

Minutes
Missouri Lions Council of Governors Meeting
Ray's Plaza Convention Center – Cape Girardeau, MO
January 24, 2015

Call to Order – at 10:00 a. m. by Council Chairperson (CC) Jeff Hilke

Invocation – by District Governor (DG) Emery Smola (M7)

Pledge – by District Governor (DG) Don Beckham (M1)

Sang “America” – led by DG John Clark (M3)

Opening Address – CC Jeff Hilke welcomed all in attendance.

Establish Protocol – by PCC Jesse Hathcock

Appoint Tail Twister – DG Missy Carr (M2) entered the motion that PDG Debbie Cantrell serve as Tail Twister; DG John Clark (M3) provided the second of the motion. Motion carried without discussion.

Designated Tail Twister Funds – DG Richard Warner (M4) entered the motion that the Tail Twister funds be donated to Saving Sight; DG Gary Curtis (M5) provided the second of the motion. Motion carried without discussion.

Financial Reports – Council Assistant Treasurer DG John Clark (M3) presented both the annual review and the current financial statement. DG Richard Warner (M4) entered the motion to accept the financial reports; DG Emery Smola (M7) provided the second of the motion. Motion carried without discussion.

International Update – IPID Donal Knipp reported that:

1. The Lions Clubs International (LCI) board established positions of multiple district and district Reading Action Program chairpersons beginning with the 2015-2016 fiscal year. Multiple districts and districts are encouraged to appoint chairpersons for their district Reading Action Program. LCI adopted the program as a long-term initiative.
2. The “Lions” magazine will migrate to a digital-only publication over the next three years. It will be available only in a digital format beginning January 1, 2018. Clubs are encouraged to make plans to share the publication with their members once it is distributed in only the electronic format.
3. LCI increased the number of LCI Leadership awards by 400 for the fiscal year.
4. A ballot issue at the 2015 LCI Convention is a constitutional amendment to reduce the number of international directors from Constitutional Area 1 (USA) and increase the number of international directors from Constitutional Areas V and VI. A second amendment will reinstate the office of LCI third vice-president.

5. Effective July 1, 2015, the LCI mileage rate will increase from \$.41 per mile to \$.50 per mile. Also, LCI will no longer reimburse district governors for office expenses.
6. As part of the 100th anniversary of LCI, clubs are encouraged to complete service projects to meet our Centennial Challenge of serving 100 million people by June 30, 2018. Special recognitions are available to clubs meeting the challenge each year. Centennial Banner patches recognize Global Service Action projects involving youth, vision, hunger and environment projects. To be eligible, clubs must complete the project and report their activity on My LCI.
7. Bids for the 2020 LCI convention were received from St. Louis; Atlanta; Boston; Louisville; Calgary, Canada; Milwaukee; Melbourne, Australia; Singapore; and Johannesburg, South Africa.
8. At the time the report was prepared, Multiple District (MD) had a deficit of 175 Lions for this year. While 461 new Lions were recruited, 636 Lion memberships were dropped. We need to work on retaining our Lions.
9. District Governors were encouraged to establish or maintain contact with their district convention international guests.

Great Plains Lions Leadership Institute – IPID Donal Knipp reported that the 2015 Institute is scheduled July 24-26 in Jamestown, ND. The registration fee, which provides for meals, lodging and materials, remains \$150 if the application is received by June 1, 2015. If the application is received after June 1, 2015, there is a \$20 increase. Single occupant rooms are available for an additional \$40. PCC Terry Boettcher and PDG Debbie Cantrell will serve as presenters at the institute.

Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) – PID Dwayne Garret reported that “My LCIF” videos were given to the vice district governors and he has additional copies for the LCIF chairpersons. So far, the seven districts have donated a total of \$33,000. Donations are down for the year, with only 37% of the clubs contributing. We need to encourage clubs and individuals to contribute to this worthwhile foundation.

