

**MINUTES  
NORTHERN INDIANA  
UNIT 154 BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Northwest Indiana  
Saturday, October 4, 2025

A quorum being present, the Unit 154 Board of Director's meeting was called to order by President Terry Bauer at 12:51 pm. The meeting was held at the Michigan City Senior Center, site of the 2025 Northwest Indiana Sectional/NLM Regional.

**ROLL CALL**

**Present:** President and Tournament Coordinator Terry Bauer, Vice-President Chuck Tomes, Secretary/Treasurer Ken Bisson, Wayne Carpenter, Dimi Cooklev, Joe Shull and Mary Kocevar.

**Absent:** Marci Meyer, Rebecca Kendall, Robert Werner, and Suzie Wright.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Wayne moved that the Board of Directors minutes, previously distributed and posted to the Unit 154 web site be approved. Mary seconded. There were no additions or corrections offered. The motion was approved without objection.

**UNIT 154 NEW DIRECTORS**

Terry welcomed former Board member Joe Shull (representing FWDBC) and announced that the other recently elected Board members were Rebecca Kendall (representing the Gary Club) and Suzie Wright (representing the Kokomo Club). Dimi Cooklev now represents the Cedar Creek Club in Fort Wayne. As reflected in last year's minutes, Chuck mentioned that Wayne is representing the Valparaiso Club and Chuck is representing the Michigan City Club. Marci Meyer is representing the Long Beach Club. Ken asked for any other changes to his recent listing of Board members and said he would so correct his list for the 2025/26 BOD. No other adjustments were offered. As the terms of all elected under the previous system conclude, the Board will eventually be comprised simply of Club Representatives.

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Terry informed the group that Unit 154 currently has 413 members. This is down from 458 one year ago. With this change, a higher percentage of our membership are Non-Life Masters. Having Gold Rush events at our tournaments will be important to these members.

## **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Ken referred to his report (attached to these minutes) which was sent by email to Board members on 9/20/25. On 9/20/24, the balance in the old Chase checking account was \$31,807.56. On 9/20/25, the current total assets were \$33,804.29. That included assets of \$27,683.15 in our Schwab Account and a \$6,121.14 balance in the Angola Bank checking account.

Ken reported that all forms have been filed with the IRS and the State of Indiana. There were no questions about any entries on the transaction list also distributed to Board members with the Treasurer's Report on 9/20/25.

## **CONTINUATION OF GIFT CERTIFICATES TO CLUBS**

Discussion ensued about the \$300 Gift Certificates given to each Club last year. It was stated that the Club managers were grateful for the gift, although one stated that they would have preferred cash to spend on teachers rather than on equipment. Joe Shull noted that the Indiana Bridge Foundation is very generous in funding bridge instruction in Indiana and works hard to reach those needing grants for Education. Wayne explained that the idea behind Baron-Barclay gift certificates for each Club was to benefit all members. Others agreed that a certificate for new bridge supplies was more appropriate than giving unrestricted cash to Club managers. Joe moved that we again gift \$300 to each Club as gift certificates. Wayne seconded the motion and all were in favor.

## **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Joe moved that Terry be elected President for a second year. Wayne seconded the motion and all approved. Terry selected Chuck to serve as Vice-President. Wayne moved that Ken be elected to continue serving as Secretary-Treasurer. Joe seconded and all approved.

Ken reminded the Board that our Bylaws revision did not remove the term limits for Board Members. Ken is now serving his 9<sup>th</sup> and final year on the Board. Marci has been on the Board longer than 9 years. Joe mentioned that when he was previously on the Board, there were no term limits. They

were introduced only when the Unit was reorganized 11 years ago. Ken offered to return to the Board after the required 1 year absence and resume serving as Treasurer. If the Board and next year's Treasurer wished, Ken would serve as assistant Treasurer and maintain the existing accounts at Schwab and the First Federal Bank of Angola.

## **ACBL NEWS**

Terry noted that the National organization has emphasized Internet activity. The ACBL Clubhouse on BridgeBase Online gives a portion of their game fees to the Club associated with each player who plays there. Ken confirmed that he periodically receives a check from ACBL for these rebates for the 101 Lakes Bridge Club.

Complaints about the search feature of the ACBL website were voiced. Changes to the ACBL web site have made the search feature almost useless for finding links to other areas of the web site. Terry mentioned that one recent change from National was allowing "Guest memberships" to remain free until the member reaches 20 masterpoints. The ACBL continues to seek Directors to replace retiring National Directors. Due to a limited number of Directors, there may become a time when a tournament is assigned a Director who does not have a dealing machine. That would require the sponsoring organization to have one or create boards by hand. Ken suggested that enough clubs in our Unit have dealing machines to offer help in creating board sets for Sectional tournaments at Clubs without one.

## **TOURNAMENT REPORTS**

### **Michigan City – NW Indiana Fall Sectional - Terry Bauer**

Terry reported that the ongoing 2025 NW Indiana Sectional/NLM Regional is on par with last year with 25 tables yesterday, the first day. This tournament will continue to be held at the Michigan City Senior Center. Last year, the Board voted to continue a \$500 donation for each year that it hosts our events.

### **2026 Trine University Regional Tournament**

The Trine University Regional Tournament has been scheduled for July 29-August 2, 2026. Ken moved that Chet Pinkham be approved as Chairman for that tournament. Dimi seconded the motion and it passed without objection.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Chuck noted that there are too few ACBL Directors and encouraged all to become Club Directors. Chuck moved that Unit 154 reimburse all ACBL members in our Unit for the cost of their Director's test, after they pass. Ken seconded the motion and it received a favorable vote.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Chuck thanked Ken for taking on the duties of Web Master, Treasurer, and Secretary for the past year. Ken was grateful for the appreciation of the Board.

## **ADJOURN**

Terry Bauer adjourned the meeting at 1:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ken Bisson  
Secretary/Treasurer