



# District 54 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

*Saturday, May 30, 2026*

**Virtual Meeting**

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

OPENING.....3

WELCOME..... 3

INSPIRATION ..... 3

OUR DISTRICT VISION, MISSION AND CORE VALUES..... 3

ROLL CALL/QUORUM CERTIFICATION ..... 3/4

ADOPTION OF AGENDA .....4

ADMINISTRATION MANAGER .....4

DIVISION A..... 4

DIVISION B.....4

FINANCE MANAGER .....5

PUBLIC RELATIONS MANAGER.....,5

CLUB GROWTH DIRECTOR..... 5

PROGRAM QUALITY DIRECTOR..... 5

DISTRICT DIRECTOR .....5

MID-YEAR AUDIT REPORT .....6

OLD BUSINESS..... 6

OPEN DISCUSSION/Q&A .....6

NEW BUSINESS.....6

CLOSING THOUGHT ..... 6

## **OPENING**

Call to order Dan Kyburz, 9am

## **WELCOME**

Wendy Pesavento opened the meeting welcoming everyone

## **INSPIRATION**

Maryann Reichelt – Compared May and June graduations to the end of the Toastmasters year. Encouraged us to review our goals and see if we can complete a level or path prior to the end of the Toastmasters year. Take the heart of D54 with us as we transition to D211 and D212 next year.

[Inspiration – May 30th](#)

## **OUR DISTRICT VISION, MISSION and CORE VALUES**

Dan Kyburz, 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**

<b>Present</b>	<b>First</b>	<b>Last</b>	<b>Designation</b>	<b>OFFICE</b>
<b>X</b>	Wendy	Pesavento	DTM	DISTRICT DIRECTOR
<b>X</b>	Estelle	Foster	VC5	PROGRAM QUALITY DIRECTOR
	Chris	Kostelec	MS5	CLUB GROWTH DIRECTOR
<b>X</b>	Karen	Walch	SR5	PUBLIC RELATIONS MANAGER
<b>X</b>	Maryann	Reichelt	DTM	ADMINISTRATION MANAGER-temp
<b>X</b>	Elias	Hayes	PM2	FINANCE MANAGER
	Gary	Vaughn	EH5	IMMEDIATE PAST DISTRICT DIRECTOR
<b>X</b>	Dan	Kyburz	DTM	LOGISTICS MANAGER
<b>X</b>	Troy	LaPorte	LD2	DIVISION A DIRECTOR
<b>X</b>	Kari	Susairaj	DL2	DIVISION B DIRECTOR
<b>X</b>	Rachel	Berry	DL5	AREA 10 DIRECTOR
	Varad	Chancheepuram	DL5	AREA 11 DIRECTOR
	Jim	Dickson	DTM	AREA 12 DIRECTOR

X	Tony	Harden	LD2	AREA 13 DIRECTOR
X	Stephen	Enteman	PM4	AREA 14 DIRECTOR
X	Linda	Ehman	PM4	AREA 20 DIRECTOR
X	Carol	Loser	DTM	AREA 21 DIRECTOR
	Anne	Warth	DL4	AREA 22 DIRECTOR
X	Ken	Sours	IP4	AREA 23 DIRECTOR
X	Jason	Heissler	DTM	AREA 24 DIRECTOR

15 district officers members were present, meeting the quorum requirement of 10. Therefore, a quorum was established for the meeting.

## ***ADOPTION OF AGENDA***

Changes/additions to the agenda: Inspiration – Maryann Reichelt, Mid-Year Audit Report – Elias Hayes, Closing Thought – Jon Greiner. Changes were approved with no objection.

## ***ADMINISTRATION MANAGER***

Maryann Reichelt read a summary of the April 11<sup>th</sup> Dec meeting minutes.

Wendy Pesavento asked for a motion and second to approve the minutes as updated. Minutes were accepted.

