

**MD 40 Council Meeting Minutes**  
**Moose Lodge**  
**T or C, NM**  
**November 11, 2017**

The meeting was called to order by Council Chair Melissa Washburn at 12:45 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Lion Rosemary Ferguson and the invocation was given by CC Melissa.

CC Melissa welcomed everyone for attending. We were short quite a few officers and others Lions, a big number being at the ALLI and ELLI Training sessions in Denver this same weekend. CC Melissa introduced the head table, 40N District Governor Rose Himrod, 40S DG Gemma Ferguson, 40N 2nd VDG Ed DeArmond, CST PCC Bill Whatley, and herself. She then recognized each PDG and each PCC in attendance. All told, there were 27 lions present.

CC Melissa thanked PCC Jim Brannon for hosting the event. PCC Jim gave an update on Lion Betty. She was in rehab and doing better after her stroke. He has no idea when she'll be released. Lion Betty had some memory loss. She may have to go into assisted living.

Roll was called and those present besides the head table were GLT Chair PDG Randy Rhue, GMT Chair PDG Vern Leavitt, Sight Preservation, Awareness and Action Chair PDG Bobby Richardson, Youth Chair PCC Tom Himrod, MD 40 LCIF Coordinator PCC Bob Jones, C&BL Chair Lion Bryson McCool, International Convention/USA/Canada Forum Chair Lion Jane Wells, and Public Relations Chair Lion Gerry Jones.

CST Bill Whatley received a request from PID Ray Marley requesting that a letter be sent endorsing PID Brian Sheehan for the position of 3rd LCI Vice President, 2018-2019, if Council was so inclined. Approved, letter signed and sent.

CC Melissa said she's quickly approaching the half way mark of her term. Many interesting things are happening, especially the number of members attending ALLI/ELLI training, a total of 12 Lions from MD 40.

DG Rose welcomed and thanked those present for being here. 7 Lions from 40N are attending the training. There may be the beginning of a branch club in Clayton. Northern New Mexico College Lions Club has a slate of officers for the 1st time in years thanks to Lion Paul Baker of Canada. She said that the New Mexico Tech College Club had few local members so community service wasn't as important to the club. Tse Bonita has the members now to form a club and will soon be announcing their charter night. The branch club in Belen is coming along.

DG Gemma welcomed everyone and said 5 Lions from 40S are in training. The 1st half of her term has been interesting and challenging. She's looking forward to the 2nd half.

2nd VDG Ed said he appreciates being 2nd VDG and is thankful for all that we do as Lions.

Under old business, CC Melissa wanted to discuss redistricting. She, DG Gemma, and Lion Jane attended a class on redistricting at the USA/Canada Forum in Portland. **YOU DON'T REDISTRIBUTE BECAUSE YOU'RE GETTING SMALLER!** You redistrict to help the Lions you have. A district is supposed to have a minimum of 35 clubs and a minimum of 1,250 members. Combined, 40N and 40S Currently has about 1,050 members. We need roughly 35 new clubs of 20 members each to be a healthy 2 district multiple. CC Melissa said LCI has a good plan. Wyoming has finally worked things out after years of problems when they went to 1 district. Arizona is looking to downsize from 3 districts to 2. There are mixed feelings. When redistricting is warranted, it's the choice of the CC. The CC will introduce the plan at the state convention to be voted on. The majority rules. 2nd VDG Ed said Gallup is looking to drop 14 members. DG Gemma said she lost 15 members at the beginning of her term.

Questions:

If we redistrict:

- a.) Will you remain active?
- b.) Will you be able to travel?

LCI has a book on redistricting. Get a copy and read. Keep an open mind as you read! Ask if we are healthy. What would be our wish list? There are pros and cons. We need a committee to make recommendations. She asked Lion Bryson to look into this. It won't be CC Melissa's plan. CC Melissa works for the Lions of MD 40.

Many districts are having financial problems. How does a district go broke? If we come up with a smart goals and a smart action plan and decide to redistrict on our own, LCI will give us \$2.00 per member the 1st year, and \$1.00 per member for the 2nd and 3rd years. There will also be a \$10.00 bounty for each new member gained and retained.

How would we select DG and VDGs. We would kind of partition the state and rotate the positions. It will take all 3, the DG, 1st VDG, and 2nd VDG to get this to work. PCC Bob Jones said when he was DG in Arizona, he had 65 clubs and 1,300 members. LCI says now the majority of clubs in USA and Canada have a membership of less than 15.

WHAT IS HEALTHY? Think about what you want in a Lion when you are recruiting. Quality should be way above quantity!

DG Rose said money isn't the issue. She is adamant about retaining 2 districts.

CST Bill said he has mixed emotions about this. He remembers when we went from 3 to 2 districts and the members we lost. PDG Randy said we didn't lose any clubs.

DG Gemma said it's tiring to do all the traveling in the districts now. The work should be split among the DG and VDGs.



GLT PDG Randy said don't give up. It may be the best thing for NM/AZ Lions. If we drop below 1,000 members total, LCI may come in and redistrict us. We could be put in with Arizona, Texas, and Colorado? CST Bill asked if they would make us better and stronger Lions, or if we're so bad, would we make them weaker.

PDG John Sakasitz asked what will happen to the Foundations. That would be resolved in the final process if we're broken out into other states.

Lion Jane said she heard positive feedback from clubs that have or are in the process of redistricting. If you are broken up you can be put into a healthy district, maybe not even within your own state. DG Gemma said she heard of only one district that had gone from a multiple that regretted the decision. Lion Jane said only one district wanted to go back to a multiple and it was very difficult. Lion Gerry recommended a committee draft a letter to be sent to each club in MD 40.

