

**Area 74 of Alcoholics Anonymous
Area Assembly Meeting Minutes**

September 14, 2024 | Holiday Inn | Stevens Point, WI

The meeting opened at 8:00 AM with a prayer and introduction of new GSRs and DCMs.

Attendance:

- 12 virtual attendees, 57 in-person attendees. Total 69 attendees.

Opening remarks:

- Chair reviewed housekeeping notes and who has a voice and vote at area 74 assemblies.

Roll call:

Officers

- Delegate – Nicholas S
- Chair/Alt. Delegate – Bill D
- Registrar – Katie D
- Secretary – Shane R
- Treasurer – Brent H

District Committee Members (DCMs)

- District 1 – Mike N
- District 2 – Jane M
- District 3 – Allan B
- District 5 – Pat T
- District 6 – Elyssa W
- District 7 – Margaret C
- District 8 – John R
- District 10 – Don K
- District 12 – Johni B
- District 13 – Sunny L
- District 18 – Pat A
- District 20 – Nikki D
- District 21 – Jon J
- District 22 – Melissa P

Standing Committee Chairpersons

- Archives – Paul Y
- Cooperation with the Professional Community – Mike N
- Corrections MI – James H
- Corrections WI – Hawk M
- Finance – Bill L
- Grapevine – Bryon B
- Literature – Mike H
- Newsletter – Jeff C
- Public Information – Shane S
- Structures and Guidelines – Sunny L
- Treatment & Accessibilities – Adam G

Past Delegates

- Panel 56 – Jeff C
- Panel 62 – Marty L
- Panel 70 – Char V
- Panel 72 – Bryon B

Approval of area assembly minutes from 5/18/2024:

- **Motion (seconded):** Approve 5/18/2024 area assembly minutes. **Vote:** passed unanimously.

Workshop – Robert’s Rules of Order (presented by panel 72 past delegate Bryon B)

Reports:

- Appendix A – Area officer and standing committee chair reports.
- Appendix B – Treasurer’s report.

Old Business:

- Flyers from outside of Area 74 (Newsletter Co-Editors) – neither co-editor was present to bring forward this discussion.
- **Motion:** “Suggest area 74 purchase or provide a wireless microphone to allow accessibility for limited participants.” Submitted by: Fireside Chat Group, District 8, Area 74

- Will be presented at the October assembly. GSRs and DCMs to bring motion back to their groups and districts for discussion prior to the assembly.
- Area service position vacancies:
 - Alternate secretary – no nominations.
 - Alternate registrar – no nominations.

New Business:

- Elections:
 - East Central Regional Trustee Nomination:
 - Panel 56 delegate Jeff C and panel 70 delegate Char V presented their resumes to the assembly body for consideration.
 - **Vote:** 41 Jeff, 20 Char. Total 61 votes. Substantial unanimity = 41 votes.
 - Jeff C elected by substantial unanimity.
 - Trustee at Large Nomination:
 - No nominations.
- Motions:
 - Presented by treasurer Brent H on behalf of the finance committee for budget overages:
 - **Motion:** Cover area 74 delegate's overages.
 - **Vote:** 34 yes, 9 no. Minority opinion spoke.
 - Motion to reconsider (seconded):
 - **Vote:** 11 yes, 38 no. **Motion to reconsider failed.**
 - **Motion:** Cover area 74 chair/alternate delegate's overages.
 - **Vote:** 47 yes, 0 no. **Motion passed unanimously.**
 - **Motion:** Cover area 74 corrections Wisconsin chair budget overages.
 - **Vote:** 37 yes, 4 no. Minority opinion spoke. No motion to reconsider.
 - Presented by Sunny L on behalf of the structures and guidelines committee:
 - **Motion:** Update Area 74 guidelines with 16 previously approved motions.
 - **Vote:** 42 yes, 0 no.
 - Presented by Brian B, GSR of the Back to Basics Group, District 5, Area 74 (See Appendix D):
 - **Motion:** "Area 74 will fully fund its delegate seat at the general service conference with an annual budget line item equal to the previous year's cost of attending the general service conference." See Appendix D for complete motion with background information.
 - Motion is to be discussed by the groups and districts of area 74 prior to the October assembly, with a plan to discuss and potential vote at that time.
 - Finance Committee Question – Appendix C
 - Discuss in groups and districts prior to October assembly.

