



**27-B1 District Cabinet Agenda**  
**Date: Sunday, January 21st, 2024**  
**Meeting Minutes**

Call to Order	DG Greg Kubichka at 1:00 p.m.
Pledge of Allegiance	(waived for zoom meeting)
Prayer	(waived for zoom meeting)
Motion to Approve Agenda	Motion by John Stephen, 2nd by PDG Tom Wendt; passed
Guest Introduction	DG Greg Kubichka
no guests	
Roll Call	CS PDG Gary Silah
taken off screen identification of zoom participants	
Tail Twister	Terry Erbstoesser
All fines waived for zoom meeting, although many participants had some very funny hats	
Communications	DG Greg Kubichka, CS PDG Gary Silah
No communications	
Secretary's Report	CS PDG Gary Silah
Sent Minutes of District Huddle and General Session from convention; motion by Gary Roehrig, seconded by John Steffen to accept; passed.	
Treasurer's Report	PDG Jerry Post
Documents distributed by email before meeting. At the District Huddle during the convention, it was decided that the district would contribute \$900 for new picnic tables for Camp. Since then, we have learned that the Camp had more than enough money for the needed tables from the individual clubs. Treasurer Jerry suggested that this money be diverted to sponsoring a camper, something the District had never done before. Motion by DG Elect Dave Holschbach, second by Pat Karasek, to reallocate the \$900 and add \$100 to sponsor a camper. Discussion revealed that it would not be proper procedure to add the \$100 by a motion, so that motion was rescinded. A new motion by Dave, seconded by Pat, to just reallocate the \$900 passed. Treasurer Jerry volunteered to add the needed \$100 himself.	

**Old Business**

Finalization of New Holstein Grant Mary Jo Abler  
 Mary Jo reported that all necessary paperwork has been updated and sent in to International to complete the grant process.

Commented [GS1]:

**New Business**

New Policy for District Bank	DGE Dave Holschbach
Dave had sent out via email a new policy for auctioning off the District Bank at the convention. The discussion became somewhat involved, at which time a motion by PDG Jerry Post, seconded by John Stephen, that this item be tabled until the March 10th in-person meeting of the cabinet; passed.	
Request for Cabinet approval on Coloma Lions LCIF grant	Ray Burrows, Coloma Lions
(The complete documentation for the Coloma LCIF Matching Grant application is included as Addendum A to these minutes.) They are looking at \$500,000 total for the project. They have been soliciting funds from many businesses and individuals in the area. Because of the size of the project, they are also seeking help from LCIF and District 27-B1 to accomplish their plans. Motion by PDG Jerry, seconded by DGE Dave Holschbach, to approve the seeking of the LCIF grant; passed.	
Request for Coloma Lions District Community Grant	Ray Burrows, Coloma Lions
(The complete documentation for the Coloma Community Grant is included as Addendum B to these minutes.) Our account for the Community Grants from the District is currently at \$6,000. A motion by Mary Jo Abler, seconded by DGE Dave, to approve \$5,000 for the Coloma project; passed.	

Request for Cabinet approval of LCIF Matching Grant for Van Dyne Lions

PDG Tom Wendt

Hello Fellow Lions

As we begin 2024, new ideas, new projects and new ways to better serve our communities. With that thought I would like to propose a new, combined and I feel long needed project. As many of you are aware of there is a new Medical Equipment Locker in Appleton and of course the long-time running Larson/Winchester Medical Equipment Locker.

I have spoken to the Larson/Winchester Club several times; they agree the new Medical Locker in Appleton is a great addition but agree it doesn't help all the communities on the south end. I've spoken to them several times and suggested a Medical Equipment Locker down on the south end of Lake Winnebago. They are delighted with the idea and would be willing to provide technical assistance as well as plenty of Medical Equipment.

So, with all this in mind, I would like to propose the District 27B1 South End Medical Equipment Locker. A multi club project that would serve multi communities and of course would make all clubs involved more visible to our communities.