PCC Jim B. said that in the Moose Lodge, the President, President-elect and the Vice-President split duties. Camaraderie is the important thing. Lodges in a district alternate having meetings so all members get to know each other.

DG Gemma said money isn't the problem. LCI will get their money. We're family. Don't be mad a CC Melissa. In other words, don't shoot the messenger. DG Rose said keep 2 districts. Redistricting HURTS! Lion Brenda Dunn said remember our motto: WE SERVE!" Lion Jane said go to your home club and talk about it.

2nd VDG Ed said all members share the same sentiments, but it's better to be proactive. We are Lions of **NEW MEXICO/ARIZONA!** Implement it now rather than wait for a hack job. DG Rose said we need to follow procedure. A club must sponsor and a vote will be taken at the state convention. Lion Peter Momsen wanted to know if we will partner with affiliate members.

A committee has been appointed: CC Melissa Washburn, GLT PDG Randy Rhue, GMT PDG Vern Leavitt, Lion Bryson McCool, Lion Jane Wells, Lion Dr. Deborah Moy, 40S 1st VDG Annie Miller, and 40N 2nd VDG Ed DeArmond.

CC Melissa asked if there were any drawings for the state pin contest. None were presented.

DG Gemma said rooms for the state convention are \$110.00. Our guest speaker will be 2nd year ID Jennifer "Jenny" Ware of Rapid River, MI and her husband Martin will accompany her. There will be a tour of the car museum. Everyone will receive a shirt, and the size choices will be on the registration form. There will also be wine tasting and wine art(?).

Public Relations Chair Gerry Jones said an 8'x 20' vinyl billboard was ordered and will be placed on the north side of the Moriarty Lions Clubhouse facing I-40. The graphics

will be 3 persons, the Lions emblem, [www.lci.org](http://www.lci.org) and in headlines "WE ARE LIONS." News releases advertising the Diabetes Awareness Expo were submitted.

Sight Awareness Chair PDG Bobby Richardson said let's think outside the box. Let's ask the El Paso and Lubbock Lions to join MD 40. Lion PDG Bobby said according to the Hartford Medical School, 45% of eyesight problems can be prevented: Don't smoke, diet, reduce saturated fats, wear sunglasses, and follow the 20/20/20 rule. After 20 minutes of looking at a computer screen, take a 20 second break and focus on something at least 20 feet away.

Youth Chair PCC Tom Himrod reported on what he calls the North Centrex. There are 4 major youth programs: 1) Peace Posters- Santa Fe and Sandia Mountain are involved. 40S has 2 clubs sponsoring 3 schools. 2) Leo Clubs. 3) Lions Quest- Lion Maria de Lourdes Aguirre-Estes is working to implement. 4) Youth exchange.

IT Chair Shelly Smith reported that the directory wasn't on the web sight but had been fixed.

Diabetes Chair Linda Cuenco was at ELLI in Denver, so Lion Betty Miller, ST of the New Mexico Lions Diabetes Awareness Program gave the report. There will be a Diabetes Awareness Expo at the Elegante Hotel in Albuquerque on Saturday, November 18, 2017. Lion Betty said volunteers are needed. They received a proclamation from Governor Susana Martinez's office. They are awaiting one from the Albuquerque City Council. There will be a membership table. Lion Jane Wells said anyone attending and needing a room can get a special rate of \$73.00 which includes breakfast and 2 drinks.

LCI Convention Chair Jane Wells said that the convention will be in Las Vegas, NV, and room prices vary depending on what day of the week it is. Registration is \$150.00 until January 12, 2018, \$200.00 January 13th until April 1st, and \$225.00 thereafter.

C&BL Chair Lion Bryson McCool said that 40S would vote on a proposed constitution modeled on the 40N Constitution. If it passes, the MD 40 C&BL can be simplified.

LCIF Chair PAC Bob Jones reported on the goals for district 40N (\$16,000.00) and 40S (\$14,000.00). To date, MD 40 has contributed \$14,258.00. 29.8% of the clubs have contributed. For the 2016-2017 year, he has a breakdown of Lions in different positions and what percentage contributed, such as ID were at 100%, down to individual Lion members at 1%. LCIF will be aligning grant categories to reflect LCI's Global Service framework as follows: Humanitarian, Disaster, SightFirst, Designated, Leos, and District Club sharing. For 2018, for those districts and clubs asking why they should contribute, if a District contributes a minimum of \$10,000.00 un-restricted funds 15% will be set aside for District Grant use. If a club contributes a minimum of \$5,000.00 un-restricted funds 15% will be set aside for Club Grant use.



GMT Chair PDG Vern Leavitt is committed to building new clubs and teaching leadership.

GLT Chair PDG Randy Rhue is upset that he arranges events for clubs and no one attends. PDG Randy, PCC Don Trumbull, and Lion Jeff Sakasitz are going to visit clubs.

PDG Ruth Wilkes asked that we give a round of appreciation for immediate PCC Ruben Vigil and it was very enthusiastically done.

DG Gemma said there is a memorial for Lion Peter Momsen's mother. She had 20 year chevrons for PCC Jim and Lion Bettie Brannon. She said her next meeting would also be the 40S Convention and the date had to be changed from April 14, 2018, to April 7, 2018 because of a scheduling conflict.

PDG Randy Rhue announced that he's running for Council Chair for 2018-2019.

PCC Don Trumbull said there would be a white elephant Christmas party for Lions at the Moriarty Clubhouse on Saturday, December 9, 2017.

The raffle raised \$126.00, of which \$63.00 went to MD 40 and \$63.00 went to Lion Betty Miller, our winner.

The next meeting is February 17, 2018, same time, same place.

The meeting adjourned at 2:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted this 1st day of January,  
2018



CST Bill Whatley