## ***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 his report](#)

Key accomplishments:

- Rachael Berry, Division C Director-Elect, D212
- Varad Chancheepuram, Club Growth Director-Elect, D212
- Smedley Distinguished – Lincoln-Way Toastmasters
- Distinguished – Yes And Toastmasters
- Successful membership drives and Open Houses

Upcoming Social Events:

- June 5<sup>th</sup>, Lincoln-Way Toastmasters social event
- September, Rockford Communication League 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration

## ***DIVISION B***

[Kari Susairaj, Division B Director presented her report](#)

**Division Accomplishments:**

- 4 clubs with 5 DCP goals, 6 clubs with 6 DCP goals, 2 clubs with 7 DCP goals
- 6 clubs close to Distinguished
- 26 new members in April and May
- Club spotlights for Areas 21 - 23

### **Division Director Notes**

Area visits are 87% complete (as of May 27). All Area Directors have been in contact with club officers to communicate important District information and to help them finish the year strong.

### **Finance Manager Report**

[Elia Hayes presented his report](#)

#### **03/31/26 -**

We collected below the expected amount in membership revenue for March by \$26.96, but ahead overall for the year so far by \$514.04. We received \$1,200 in ticket revenue for the conference. Expensed the last of the travel and lodging for the Trio for the Mid-Year Training they attended.

#### **04/30/26 -**

We collected below the expected amount in membership revenue for March by \$516.59 and putting us close to the expected membership revenue total. We received \$7,300.00 in ticket revenue and sponsorship for the conference. For conference entertainment, we spent \$750. Area and Division Speech Contest food, space rental, and awards were expensed for this month.

### **Public Relations Manager**

[Karen Walch - Public Relations Manager](#)

- Continued to receive submissions from district members so we have new content to include in our future communications.
- Consider sending information about your Club's special events for the District Dispatch or the mid-month communication.
- For the first of the month or for the mid-month communication be sure to send it to the email that is used to [prm.at.d54@gmail.com](mailto:prm.at.d54@gmail.com).

### **Club Growth Manager**

[Chris Kostelec – Club Growth director, Wendy presented his report](#)

### **Program Quality Director**

[Estelle Foster, Program Quality Director, presented her report](#)

- June 20<sup>th</sup> is the next DEC meeting that will be held in LaSalle, IL at the Uptown Grille at 10 am with lunch and a brief program to follow.
- Area Director visits are due by May 31<sup>st</sup>.
- Annual Conference thanks yous.
- 16 educational awards with the randomizer to select this month's winner with their gift to be mailed to them. The April winner was Terrence Eagen from Fox River Toastmasters.

### **DISTRICT DIRECTOR**

[Wendy Pesavento, the District Director, presented her report](#)

- Compared May 2024-2025 dashboard to May 2025-2026 dashboard

- Shared the path for D54 to become Distinguished
- Shared how District leaders could help with the path to Distinguished

### **MID-YEAR AUDIT REPORT**

Elias Hayes, District Finance Manager, presented the mid-year audit report

### **OLD BUSINESS**

*No old business was brought to the floor*

### **OPEN DISCUSSION/Q&A**

None

### **NEW BUSINESS**

No new business

### **CLOSING THOUGHT**

Jon Greiner - Took a moment to reflect on where we are in the journey of District 54.

We are approaching the end of an era. In just a few weeks, District 54 will officially conclude its service as a Toastmasters district. While organizational structures may change, the impact of this district will continue far beyond July 1.

As we prepare for our final Executive Committee meeting, I encourage us to focus not on what is ending, but on what endures. The lessons we have learned, the leaders we have developed, and the lives we have influenced will continue in the clubs and districts that follow. The banner may be retired, but the legacy remains.

There is a quote often attributed to leadership thinkers: *"The true measure of leadership is not what you accomplish, but what continues after you are gone."* By that measure, District 54 has been extraordinarily successful.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Wendy Pesavento closed out the meeting with a motion to adjourn and a second. Meeting adjourned at 10:22 am.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Maryann Reichelt  
District 54 Administration Manager(temp), 2025-2026

---