



# District 54 Council

## Meeting Minutes

September 20, 2025

*Virtual Meeting*

## **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

OPENING .....	3
WELCOME .....	3
OUR DISTRICT VISION, MISSION AND CORE VALUES .....	3
DISTRICT OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE .....	4
ADOPTION OF COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA .....	4
VOTING PROCEDURES .....	4
CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE REPORT .....	4
ADMINISTRATION MANAGER .....	4/5
MID-YEAR AUDIT .....	5
ALIGNMENT REPORT .....	5
FINANCE MANAGER .....	5
DISTRICT LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE .....	6
ELECTION OF DISTRICT OFFICERS .....	6
DISTRICT ALIGNMENT REPORT .....	6
DIVISION A .....	7
DIVISION B .....	7
PUBLIC RELATIONS MANAGER .....	8
CLUB GROWTH DIRECTOR .....	8
PROGRAM QUALITY DIRECTOR .....	8/9
DISTRICT DIRECTOR .....	9
OLD BUSINESS .....	9
OPEN DISCUSSION .....	9
NEW BUSINESS .....	9
CLOSING THOUGHT .....	9
ADJOURNMENT .....	9

## ***OPENING***

Dan Kyburz DTM, called the meeting to order at 9:04am. He led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

## ***WELCOME***

Wendy Pesavento District Director, welcomed everyone to the meeting. She facilitated the District 54 Council Meeting.

Rules of order. Limited to 2 min for debate. No member can speak more than once.

## ***Inspiration***

Maryann Reichelt, First day of fall coming up, time for us to review how we have worked on our Toastmasters goals, and our club goals we have set for the year. She enjoys stepping out from her club and to see and hear what is going on beyond her club. She gave some advices. Be sure clubs have achieved 3 things:

1. Club membership renewals
2. Club success plans by sept 30<sup>th</sup>
3. Hall of fame surveys nomination email was sent out September 16<sup>th</sup> . Anyone can provide a nomination.

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

Troy LaPorte Division A director, The reading of Our Vision and District Mission

### **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 core 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
<b>X</b>	Chris	Kostelec	MS5	CLUB GROWTH DIRECTOR
<b>X</b>	Karen	Walch	SR5	PUBLIC RELATIONS MANAGER
<b>X</b>	Rosemary	Nash	LD4	ADMINISTRATION MANAGER
<b>X</b>	Elias	Hayes	PM2	FINANCE MANAGER
<b>X</b>	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
<b>X</b>	Jim	Dickson	DTM	AREA 12 DIRECTOR
<b>X</b>	Tony	Harden	LD2	AREA 13 DIRECTOR
<b>X</b>	Stephen	Enteman	PM4	AREA 14 DIRECTOR
	Linda	Ehman	PM4	AREA 20 DIRECTOR
	Carol	Loser	DTM	AREA 21 DIRECTOR
<b>X</b>	Ann	Warth	DL4	AREA 22 DIRECTOR
<b>X</b>	Ken	Sours	IP4	AREA 23 DIRECTOR
	Jason	Heissler	DTM	AREA 24 DIRECTOR

***15 voting members in attendance***

***50 Clubs, 2 voting members per club. 16 district team members***

## *ADOPTION OF COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA*

Wendy Pesavento, District Director, reviewed the meeting agenda.

## *VOTING PROCEDURES & SPECIAL RULES OF ORDER*

John Greiner, reviewed voting procedures

Special rules are available on the district website for review.

- Unanimous consent may be used to adopt a motion or take action without a vote if there is no apparent opposition.

(one-third of Presidents and Vice Presidents Education)

No obvious debate, up to district director to ask for unanimous consent, without a formal vote.

2 min for debate, 1 min for comment from the floor.

Motion made by a voting member. Made in a positive fashion

## *CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE REPORT & QUORUM CERTIFICATION*

Gary Vaughn, Immediate Past District Director, provided the report.

