

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the League of Women Voters of Lawrence–Douglas Co
Sat, 20 Apr 2013, Smith Center at Brandon Woods, Lawrence KS 66047

Note: Participants' first and last names are given the first time they are mentioned in these minutes. Thereafter, they are referred to only by their first names.

Call to order. After the luncheon and presentation by speaker Kansas Insurance Commissioner Sandy Praeger (“The Health Insurance Marketplace (Exchange) in Kansas – 2014”), President Melinda Henderson provided introductions and recognized longtime member Margo Gordon, who was moving to St Louis, and—with assistance from Membership and Leadership Development (MLD) Chair Bonnie Dunham—recognized new Lifetime Members Lynn Bodle, Marilyn Bradt, Marilyn Chamberlin, Sue Himes, Audrey Kamb-Studdard, Lee Ketznel, Betty Lichtwardt, Violet Smith, Eleanor Wenger, and Genny Weston. Melinda called the business meeting to order at about 2 pm.

Quorum present. Caleb Morse reported 52 members in good standing (including new members Carol Klinknett, Annie Reed, and Lucy Russell) and four guests (Amalia Graham, LWVK MLD coach Gwen Elliott, speaker Sandy Praeger, and John Studdard) were present.

Order of business. Caleb read the order of business as printed in the Annual Meeting program. Caleb (Hilda Enoch) moved adoption of the order of business as amended; David Burress (second not recorded) moved to amend the order of business to allow the President's Message to occur after establishment of 2013–2014 dues, which Caleb and Hilda accepted as friendly; there was no discussion and the motion carried as amended without dissent.

Appointments. Melinda announced the following appointments: David (Parliamentarian, until the election of new officers); Caleb (Parliamentarian, after the election of new officers); Ruth Lichtwardt and Jeanne Mann (Committee to Read the Minutes).

Attendance Report. Caleb reported a total of 52 members in good standing and 4 guests present, or a total of 56 individuals present, at the time Melinda had called the business meeting to order.

Meeting guidelines adopted. David read the proposed meeting guidelines. Margaret Arnold (Marlene Merrill) moved to adopt the guidelines; carried.

Annual Meeting minutes. Melinda reported that the minutes of the 2012 Annual Meeting were read and approved by the Committee to Read the Minutes of the 2012 Annual Meeting (comprised of Jeanne Mann and Arline Seely-Bensch), and are on file in the Secretary's minutes book and on the website. Since there was no objection, Melinda referred the minutes of the 2013 Annual Meeting to the Committee to Read the Minutes of the 2013 Annual Meeting, comprised of Ruth Lichtwardt and Jeanne Mann, for approval.

Review of 2012–2013 financial statements. Treasurer Marjorie Cole presented the financial statements for the 2012–2013 membership year, noting that income included \$2300 from our Money Market Account to hire an election cycle assistant (as approved at the 2012 Annual Meeting). Account balances were reported as follows.

	March 31, 2012	March 31, 2013
Checking Account	\$2481.65	\$2709.23
(fungible, includes bulk mail account and Dues Scholarship Fund [next])		
Bulk Mail Account	\$124.54	\$0
(zeroed out because of recent reduction in mailed copies of <i>The Voter</i>)		
Dues Scholarship Fund	\$255.00	\$315.00
(a subset of the Checking Account)		
Money Market Fund	\$4397.69	\$2101.51
(fungible, includes planned deficit from 2012 Annual Meeting; see above)		
Stucky Account (restricted)	\$7114.55	\$6372.26
Judiciary Grant	\$1088.58	\$593.58
(includes payment for hosting services of League Easy Web for 1 yr @ \$100/yr and 2 yr @ \$200/yr.)		
LWV Education Fund	\$375.48	\$1832.55
(partially fungible: may be used for one quarterly PMP)		

There were no questions regarding the Treasurer’s report.

Financial report. Marjorie presented the 2013–2014 proposed budget on behalf of the Budget Committee (Marjorie, David and Melinda), including the following items (for further subdivision, see the budget as printed in the program):

	Actual 2012–2013	Proposed 2013–2014
Income total	\$7637.00	\$6440.00
Contributions	\$2351.00	\$1440.00
Dues	\$5286.00	\$5000.00
Expenses	\$9675.00	\$4834.00
Administration (total)	\$791.00	\$508.00
Meals & hospitality (total)	\$20.00	\$200.00
(raised to defray the cost of refreshments incurred in the past by individual members)		
Membership (total)	\$11.00	\$143.00
The VOTER (total)	\$1441.00	\$928.00
(now approximately only 40 copies are printed and mailed)		
Per Member Payments (total)	\$3275.00	\$2415.00
[PMP to LWVK	\$1773.00	\$885.00]
(½ of PMP to LWVK may be paid from our Education Fund in 2014)		
[PMP to LWVUS	\$1502.00	\$1530.00]
State/National meetings (total)	\$1456.00	\$540.00
Voter Service (total)	\$2681.00	\$100.00

Lee Ketznel asked if the Voter Service line shouldn’t be increased to cover costs for any state or national elections in 2013. Melinda responded that elections would not take place again until

2014. Hilda asked where the Due Scholarship Fund should appear in the budget. Marjorie responded that it is part of our General Fund. David clarified that scholarships end up as dues, so the fund is included in the Dues income line. Jeanne Mann noted that *The Voter* appears to cost approximately \$11 each from the estimated cost to print and mail approximately 40 copies. Melinda responded that postage is now \$0.46, more for a 12-page newsletter, and printing costs of approximately \$0.11 per page; the estimated cost is for 12 issues (6 each of 10 and 12 pages) × approximately 40 copies per issue. The total cost to print and mail each copy is about \$2. Marjorie (Carrie Lindsey) moved to adopt the 2013–2014 budget; there was no discussion and the motion carried without dissent.

