



District 54 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Saturday, February 15, 2025

Virtual Meeting

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OPENING

Maryann Reichelt, DTM, Logistics Manager, called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. She led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

WELCOME

Gary Vaughn, District Director, welcomed everyone to the DEC meeting and facilitated it.

INSPIRATION

Gary Vaughn emphasized the value of perseverance, urging members to revisit their original motivations when encountering challenges in their journey.

OUR DISTRICT VISION, MISSION and CORE VALUES

Rosemary Nash, Division C Director, read the District Vision, Mission and Core Values.

District Vision

To restore and maintain a dynamic community of 50 clubs, with at least 40% achieving Distinguished status or higher, empowering members in communication and leadership.

District Mission

We build new clubs and support all clubs in achieving excellence.

District Core Values

We strive to adhere to the following values:

- Integrity
- Respect
- Service
- Excellence

DISTRICT OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

Present	First	Last	Designation	OFFICE
X	Gary	Vaughn	EH3	DISTRICT DIRECTOR
X	Wendy	Pesavento	DTM	PROGRAM QUALITY DIRECTOR
X	Estelle	Foster	VC5	CLUB GROWTH DIRECTOR
	Prince	Motiani	DTM	PUBLIC RELATIONS MANAGER
X	Ching-Yuan	Su	EH3	ADMINISTRATION MANAGER
X	Jason	Heissler	DTM	FINANCE MANAGER
X	Dan	Kyburz	DTM	IMMEDIATE PAST DISTRICT DIRECTOR
X	Maryanne	Reichelt	DTM	LOGISTICS MANAGER, NV
X	Troy	LaPorte	LD2	DIVISION A DIRECTOR
	Venkat	Chander	TC1	DIVISION B DIRECTOR
X	Rosemary	Nash	LD4	DIVISION C DIRECTOR
X	Ken	Kocher	PM3	DIVISION D DIRECTOR
	Cece	Wroblewski	DTM	AREA 10 DIRECTOR

X	Mimi	Mieritz	PI2	AREA 11 DIRECTOR
X	Chris	Kostelec	MS3	AREA 12 DIRECTOR
X	Dawn	Weber	DL1	AREA 20 DIRECTOR
	Julia	Issa-Ghantous	PM1	AREA 21 DIRECTOR
	Anne	Warth	DL4	AREA 22 DIRECTOR
	Dionne	Moore	CC	AREA 30 DIRECTOR
	Grey	Adkisson	PM1	AREA 31 DIRECTOR
X	Sherri	Deleonardis	DTM	AREA 32 DIRECTOR
	Katie	Jandeska	SR1	AREA 40 DIRECTOR
	Valerie	Heckman	DL1	AREA 41 DIRECTOR
	Kashaun	Parker	PM3	AREA 42 DIRECTOR

13 voting members were present, meeting the quorum requirement of 12. Therefore, a quorum was established for the meeting.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Gary Vaughn, District Director, announced a change in the district conference date. Ching Yuan Su moved to adopt the agenda, and Jason Heissler seconded the motion.

ADMINISTRATION MANAGER

Ching Yuan Su, Administration Manager, provided a summary of the January meeting minutes, which was accepted as read. The minutes were available for review on the D54 website.

FINANCE MANAGER

Jason Heissler, DTM, Finance Manager, presented the Finance Report.

- As of December 31, 2024, the district reserve account balance stands at \$27,913.72, while the checking account balance is \$2,920.78.
- Year-to-date membership revenue totals \$11,450.00, while year-to-date district expenses amount to \$8,559.56.
- Additional expenses not yet account for include fees for TLI North room rental, as well as lodging costs for the CGD and PQD.
- The mid-year audit was completed and submitted to TI on February 13.



FM Report February
2025.pdf

Division Reports

The written reports were submitted by the directors, and the verbal reports were presented in the order indicated.

DIVISION A

Troy LaPorte, Division A Director, presented the Division A report, with the written report attached.

- The division has welcomed 32 new members, achieved 42 Educational Goals, and reached 35 Distinguished Club Goals.
- One club has attained Distinguished status, while 5 clubs are close to achieve it.
- The Area 11 and 12 combined speech contest is scheduled for February 23, the Area 10 speech contest for March 1, and the Division contest for March 30. The division is seeking volunteers to support these events.