50 clubs in good standing

Total of 100 potential votes

Quorum, need 34 votes

Currently 55 registered, quorum has been met.

14 registered DEC votes.

Total **69** possible votes

Simple majority is **35**

Without objection, the motion to adopt the Credentials Committee report was approved by unanimous consent.

# ***MAY DISTRICT COUNCIL MINUTES***

The minutes and related documents are available for review on the district website. Since no corrections were noted, the minutes were accepted as posted.

## ***FINANCE MANAGER REPORT***

Elias Hayes, Finance Manager,  
As of July 31st: reserve balance \$23,452.54  
Minimum reserve required at year end was \$5,843.13

Checking balance was \$1,967.99.  
Memberships coming in slowly, \$1,020 so far in those membership dues.

No objection to the report, report has been approved with no objection.



FM\_Report\_D54\_20  
2509 - Sept.docx

## ***PUBLIC RELATIONS MANAGER Report***

Karen Walch , Public Relations Manager, gave her report  
District Newsletter is sent out 2 times a month, the first Monday. Then on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday  
an email blast to Toastmaster members what has been happening this month.  
Deadline to receive materials/news is September 26<sup>th</sup> in order to review material for the  
October newsletter.  
Oct 15<sup>th</sup> for the email blast in October.

## ***Division Reports***

The Division Directors submitted written reports, and verbal reports were presented in the order shown.

### ***DIVISION A***

Troy LaPorte, Division A Director, presented the Division A report, with the written report attached.  
Great accomplishments so far!  
Thanking the Area Director, Tony Harding, all club success plans in his area are submitted!  
Lincoln Way has had 6 new members!  
Continue to see education goals submitted, it is early so good to see.  
Toast of the Fox submitted 3 of them so far.  
Inspiring Speakers Club are getting together for a speechcraft in October.

A directors have been completing the visit, just need to get them into the system now.  
Speech contest mentioned to get on calendars.  
Oct 21<sup>st</sup> 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary for the Toast of the Fox.



DivisionASeptemberReport.pdf

## ***DIVISION B***

Kari Susairaj, Division B Director, presented the Division B report, with the written report attached.

8 clubs have 1 goal completed. 6 with 2

Forging Leaders have 3 already completed.

Area Directors focus on getting those club success plans in now.

31 new members added so far in Division B. No club in suspension yet. Area directors have visited/ scheduled their clubs.

Carol Loser has 3 of her visits done

Ann Warth all 5 of her clubs have the club success plan done!

52%clubs have put in their renewals in so far.

Tentative Speech Contest dates:

A21 & A22 February 28<sup>th</sup> Area Contest

A20, A23, A24 March 7<sup>th</sup> Area Contest

April 11<sup>th</sup> tentative date for the Division B Speech contest



Division B Report  
September 2025.doc

## ***CLUB GROWTH DIRECTOR Report***

Chris Kostelec, Club Growth Director  
Prion clubs still on hold.

Retention: 13<sup>th</sup> of Aug we had 1588 members, 486 payments as of today.

Number of club coaches in place.

New Club chartered: ALDI now currently in place

Still looking for club extension chair

Survey sent out soon about building a document style of D54 stories of clubs.

## ***PROGRAM QUALITY DIRECTOR***

Estelle Foster, delivered the Program Quality Director's report, which is attached.  
Club officer training still waiting to hear from members that were trained in other districts.

Need 85% Area directors & Division directors trained  
Offer educational sessions not yet finalized Oct 25<sup>th</sup> or Nov 8<sup>th</sup>  
District conference: Rachel Berry and Katie Jandeska  
Winner for this month, in achieving an educational goals was Roy  
Winter TLI already lined up Varad Cancheepuram – TLI North, and Gary Vaughn– TLI South, Estelle Foster – Virtual TLI



D54 PQD  
20Sep2025.pdf

## ***DISTRICT DIRECTOR Report***

Wendy Pesavento, presented the District Director's report.