Financial audit. Melinda presented the review of financial statements as submitted by auditor Carrie Moore, who was not present. Carrie had found the accounts to be in good order. Hilda (Carrie Lindsey) moved to adopt the Auditor’s Report; there was no discussion and the motion carried.

Changes to the Bylaws. Caleb read the proposed change to the Bylaws, as printed in the Program. The change would create two new membership categories: Individual Sustaining Membership (\$100) and Household Sustaining Membership (\$150). Carol Klinknett asked what is meant by “sustaining”. David offered that it is jargon and means that the member understands that her membership includes with it a donation to the organization. Carrie noted that sustaining memberships are common among non-profit organizations. Melinda added that sustaining memberships would help keep League afloat. Carrie (Kay Hale) moved to adopt the change to the Bylaws as proposed; there was no discussion and the motion carried without dissent.

Establishment of 2013–2014 dues. Caleb read the proposal that dues categories for the 2013 – 2014 League year remain at \$55 (Individual Membership) and \$85 (Household Membership), as printed in the Program. Ruth (Carrie) moved to adopt the 2013–2014 dues as proposed; there was no discussion and the motion carried without dissent.

President’s report. Melinda noted that her President’s report had already come over eight months’ of messages in *The Voter*. She did her best to keep up to speed, had fun, and on the day of Annual Meeting finally got to use a bag Carrie had given her when she took over as President. She noted that she had begun the year as Voter Service Chair, thinking she could handle it well enough, but was less certain when she should take over as President. As Voter Service Chair and President, she assembled several voter guides; got the League recognized in the Lawrence *Journal-World*; submitted an editorial on why we ought to vote; arranged for Lawrence Mayor Bob Schumm to issue a proclamation in celebration of the League’s 100th birthday and for National Sunshine Week; learned how to update our Facebook page; and many other things. Melinda thanked Tom Genereaux for all his support through the year. Melinda commended the incoming Co-Presidents to the membership and wished League a great year.

Nominating Committee report and election of officers. Sharon Brown presented the slate of candidates on behalf of the Nominating Committee (Sharon, Marjorie, Bonnie, Kay, and Mary Lou Wright). Melinda read the names of the candidates:

Officers

Co-President: David Burress

Co-President: Cille King

President-Elect: Cille King (first year of a two-year term, the second to be served as President)

Vice President: Marci Francisco (first year of a two-year term)

Secretary: Caleb Morse (first year of a two-year term)

[continuing as Treasurer is Marjorie Cole (second year of two-year term)]

Directors (first year of a two-year term)

Caroljean Brune

Scott Criqui

James Dunn

Ruth Gibbs

Midge Grinstead

[continuing on in the second year of their two-year terms are: Margaret Arnold and Marlene Merrill]

Nominating Committee for 2012–2013

Sharon Brown, Chair (non-Board member)

Bonnie Dunham (non-Board member)

Kay Hale (non-Board member)

[plus 2 members of the Board of Directors, to be appointed]

Melinda solicited nominations from the floor, but there were none. Sharon (Hilda) moved to cast a unanimous ballot for the slate of nominees; there was no discussion and the motion carried without dissent.

Changing of the guard. Melinda surrendered the gavel to new Co-President David. David presented Melinda with gifts. Carrie added special thanks to Melinda and the rest of the Board for taking over when she had to resign. Melinda informally swore in the new Board. David took over the meeting.

National Program. There was no National Program to act.

Local Program updates. James Dunn presented the proposed revisions to our position statement II. Social Policy: Housing for Low-Income Groups. The study committee had organized three meetings on various aspects of low-income housing policy. He thanked all who had helped organize the programs and record the results. Carrie commented on two typographical errors in the proposed revision (insert a full stop at the end of the statement of history; in paragraph one, change "...to analyze low and moderate-income..." to "...to analyzing low and moderate-income..."). Marci Francisco asked about what other issues are addressed in the Housing Code.

For instance, is the number of unrelated individuals allowed to live together in a single-family dwelling included in our position? Marci moved to strike "...only..." from paragraph three ("The housing code should contain only those standards..."). David offered a friendly amendment to strike "...only those..." from the sentence, and explained that proposed changes should be moved and voted on in order. Carrie (Jeanne) moved to adopt the proposed change to the typographical errors; motion carried. Marci (Kay) moved to adopt the amended proposal striking "...only those..."; there was not discussion and the motion carried without dissent. [Main motion] Carol asked if the position should include sidewalk maintenance, since this is the responsibility of homeowners, not that of the city. James responded that the committee was aware of this requirement, but did want to omit the issue, noting that the proposed revision does not address the issue of who pays for particular kinds of infrastructure. Marci added that sidewalks are still a city service that is provided by the city or individuals for the common good. In the long run, all city services are paid for by the citizens. Alan Black (Caleb) moved to adopt the position as revised; there was not further discussion and the motion carried without dissent. Kay commended the League for undertaking the study and James for leading the study committee.

There was no progress to report on the other study adopted at the 2011 Annual Meeting (a study of local government).

Directions to the Board of Directors for 2013–2014:

Marci directed the Board to consider carefully as directions seven recommendations from Melinda, as printed in the program. There were no other directions.

Announcements.

There were several announcements, including summary of planned activities at the upcoming LWVK State Convention and notification that the partially completed portrait of Helen Fluker will be stored at Lee Ketzels home.

Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 3:21 pm.

Respectfully submitted, 8 Apr 2014, by Caleb Morse.

Read and approved on 17 Apr 2014 by the Committee to Read the Minutes of the 2013 Annual Meeting, Ruth Lichtwardt and Jeanne Mann, members.