernhard will schedule Humboldt Rotary for him – either January 6 or 20, 2026. He has visited 14 clubs so far. He has scheduled a District Conference Planning Committee meeting for Thursday, November 20, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.

District Treasurer Gary Winterhof reported on the Financial Reports. The Balance Sheet shows approximately \$384,000, which is in excess of our required reserves. Investments are staggered over 12 months, with a total of \$237,000. The Budget report shows income is on track and expenses are less than budgeted. It was recommended that some of the funds in the General Account be moved to the money market account. Moved by Bell, seconded by Budweg; To approve the Financial Reports. All ayes. Motion carried.

Jeff and Maripili Hassman would like to host a District Social, either February 13 or 14, 2026. Anyone in the District would be welcome to attend. Carole Bernhard will let them know that either date is fine.

Moved by Duncan, seconded by Budweg; To recommend Beth Globokar as RYLA Board member representative from District 5970. All ayes. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed Interact Grant applications from New Hampton, Dubuque, and Washington High School. Rockwell City has not applied yet, but the Board will allow them to apply. Moved by Winterhof, seconded by Duncan; That the applications for three \$500 Interact Grants be approved. All ayes. Motion carried.

DGE Jeff Halverson presented information on the 2026 Polio Walk. Each District/Club can decide if they want to participate. The goal is for the world's largest Polio Walk. The only requirements are 1. The walk must be held on October 24, 2026 at 10:00 a.m. CST, 2. The approved Polio Walk logo must be used on all promotional event materials, and 3. A District Champion must be designated to attend zoom planning meetings and upload information from the District. The goal is to increase awareness and raise funds – the goal in our Zone is to raise \$1,000,000. The Board agreed that the District will support and encourage clubs. Michelle Bell will contact Theresa Mickelson to see if she would be the District Champion. Peter Teahan was also suggested as a possibility.

A Flight to End Polio donation was discussed. The District has donated 20% of our District Designated Funds to Polio Plus.

DG Budweg discussed getting involved with some kind of disaster relief plan. He would like to have something in place so when there is a disaster, we are ready to react. He will look at the Disaster Aid USA template to see what is involved. He will see if they could possibly do a presentation to the Board.

The Board discussed North Central PEELS. Carole Bernhard reported that registration for the in-person option is open and they are working on a reduced option for spouses. They are working on some pre-PEELS zoom meetings. The virtual option will be held on April 7, 8, and 9, 2026 and registration will hopefully be open by Thanksgiving. The NCPELS Board is asking for a \$10,000 loan from the four Districts in the group. If our attendance does not meet the threshold of 48 clubs attending x \$300 per attendee, the shortfall will be deducted from the \$10,000 loan. They are trying to get District 6000 to pay the \$10,000 they owe for pulling out of the group. This is the last year under the current contract and they are looking for a less expensive venue. Moved by Winterhof, seconded by Budweg; To commit a \$10,000 loan for NCPETS. All ayes. Motion carried. Bernhard will have them invoice us.

There are still 13 club presidents who have not been trained. Kolbet will send DG Budweg a spreadsheet showing who hasn't been trained with their contact information.

The District Conference will be held on May 2 and 3, 2026 in Iowa Falls. A District Conference Planning Committee zoom meeting has been scheduled for November 20, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.. Committees will be set up.

PDG and District Membership Chair Bernhard informed the Board that she would like to explore setting up a "Membership Society" program that would reward members for sponsoring new members. She needs to clean up rosters, Carole noticed that several clubs seem to be listing their club secretaries as sponsors. Rotary International allocated \$1,000 for Membership, she will see if she can use that for a Membership Society program. Moved by Duncan, seconded by Jenson; To move forward with the Membership Society program. All ayes. Motion carried.

PDGs Lowell Stoolman and Dick Moeller organized an Assistant Governor training meeting on October 20, 2025 in Cedar Falls. All present – both in person and virtually – felt it was a worthwhile meeting.

The District is still looking for a District Governor Nominee Designate. DGE Jeff Halverson gave DES Kolbet several names and asked her to forward them applications.

PDG Duncan informed the Board that Decorah has two applications for possible outbound Youth Exchange students. She is looking for a club to help sponsor one of the inbounds for them. She also asked if dues will increase in the next few years. It was the consensus that they will probably not increase.

The meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m.