The proposal would include a 24ft x 60ft building constructed on the Van Dyne Lions Club property, eliminating having to purchase land. The actual project and equipment would be property of all clubs involved, all operational procedures and decisions will be made by a Board of Directors consisting of 2 members from participating club.

The key to this proposal would be a LCI Matching Grant, which as many of you know would mean Lions International would fund 1/2 of the cost of the project. I have spoken to several experienced grant experts and the opinion is it would be very viable and support the project.

Obviously, the cost per club would be determined by the number of clubs taking part in the project. Also work load per club from initial construction to operations would be determined by the number of clubs involved.

I have included a breakdown of cost and a few other general questions. I would appreciate the opportunity to speak to your club to explain more detail and answer any questions.

Please feel free to contact me at any time.

(details of the Matching Grant proposal are included as Addendum C of these minutes)

Motion by John Steffen, seconded by Gary Roehrig, to give Cabinet approval for seeking the LCIF grant; passed.

**Committee Reports**

IPDG/District Administrator

IPDG Dave Brinkman

No report.

1st Vice District Governor

Dave Holschbach

District Convention update:

There were 11 First timers for our convention in November of which 8 did complete their questionnaire, I plan to slightly modify this for next year. Also we had 24 tables for vendors, Thank You goes out to Radisson Hotel for being able to add additional tables.

DGE/FVDG training took place Friday January 12th along with the quarterly Council of Governors meeting. I did make the trip up to Marshfield on Friday during the storm. ALL SAFE and SOUND - Jackson was my Guide Dog along with co-pilot CC BJ. The current DGE/FVDG conducted interviews for the 2 candidates for our Council Chair. We elected PDG John Reil from B2 to guide us and keep us in line. I was elected council treasurer and chairman for the finance and budget committee. The same position that IPDG Dave Brinkman held. I will also be the council representative for Youth Exchange. Training continues with various zoom meetings with GAT, Group 30, GMA and current DGE/FVDG.

My data base for club officers has been updated. I enjoyed meeting a lot of clubs last year and look forward to meeting the others. I have attended 4 zone meetings and introduced myself to the clubs attending this year already. More to Come.

Now that a new year has started, I will be working with FVDGE Roxanne and SVDGE Barb to finalize my cabinet, cabinet meeting dates and working on the next district convention. As DGE, LCI has asked us to again promote membership for Mission 1.5 and to promote 2 of the 8 Global Causes. I have decided to go with Childhood Cancer (they are our future) and to be determined.

I do wish to add Marketing as a cabinet position and am looking for someone who has a marketing background and is very good with all of the social media outlets.

My goal is to have B1 and all of our clubs the most followed! We need to let the WORLD know what we do and also ourselves. So often we ourselves do not know what is going on with our own clubs, fundraisers, activities, accomplishments, awards and future events. I currently am looking for a GMT Leader, a hunger chair and Zone 4 zone chairman. At our last cabinet meeting, which seems so long ago, I talked to many of you to confirm being on the cabinet. I will follow up shortly to make sure your plans have not changed.

2nd Vice District Governor

Roxanne Wendt

Just returning from training at Lions Camp; a very interesting and informative experience for all.

GLT Chair

PDG Tom Wendt

Continuing monthly GLT zoom meetings with State GLT Coordinator and fellow District GLT members.

Beginning conversations for spring District Officer training / Workshop.

Attending Club and Zone meetings, speaking on Leadership and how to encourage membership involvement for officer positions.

GST chair

IPDG Dave Brinkman

Currently 81% of the clubs are reporting as they should.

GMT chair

IPDG Dave Brinkman

We currently have a -23 for membership in B1.

District Convention

PDG Tom Wendt

No report

Diabetes

PDG Mike DeBaere

I will come to zone meetings to see how smart the members are in regards to how much sugar is in some of our favorite items. A simple game.

Elections and Nominations

PDG Gary Colton

This last year's nominations and elections went well!

I would like to thank my nominations and elections committee for their support and assistance.