Showed the change of the district borders.  
212 (North) and 211 (south)

## ***OLD BUSINESS***

- No old business was presented.

## ***NEW BUSINESS (6 items)***

### **Vote 1 - Confirm the Appointment of 3 District Officers**

1. Appoint Dan Kyburz to logistics manger. Motion to appoint by Bonnie Tippey DTM, second Maryann Reichelt. No oppose. Motion is carried.
2. Appoint Jim Dickson Area 12 director. Motion to appoint by Bonnie Tippey DTM. Gary Vaugh Immediate Past District Director, seconded. No discussion. No oppose. Motion is carried.
3. Appoint Karen Walch – Public Relations Manager. Motion by Tony Koury, seconded by Patrick Olsen. No discussion. No oppose. Motion is carried.

### **2. District Success Plan Presentation**

Estelle Foster presented District Success Plan

D54 has set the goal of receiving 858 member payments per renewal period

Membership base: 1,588. For Distinguished need 1,604.

Action 1: Promote early membership renewal;



Action 2: Increase awareness of membership renewal deadlines;

Action 3: Add new clubs to the District;

Action 4: Add new members to clubs;

Action 5: Refocus members on goals in this Toastmasters year

Retain 100%, grow membership and add new clubs to the district

Looking into 55+ communities. Leverage colleges. Incentive to bring guests at club levels.

10 clubs who get distinguished status first incentive offering.

3. Vote 2 - Adopt District Success Plan

Wendy Pesavento, District Director's motioned, Jena Hergert motioned to seconded.

No oppose, motion is carried and club success pan is accepted as written.

4. 2025-2026 District Budget: Presentation

Elias Hayes – Budget available on the D54 website. \$23,372.49 budget

Budget for 2026 District 54 Conference – 8,100\$

5. Vote 3 - Adopt District Budget

Elias Hayes, Finance Manager, motion to adopt the budget, seconded by Dan Kyburz,

Logistics Manager representing Talk of the Town. No oppose, motion is passed.

6. Vote 4 - Add and Align 3 New Clubs to the District

Approve placement of clubs

Christian Brother Services Area 11

ALDI Area 12

Savant Wealth Area 10

Elias Hayes, Finance Manager motion, seconded by Kevin Davis.

Motion is passed, alignment is passed

7. 2024-2025 Year End Audit Presentation

Helen Dotson – D54 Audit Chair

Reviewed transactions.

Presented four recommendations from the audit committee for this 2025-2026 year.

8. Vote 5 - Approve 2024-2025 Year End Audit Report

Helen Dotson, D54 Audit Chair, motioned to accept, seconded by Bonnie Tippey, DTM. No oppose. Motion is carried, 2024-2025 Audit report is carried.

9. Partially Remote District Leadership Presentation

Bonnie Tippey presented a motion to accept Partially Remote District Leadership 211 effective July 1 2026. This is due to the realignment of 211 and 212.

212 will include some of our D54 Clubs which has some of our D54 Leaders.

Some members could be in both districts due to being dual membership. Toastmasters International does allow remote leaders.

10. Vote 6 - Adopt Partially Remote District Leadership

Bonnie Tippey presents motion to utilize remote district leaders. Election or appointment effective immediately.

Seconded by Maryann Reichelt,

No oppose, motion is passed. Partially remote leaders allowed adopted.

## *CLOSING THOUGHT*

Estelle Fosters, what defines the heart of Toastmasters is Service.

Service is not about titles. Conditions where every member can find their potential.

Pursue excellence, not perfect. Do just a little bit better today than yesterday. Have quality meetings.

Recognize each one of us, our success to making a differences in District 54. Carry spirit of service, enjoy our achievements!

## *ADJOURNMENT*

Wendy Pesavento, District Director, closed meeting 10:30am

Respectfully Submitted,

Rosemary Nash

District 54 Administration Manager, 2025 - 2026