Saving Sight – PCC Al Blumenberg reported that:

1. Saving Sight is entering into an agreement with ReSpectacle to make used eyeglasses available throughout the United States and around the world. ReSpectacle uses its website to accept applications, based on an individual’s prescription, for used eyeglasses. A search of the ReSpectacle database is made and if a match is made, the eyeglasses are shipped to the requestor; ReSpectacle pays the shipping costs. If a Lions club identifies a person, either a child or adult, needing eyeglasses, the club will obtain the eye examination which provides the individual with the prescription, and directs the individual to the ReSpectacle web site.
2. Saving Sight plans to reconfigure the Columbia facility to create a Lions Volunteer Center that will be used to sort, clean, categorize and store used eyeglasses to facilitate donations. The construction costs are estimated at \$50,000. Saving Sight would like to apply for an LCIF grant in the amount of \$25,000 to help fund this construction. The \$25,000 matching funds would be raised through donations from clubs and individuals. The grant application is due to LCIF by February 12 and the project must be completed within six months of award.

3. This fiscal year, nearly 1,600 corneas were provided for transplant and more than 100 were provided for research. Over 31,000 persons have received eye screening through Saving Sight.
4. Saving Sight is entering its second year of its strategic plan with great progress towards its goals. The board will meet in February to identify ways to extend the plan.
5. Leadership, Engagement and Development (LEAD) – Saving Sight is holding its annual LEAD weekend May 15-16, 2015 at Capitol Plaza Hotel in Jefferson City. Invitations are being sent. District governors, vice district governors, sight committee chairpersons and all Lions are invited to attend.
6. The Saving Sight Board directors for districts M1, M3 and M4 are open for election. The board needs quality members who will fully support the organization. Saving Sight is sending district governors the job description and responsibilities for board members.
7. The next board meeting, originally scheduled for April 11, 2015 in Columbia, will be changed. Please check the Saving Sight website for updated meeting information.

Lions Business Opportunities for Missouri Blind – No report.

Mid-South Lions Sight and Hearing – PDG Walt Hamer highlighted the written report:

1. Mid-South is in need of funds to carry out its services. Two formal programs are established: The Booster program is for those who wish to make a single donation each year and the Champion program is for those who wish to make recurring gifts through the year (authorizes Mid-South to debit your account).
2. The Dahlstrom Award has added progressive awards to its program.
3. Negotiations are taking place with the University of Missouri Hospital to expand Mid-South services to Columbia.
4. Second Vice District Governors are encouraged to attend the annual Leaders Weekend. Registration is available on-line.

At this point, CC Jeff Hilke mentioned a meeting that took place on January 16, 2015 between the executive directors of Saving Sight and Mid-South Lions Sight and Hearing. The first-ever meeting of these two principals was a brainstorming session to identify how the organizations can better coordinate their efforts to provide services in the vision area. They are seeking to identify any gaps in the services each provides and how they can meet those needs.

World Services for the Blind (WSB) – PDG Lisa Alexander reported:

1. WSB is seeking a new Chief Executive Officer. The incumbent tendered her resignation.
2. WSB is close to filing Chapter 11 bankruptcy. To avoid this the organization:
 - a. Sold its downtown property which was purchased in anticipation of building a new facility.
 - b. Cut the number of its employees.
 - c. Is encouraging states to send additional students.
 - d. Is actively pursuing partnerships with other states.

Leader Dog – No report.

Constitution and By-Laws Committee – PCC Kimberly Taylor reported that since there were no proposed amendments to the constitution and by-laws that required voting, the only issue that needs a vote at the state convention is the proposal for the 2017 state convention site. This single issue may be handled by a voice vote of the club delegates during a convention session.

Athletic – No report.

Band – DG John Clark (M3) presented a review of the written report. The band will hold its June practice session at Fort Leonard Wood, as it has done in the past. The committee is busy visiting band festivals to solicit support for the Lions band.

Hearing – No report.

Lions Opportunity for Youth – No report.

Sight Conservation – PDG Debbie Blumenberg reported that Saving Sight is taking any and all contributions. She also reported that KidSight has experienced a 4,800 child increase in screening. She encouraged all districts to identify any child care facilities that have not been provided services. Lions are encouraged to volunteer to support KidSight screening activities.

State and International Convention – Lion Dave Baldwin reported that a bid for the 2017 state convention was received from District 26-M7 for the Tan-Tar-A Resort. The committee is looking at the details of the proposal.