If any of you would like to assist next year, let me know?

Let's keep in mind that it is not too soon to start looking ahead to 2024-2025. Our District will be looking for nominations for District Governor, 1st & 2nd Vice District Governor, WLF Director and a LEBW Director.

It was mentioned that we should perhaps have the winning District Peace Poster at the Governors Evening Banquet.

**Environment** Bonnie Hughes  
Nothing much new to report, but I am currently searching for a new, interesting Environment project to take on.

**Hunger** Patricia Shikoski  
No report

**Information/Public Relations/Historian** PDG Tom Clausen  
The new Lion Portal is coming soon. Lions members will have complete control of their membership information and can take responsibility for updating their profile should they move, get a new phone or email address. They will also have control over what they want to be visible to the rest of the Lions in their club, district or constitutional area.  
There are videos on lionsclubs.org that members can view to get a sneak peek at what is coming. They should go to lionsclubs.org and then hover over Resources for Members. Then under Member Resources, click on Our Digital Products near the bottom of the list. That will take you to a page where in the big blue box is the Changes that are coming to our digital products. Click on the Learn more button and choose the Watch Member view video.  
If you are a president, secretary or administrator, read the Update your Lion Account information in the big blue box and read the instructions. To get a head start on accuracy, we need to convince these three officers to take some time to update their club roster and member information to get a head start at getting member information up to date as soon as possible. We need to tell each Lion that each Lion must have their own email account. Lots of couples use only one email saying that their spouse is the computer person in their family. If that is the case, that person simply has to create another email for their spouse and use that to update their spouse's information.

**MyLCI/My Lion** IPDG Dave Brinkman  
No report

**LCIF Coordinator** PDG B.J. Blahnik  
No report

**Leader Dog** Ella Stanelle  
The December 2023 quarterly report from Leader Dog, plus donations from convention and mailed to me, we have 20 clubs in our district that have donated. With a total donated amount of \$7750.00  
Thank you, clubs,  
FYI State Leader Dog Chair Lion Deb Delie, speaker at our convention, won a free night stay at the Radisson. She would love to come to the 2024 convention and speak again.

**Leo Liaison** Gary Roehrig  
The B1 Leos have added 34 new members. They are seeking a project to latch onto.

**Lions Eye Bank of Wisconsin** Charlie Keifenheim  
No report

**Newspaper Editor** Marilyn Shady  
I want to thank everyone that sent me their articles and pictures for the newsletter. Some I did receive some quite late and one I did not even have time to edit it before it had to get to the state editor. Please make a note that I need them by the last week of January, March, May, July, September, and November. That will give me time to get them sent back out by the 1st of the following months. Thanks for your help with this and if any of you have any questions about it, my contact information is Marilyn Shady 920-979-7272 or vandynelionsnews@yahoo.com Thanks again.

**Peace Poster/Pin** Laurie Sasada  
No report

**Pediatric Cancer** PDG Dave Lee  
Here's a brief update on our efforts for the Wisconsin Lions Childhood Cancer Fund initiative  
1. We have established or revitalized monthly communications among the childhood cancer district chairs (i.e. A1, A2, ...) via group zoom meetings.  
2. Proposed established support groups have been identified for the Fund initiative and discussions have been had with representatives of these groups. Various district childhood cancer chairs have participated.  
3. Summaries of each of the prospective support groups were shared/discussed with the district childhood cancer chairs on our December zoom call – the group expressed a vote of confidence for supporting this approach and proposal.  
4. This past fall, we had speaking time at the C2 and B1 conventions, but unable to get an opportunity at the B2 convention (the Council Chair included messaging in his remarks). Working on speaking slots for 2024 conventions. Lion Terry Tveita, A1 district childhood cancer chair, will be speaking at the A1 convention on January 6th.  
5. As of early December the fund donations approached \$26,000 with more than 100 of MD27 clubs already donating. The goal is to have 100% participation by the 505 Wisconsin clubs. An update will be given at/before the January COG meeting.  
6. There is an effort to look at making online donations possible for the Wis Lions Childhood Cancer Fund, subject to the approval of the COG. A status update may be provided at the COG January weekend.  
7. More than 250 LCI childhood cancer pins (private funds) have been purchased for encouraging individual Lions donors to make a donation of \$50 or more to get a pin in recognition. We will procure another 250 pins for donors if necessary. Obviously then, the goal is to get 250 to 500 individual Lions donors supporting the Wisconsin Lions Childhood Cancer Fund.  
8. Given the current status for donations with 80% of the clubs awaiting to make a donation, along with the individual donor effort, it is feasible to foresee a possible accrual of \$100,000 during 2023-2024, but this will not occur without an ongoing collective effort among the current district governors, their vice district governors, the childhood cancer district chairs, all zone chairs, club officers, and state Lions members!! Each club helping a little so that together we can help a lot!!  
9. A draft of the proposal which is supported by the district childhood cancer chairs has been provided to the Council Chair. This will be a topic for discussion and approval at the January COG meetings.  
  