Div A Report
February 2025.pdf

DIVISION B

Dawn Weber, Area 20 Director, presented the Division B report on behalf of Vankat Chander, Division B Director. The written report is attached.

- In the month of February, the division achieved 4 additional educational awards.
- Weekly division council meetings have been held to prepare for the upcoming speech contests.
- The combined Area contest is scheduled for March 1, and the Division contest will take place on March 22. Both events welcome visitors and participants.



Div C Report
February 2025.pdf

DIVISION C

Rosemary Nash, Division C Director, presented the Division C Report, with the written report attached.

- The combined Area speech contest is scheduled for March 8, and the Division speech contest for April 12.
- SF Talk of the South has attained Distinguished status.
- Due to corporate-wide layoffs at ADM, ADM Toastmasters lost some members. The club plans to host a guest day to help boost membership. ADM City Center is nearing the achievement of Distinguished status.



Div C Report January
2025.pdf

DIVISION D

Ken Kocher, Division D Director, presented the Division D report, with the written report included as an attachment.

- The combined Area speech contest is scheduled for March 8, with a tentative date for the Division contest on March 29.
- New Lenox and Lincoln Way each had 7 club officers trained at TLI North.
- Key City had a successful join meeting with Timely Talkers in February. Joliet Jester is considering monthly collaborative meetings for 6 months with The Diversity 4 Success, and Morris Area is exploring the possibility of an online combined meeting with River Fox.



Div D Report
February 2025.pdf

PUBLIC RELATIONS MANAGER

Prince Motiani, DTM, Public Relations Manager, was unable to attend this meeting.

District 54 page on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/d54tm>

District 54 group on Facebook: <https://www..com/groups/498728804348481>

District 54 website link: <https://d54tm.com/>

District 54 on LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/76960127>

District 54 Youtube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCShur7LY30JSNyBcXsl0tXg>

CLUB GROWTH DIRECTOR

Estelle Foster, Club Growth Director, presented the Club Growth Director Report. The written report is attached.

- The district held the third demon meeting at Constellation Nuclear. This new club may be open to the community.
- The demon meeting for the Pekin Federal Correction Institution's new club has been delayed. There are openings for one Club Sponsor and two Club Mentor roles. Anyone interested should contact Jon.
- Christian Brothers Services is interested in forming a club, and Construction Engineering Research Lab in Champaign is looking to restart a club. Please contact Estelle for available Club Sponsor or Mentor roles.
- Area Director Club Visit Reports are due by May 31.



CGD Report
February 2025.pdf

PROGRAM QUALITY DIRECTOR

Wendy Pesavento, Program Quality Director, presented the Program Quality Director report. The written report is attached.

- Area, Division, and District contest dates are available on the district website, and the contest awards have been ordered.
- All club officers have access to the Base Camp Manager dashboard, and any officer can approve or deny a level completion request.
- TLI North was a success, TLI Virtual has approximately 80 members registered, and TLI South is scheduled for February 22.
- Clubs should send out invoices and monitor member renewals in club central. The renewal deadline is March 31.



PQD Report
February 2025.pdf

DISTRICT DIRECTOR

Gary Vaughn, District Director, presented the District Director report.

- Area and Division Directors may want to reach out to clubs that are nearing Distinguish status to acknowledge their progress.
- The upcoming in-person speech contests will need volunteer support.
- The district is looking for one volunteer to assist with the district alignment task.
- Please submit district officer nominations to Dan.

OLD BUSINESS

- *None*

OPEN DISCUSSION/Q&A

- Dan Kyburz emphasized the urgency of completing the district alignment task.
- Wendy Pesavento encouraged the group to nominate someone they admire for a district officer position in the upcoming TI year.
- Gary Vaughn suggested seeking insights from long-term members for potential in-person meeting locations.
- Bonnie Tippey recommended reminding speech contestants to submit Forms 1183 and 1189 to the contest master earlier.

NEW BUSINESS

- *None*

CLOSING THOUGHTS

Troy Laporte, Division A Director, shared Brian William's quote "You may find making a difference for others makes the biggest difference in you."

ADJOURNMENT

With no objections, Gary Vaughn, District Director, adjourned the meeting at 10:13 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Ching Yuan Su
District 54 Administration Manager, 2024-2025