Lion Clint Karnes reported that for the 2015 State Convention, the Cape Girardeau Host and Evening Lions Clubs are busy preparing a great weekend. The convention web site is now updated with a close final schedule of events. The convention will use the Auburn Place and Holiday Inn Express hotels and Ray's Plaza Convention Center. They are seeking to honor the past tradition and add a few new twists to the convention. A Derby Party will be held Saturday afternoon at the Auburn Place Hotel atrium and the Sunday memorial service is scheduled next to Melania's Magical Playground. Lion Laurie Taylor spoke about a service project, Operation Write Home, which will also be conducted at the convention. The project provides notes to service members. A flyer for the project was distributed.

District Governor-Elect Seminar – No report.

Global Leadership Team (GLT) – PDG Tom Rayfield reported:

1. An expanded GLT Team meeting is scheduled for February 21.
2. The GLT Team is available to provide additional training in such areas as Certified Guiding Lion, Zone Chairpersons, etc.
3. The GLT Team completed the LCI mandated first- and second-vice district governor training. Documentation for LCI reimbursement will be sent to LCI.
4. Hotel rooms are still available for the Mid-Winter Forum. Currently, 130 Lions are registered. The team will finalize registration on January 27.
5. A revised GLT budget was submitted to the Council of Governors.

Global Membership Team (GMT) – PDG Debbie Cantrell reported that:

1. The membership team receives monthly tips.
2. Every district is challenged to start a new club.
3. A GMT Summit was held at Hyde Park Conference Room, Jefferson City on November 22. She thanked the presenters at the summit (the names were provided in the written report submitted earlier).
4. A GLT/GMT Summit is scheduled for February 8, in Branson, following the Mid-Winter Forum.

USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum – IPID Donal Knipp reported the forum is scheduled for September 17-19 in Grand Rapids, MI. Over 100 seminars are available. Registration and additional information is available on the Internet.

Public Relations – No report.

Missouri Lions Newsletter – Lion Jennie Mosher reported the 13th edition was so large that it was distributed as two separate e-mails. She thanked DGs Gary Curtis and Peter Frantzen and Lion Dave Baldwin for reviewing the draft prior to distribution. She further encouraged the other members of the Public Relations Committee to provide her comments on their review of the draft newsletters.

Information Technology – PDG Eugene Taylor asked all to let him know if they have problems in accessing parts of the state web site. He also asked that he be notified if a new extension using some form of “missourilions” is found; he will explore reserving that domain name for the Missouri Lions.

Office Committee – PDG Eugene Taylor stated the committee continues to address issues affecting office efficiencies. He asked that others keep the state office “in the loop” should they opt to assume responsibility of functions that the state office once fulfilled; this is important to ensure continuity should committee membership change. One example is that this year at the State Convention only committees that have business as part of the Convention will have meeting rooms available. Other committees who have met at the State Convention for many years will not have meeting rooms. PDG Taylor also reported that an Office Committee member has resigned due to health reasons; the committee retains its ability to function at this time so no immediate replacement is needed.

ALERT – PDG Debbie Cantrell reported that District M6 received an LCIF grant through its Disaster Relief pilot project. The grant was to provide the ability to respond to a future disaster. The \$10,000 award was used to purchase and stock a trailer with equipment that will expedite the response to a disaster (generator, food cooler, grill, chainsaw, etc.). PDG Debbie and Lion Kevin are available to assist other districts in applying for similar grants (the pilot period ends in March 2015 and the program will be made available to all districts).

MO Lions Pin Traders – No report.

Motion to receive the reports – DG Donald Beckham (M1) moved that the reports be received as presented. DG Richard Warner (M4) made the second to the motion. The motion was adopted without discussion.

Unfinished Business: One Quality Lion application (M4) was submitted.