To date, 24% of the MD 27 clubs have contributed to the project, to a total of \$34,000.

**District Raffle** John Stephen  
No report

**Restoring Hope Transplant House** Barb Leichtfuss  
Cindy is looking at April for a good month to clean the house. More info will follow when available  
Please fill out the information forms for your area so Cindy can share this with patients and families heading home from RHTH. They need financial support and help in many ways. Completed forms can be sent to her.

Special Olympics PDG Fred Gebhart  
 This winter, they are doing a Polar Plunge throughout the state, in hopes of raising \$100,000.

Vision PDG Fred Gebhart  
 We have done 20,295 screenings so far this year, which keeps B1 at the top of MD-27.

Youth Exchange Patricia Shikoski  
 No report, except to say that I will be attending the camp again this year.

Wisconsin Lions Mission Pat Knier  
 We have an Action Team currently working on several Missions. The Guatemala mission is currently suspended, due to unrest down there. We are still planning a Dominican Republic mission in February.

WLF Director/Eye Glass Recycling PDG Fred Gebhart  
 Dealing with the State on letting up on their regulations on distributing eyeglasses within the State of Wisconsin, but we are still working on it. Also, we are developing a program to train Lions to read prescription numbers on glasses.

WLF Director/Pride/Hearing /Birch Sturm Dick Karl  
 No report

Constitution & Bylaws PDG Jerry Post  
 No report

Policies and Procedures IPDG Dave Brinkman  
 No report

## ZONE CHAIR REPORTS

Zone 1 Chair Peggy Loose  
 No report

Zone 2 Chair Paul Baroun  
 Meeting Tuesday February 13th at the Packer Inn, Newton

Zone 3 Chair Kenneth Brandt  
 No report

Zone 4 Chair (currently unfilled)  
 No report

Zone 5 Chair Mary Jo Abler  
 Four out of 5 clubs responded for my report. I am giving Kiel's new Secretary a little time to get the hang of things. Seems like her reports are in at MyLCI, which was my main concern.  
 Add 3, lost 1, = +2 254 members in Zone 5 as of 1/2024.  
 The 4 reporting clubs had a total of 1504 hours of Service/Fundraising, bodies active!  
 The 4 clubs donated over \$21,000. in Lions and Community donations in the last 2 months.  
 I have 2 clubs that now have Club Administrators listed at International. (MyLCI access) After Kiel suddenly lost their very active Secretary and the concerns that were a part of that loss. I am encouraging all my Zone clubs to appoint a Club Administrator.  
 Clubs that feel it is not necessary for their club need to think of all the information and access to record that information that is only in one person's brain. Clubs do need to have more than one person who has access and knows how to report.  
 My next Zone 5 meeting is Feb 8th at the Altona, New Holstein at 6 PM dinner. VDGE Dave H. will be the speaker.

