

District Executive Committee Meeting

San Marcos, Texas

July 9, 2011

Call to Order and Welcome Message – The meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM by District Governor Linda Williams, DTM. She recognized all DEC members who had achieved education or leadership designations since the DEC training.

Inspirational Opening – provided by Dwayne Windham, ACG CL.

Reading of District Mission –read by all DEC members.

Roll Call, Certification of Quorum – District Secretary Carol Clark, ACB ALB, called roll. Forty members were present; sufficient number for a quorum (twenty-seven being required).

Adoption of Agenda –The Agenda was unanimously adopted.

Secretary's Report - The minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report – District Treasurer Heather Diehl, DTM, gave the Treasurer's report. There is a surplus in the account rather than a deficit due to the assets from the Spring Conference. Special request was made for everyone to use the District Sales Tax Form which is available on the website for all district related purchases. As a nonprofit organization, District 55 does not pay sales tax and therefore none will be reimbursed. The treasurer's report will be posted on the website.

Approval of District Governor Recommendations for Area Governors – District Governor Linda Williams, DTM, requested confirmation of the appointments of all District officers. All were confirmed.

Approval of District Governor Recommendations for Contests – District Governor Linda Williams, DTM, recommended Table Topics and Humorous Speech Contests for the Fall 2011 Conference, and the Evaluation and International Speech Contests for the Spring 2012 Conference. Division K District Governor Jean Ramsey, ACB ALB, moved that the recommendations be approved, and the motion carried.

Reports by Senior District Officers –

Immediate Past District Governor Grace Jennings, DTM, extended her appreciation to all the new faces and to all that stepped up to be District Officers and Area Governors. District 55 is a Distinguished District due to great team work. She congratulated last year's LGM Sharon Brown, DTM, for chartering 24 new clubs.

Public Relations Officer Dwayne Windham, ACG CL, discussed the upcoming rebranding of Toastmasters International. He asked for volunteers to man the booths at the scheduled trade shows. He also explained the value of using Google Voice as a contact number for clubs.

Lt Governor Marketing Bill Greenham, DTM, reported that his goal for this year is to end this Toastmaster year with 200 active clubs. Rules and/or initiatives for receiving a new banner, the Club Ambassador Program, the Jack Rabbit Dash, the Adopt-a-Club Program, and other membership building incentives will be posted on the website.

Lt Governor Education and Training Sharon Brown, DTM, expressed thanks to all of the clubs which have taken the first step to attaining the Distinguished Status; the District now has 27% officers trained. All training dates and club incentive goals will be posted on the website.

District Governor Linda Williams, DTM, expressed her dream to build the structure of success for the future so that District 55 can consistently reach President's Distinguished Status. The Quartet, including Sharon, Bill, and Dwayne are ready to help.

Fall Conference Committee Report - Lieutenant Governor Education and Training Sharon Brown, DTM, reported for Conference Chair Tonia Norman, DTM. The theme for the Fall Conference in Austin, November 18-20, is "Celebrating Toastmasters Around the World". Since there is a UT game that weekend, everyone should make hotel reservations early.

Division/Area Governor Reports – Division Governor reports were presented in the following order:

Division M – Linda Atkins, DTM, accompanied by Lisa Harrison, CC CL, Steve Montgomery, DTM, Lorraine Boyden, ACB CL, and Ivan Gray, ATMB.

Division L – Tim Hackler, ACS ALB, accompanied by Lisa Park, ACS ALC, Chris Villafano, ACS ALB, John Boyden, ACS CL, and Michele Durocher.

Division K – Jean Ramsey, ACB ALB, accompanied by Maria Lopez-Sharp, CC ALB, Alice Hoffman, CC CL, Rob Carruthers, ACS CL, Adam Preble, CTM CL, and Mick Normington, ACS.

Division I – Amy Espinoza, DTM, accompanied by Linda Oliver, ACB ALB, Mark Crider, ACG ALB, Deborah Arrington, ACG ALB, Clinton Hahn, ACB CL.

Division J – Laura Schleicher, DTM, accompanied by Mack Lindsey, DTM, Marben Bland, ACG ALB, Scott Brookhart, ACB ALB, Sonya Faivre, ACS ALB, Adam Schwartz, ACB CL.

Division H – Susan McClure, ACB ALB, accompanied by Razvan Pavel, CC, Eva Renn, ALB, Michael Joseph, DTM, Marie Pier Clarke, CC CL, Alana Woods, ACB, ALB.

Division G - Mickey Steib, ACS, accompanied by Mary Pat Johns, ACS ALB.

Division F – Barbara Smith, DTM, accompanied by Dina Puleo, CC ALB, Tim Williams, DTM, and James O'Connell, CTM CL.

Announcement – District Governor Linda Williams, DTM requested members vote for the Division or the Area Governor who gave the most useful report.

New Business –

District Governor Linda Williams, DTM, requested an item be added to the agenda. A two-thirds vote was required for this change. Approval was granted. The appointment of Linda Atkins, DTM, as Division M Governor was confirmed.

Division J Governor, Laura Schleicher, DTM, moved that the RBC Club, #8461, Area I-70, be moved to Area I-73 and that Slick Talkers Club, #8772, Area H-81, be moved to Area H-84. The motion carried. The vote will be confirmed at the District Executive Council Meeting at the Fall Conference in Austin.

Deborah Borden, DTM, announced that emails concerning the club proxies were sent to all club presidents on May 5th and explained the importance of registering club proxies for the International Convention.

Quality Speech Contests: Simple as 1-2-3 – Amy Samet, ACB CL, and Chief Judge Desi Mora, DTM, gave excellent information on the “Do’s and Don’ts” of running a speech contest. Handouts were presented.

Announcements, Feedback and Prize Winners – DG Linda Williams, DTM, announced that there was a tie between Rob Carruthers, ACS CL, and Marie Pier Clarke, CC CL, for second place for the most useful area governor report; Michael Joseph, DTM, won first place. First place for the Division went to Division I, with Division I Governor, Amy Espinoza, DTM, accepting the prize for her team.

The next DEC meeting will be at 9:00 AM, on September 10th, in San Marcos, Texas.

Adjournment – 2:11 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
(Signed) Carol Clark, ACB ALB, District 55 Secretary