New Business:

1. Brianna Forman was announced as the Peace Poster winner (sponsored by the Northwest Texas County Lions Club).
2. PDG Sharyn Scheidt was announced as the Environmental Photo winner.
3. Nominations were taken for the state convention parliamentarian. DG Missy Carr (M2) nominated PCC Steve Wise. DG John Clark (M3) made the second for the motion. The motion passed without discussion.
4. Two district governors announced their intention to run for 2015-2016 Council Chairperson. DG Gary Curtis (M5) and DG Missy Carr (M2) submitted their letters of intent to the council chairperson.
5. DG Don Beckham (M1) entered the motion that the revised GLT budget be approved. DG Emery Smola (M7) made the second to the motion. The following issues were discussed:
 - a. Has the grant been approved by LCI? PDG Tom Rayfield stated LCI has approved the grant to reimburse MD 26 for training costs.
 - b. Will the revision require additional funds? PDG Tom Rayfield stated no additional funds are required. In fact, the revision will reduce the GLT budget from MD 26 by \$1,000.
 - c. Does the revision include funding for the district GLT coordinators? PDG Tom stated that the district GLTs will not receive mileage as this is not allowed by the LCI grant or current MD 26 funding.
 - d. Clarification was provided on whether the revision would include the spouse training. PDG Tom Rayfield stated that the GLT funding should not include spouse training.
 - e. The funding for the spouse training program needs to be addressed as a separate matter.

Following the discussion, the revision was passed.

DG Richard Warner (M4) entered a motion that the council approve the Saving Sight LCIF grant application for \$25,000 to support the Columbia facility renovation. DG Gary Curtis (M5) provided the second to the motion. The motion passed without discussion.

DG Don Beckham (M1) entered a motion that a separate line item be established in the MD 26 administrative budget to provide \$500 to support spouse training. DG Gary Curtis (M5) provided the second to the motion. The motion passed without discussion.

A discussion was held on the second vice district governor attire at the state convention banquet. It was decided that the attire shown on page 24 (MD 26 Convention Banquet) of the Policy Manual was in conflict in regards to vice district governors. DG Richard Warner (M4) made the motion to revise the Policy Manual to strike the requirement for the vice district governors to

wear formal attire and retain the provision that vice district governors will wear business suits. The new wording shall say that District Governors and District Governors-Elect shall wear formal attire. DG Donald Beckham (M1) provided the second to the motion. The motion carried without discussion.

Tail Twister – The Tail Twister collected \$107 dollars which will be forwarded to Saving Sight.

The next Council of Governors is scheduled for April 30 in Cape Girardeau. The work session will begin at 3:00 p.m. and the council meeting will begin at 4:00 p.m.

The January 24, 2015 Council of Governors Meeting was adjourned at 12:36 p.m.

Attendance:

Council Chairperson Jeff Hilke, IPID Donal Knipp, PID Dr. Dwayne Garrett, PCC Steve Wise
M1 – DG Donald Beckham, 1VDG Donald Shelhammer, 2VDG Bob Wilson, CS Dave Baldwin
M2 – DG Missy Carr, 1VDG Joe Foster, 2VDG Jack Lenk
M3 – DG John Clark, 1VDG John Deters, 2VDG Steve Wiechens
M4 – DG Richard Warner, 1VDG Tharran Gaines, 2VDG Larry Boettcher
M5 – DG Gary Curtis, 1VDG Bruce Dugan, 2VDG Alcy Malkmus-Espinoza,
CST PDG Jene Crook
M6 – DG Peter Frantzen, 1VDG Craig Lehman, 2VDG Lewis Carnes, CS PDG Walter Hamer
M7 – DG Emery Smola, 1VDG Allen Moore, 2VDG Don Soph, CS PCC Jesse Hathcock

Others:

M1 – PDG Casey Morris, PDG Murray Dunn, Rodney McConnell, Allen Taylor, Laurie Taylor,
Clint Karnes, Lisa Beckham, PDG Lana Wilson
M2 – PCC Al Blumenberg, PDG Debbie Blumenberg, George Winkeler, PCC Kimberly Taylor,
PDG Eugene Taylor, PDG Sharon Scheidt, PDG Roger Scheidt, Jennifer Wolf, Michelle
Foster, June Lenk, PCC Terry Boettcher, PCC Gina Boettcher
M3 – PDG Lisa Alexander, PCC Pat Porterfield, PDG Lyn Porterfield, Jason Noland,
Mary Jane Clark
M4 –
M5 – PDG Tom Rayfield, Cathy Rayfield, Joyce Bivans, Robert Espinoza
M6 – PDG Debbie Cantrell, Elaine Crump, PDG Bob Crump, Jennie Mosher, Darlene Lehman
M7 – Betty Knipp, Lou Ann Hathcock, Amy Bell