Zone 6 Chair Sue Lee  
 Second Zone Meeting, November 14, 2023, Hosted by the Neenah Lions; Focus on Membership  
 In Attendance - 30 Lions, all 5 Zone Clubs represented -  
 Appleton Evening, Appleton Noon, Butte des Morts, Larsen-Winchester and Neenah clubs, DG Greg Kubichka, MD27 GMT Chair IPDG Bert Freeman and PDG Dave Lee, MD27 Childhood Cancer Chair.  
 Updates  
 Lion John Franger, Fox Valley Medical Loan Locker Board President gave an update on the locker. So far it has been a great success with nearly 200 visitors each month and 2000 items lent out since opening in August. St Paul Home donated 15 hospital beds. New volunteers have become Lions and youth volunteers have been recruited from area high schools. They are looking into the possibility of Leo Clubs. One volunteer works on finding appropriate placement of donated items that cannot be used by the locker. Father Carr's in Oshkosh and area veterinarians have taken many items. Thank you to Larsen-Winchester for their guidance and to Valley Packaging for storing the overflow. DG Greg reported that the COG is contemplating support for the medical locker concept.  
 PDG Dave Lee gave an update on the Childhood Cancer initiative. The early response has been positive and donations have come in from clubs and individuals. They are in the process of meeting with organizations around the state that provide help for families of need dealing with childhood cancer to determine support needs and opportunities.  
 Membership challenges and successes  
 Guest speaker MD27 GMT Chair Bert Freeman talked about STOP THE DROP, the importance of member retention. Review your club roster for those members who are absent or behind in dues. Reach out to them, not just by text or email but by phone or even in person, multiple times if necessary. Show them you care and let them know they are valued. Consider a plan of action to support long term members and keep them on the roster as they age. He also talked about finding out why members choose to leave. Many times the reasons can be remedied. Bert handed out M&Ms to emphasize that Membership Matters.  
 DG Greg talked about honoring service projects over meetings. Work with other organizations on larger service projects. He spoke of a very successful Christmas lights project in Chilton that besides Lions involves many other area service organizations and groups. He also handed out Lions literature on Membership and New Member Orientation. Both DG Greg and GMT Chair talked about the 1.5 Million Member Challenge to reach 1.5 members worldwide by 2027. The current membership is 1.4 million.  
 Club Membership Challenges and Successes  
 Appleton Evening - lost members to death  
 Appleton Noon - several new members from Loan Locker volunteers; challenged by a forced change of venue which will mean higher meal costs; revamped their new member orientation  
 Butte des Morts - struggle with membership but have ample volunteers to help with activities  
 Larsen-Winchester - membership remains steady  
 Neenah - they continue to struggle with low membership however they have added 2 new members; current member goes out of his way to make sure a new member who is blind gets to the meetings

The Takeaway on Membership -

The smaller clubs in the zone struggle to maintain membership and get new members, however the larger clubs remain healthy and have added new members. Clubs were encouraged to focus on retention as well as recruiting new members.

Next Zone Meeting - tentatively to be hosted by Larsen-Winchester in late January or early February

Zone 7 Chair

No report

Josh Blatz

Zone 8 Chair

Next meeting January 22nd in Eldorado

Scott Scovronski

Zone 9 Chair

No report

Laurie Sasada

Zone 10 Chair

No report

Bill Fletcher

Zone 11 Chair

Next meeting May 24th at Plainfield

Pat Karasck

## Other Business

Comments & Questions

Everyone

The Manitowoc Lions are doing their LAST blind bowling tournament on Sunday, February 4th. PDG Jerry will buy a drink for all those Cabinet members who wish to come and participate, or just watch.

Next Cabinet Meeting Sunday, March 10, 2024, at the Eagles Club in Fond du Lac, time TBD but later in the afternoon since the Eagles are serving breakfast in the morning (a good breakfast, by the way, if you want to get there early)

Tail Twister collection

None, for zoom meeting

MEETING ADJOURNED

Motion by John Steffes, seconded by Pat Knier, at 3:01 p.m.; passed.