Conference updates:

- Spring 2024 – see Appendix A
- 2025 – verbal report presented to assembly.
- 2026 – Pat T presented a bid for a combined area 74 conference and east central regional conference in 2026. Looking at middle of June, 2026.
 - **Vote:** 42 yes, 6 no. Minority opinion spoke.
 - **Motion to reconsider (seconded):** 39 yes, 7 no. Motion passes.
 - **Motion to table (seconded):** 32 yes, 5 no. Motion passes.
- WICYPAA – Jeffrey H provided a verbal report to the assembly.

The meeting ended at 3:30 PM. Minutes submitted by Shane R, Area 74 Secretary

**Appendix A – Area Officer and Standing Committee Reports
September 14, 2024, Area Assembly**

Delegate – Nicholas S

Some updates from the 3rd quarter board meeting held in July - Corrections - The Staff secretary reported that a survey is being developed to address the committee consideration from the Conference Committee on Corrections to gather shared experience on how local corrections committees encourage and engage members in corrections service.

Shared Experience on Virtual Meetings: The committee reviewed the draft service piece, “Facilitating Online Meetings in Correctional Facilities” and asked the Staff secretary to work with Publishing to add this service piece to the Corrections workbook and kit.

For the six months ended June 30, 2024, total operating revenue is \$9,708,502 which is 5% more than the year to date (YTD) budget of \$9,254,313. Total operating expenses before depreciation are \$9,179,004, which is 5% less than the YTD budget of \$9,642,506. Operating surplus before depreciation is \$529,497 compared to a budgeted YTD deficit of \$388,192. Literature accounts is \$443,902, of which 44.9% is current, 20.4% is less than 60 days past due, and 34.7% is more than 60 days past due. The reserve fund is at 6.33 months of 2024 operating expenses versus a target range of 9 to 12 months. Overall, the financial news is better than expected.

Development of a Fifth Edition of the book *Alcoholics Anonymous*: The committee reviewed a progress report regarding the development of a Fifth Edition of the book *Alcoholics Anonymous*. The subcommittee has met twice since the General Service Conference towards the goal of presenting a draft edition to the trustees’ Literature Committee prior to the 75th General Service Conference.

The Plain Language Big Book will be available for order beginning November 1, soft cover at a cost of \$11.00.

I attended a sharing session for Conference Members – these are two to be held twice per year between conferences – I had a chance to “meet” our new General Service Board Chair Scott L – our first Class B board chair. Registration is open for the AA International Convention in Vancouver in July 2025 – I would like to start a roster of who is going from Area 74 and attempt to take an Area 74 Photo / meet-up location – the ECR will also be hosting a hospitality room and I will have more information on that as Bryon B and myself are on that committee.

With the new schedule for 2025 I’ve asked the Area 74 Conference Committee to give me a couple of hours to provide a report on the 75th General Service Conference at that Conference – that will I have as my official Delegates Report – I will also be available and willing to travel to your districts as I’ve done this year. I’ve also selected March 8th, 2025, as the Delegate’s Workshop – to be held again at St. Stephen’s Lutheran Church in Wausau, WI – this will be an in-person event only.

There are many national conferences that our Area has historically not supported, the National Corrections Conference, Archives Conference, Bridging the Gap, etc. I have encouraged our committee chairs to look into these events and costs and that we as an area really consider supporting our elected chairs to attend these events.

Since we have met in May I’ve traveled to the East Central Regional Conference in Grand Rapids, MI, visited Districts 22, 2, 17, 12, 18, 1, 22, and a Wicypaa Event totaling nearly 4,000 miles. I have met with AA members from all over Northern Wisconsin and have had wonderful conversations about their recovery and what is happening in their districts. I’ve heard about meetings in jails, treatment centers, and newcomers getting introduced to AA through PSAs at public transit stops in Green Bay. What I’ve heard about is an excitement growing and enthusiasm for Alcoholics Anonymous and Area 74. My understanding is that many of our committee’s area meeting monthly via zoom and work is getting done.

I want to thank our committee chairs for the work you are doing – if I can be of any help – please let me know. 2025 is a new calendar for us and we have some significant changes – I ask our committees and DCMs to begin thinking now what we want to do with our time together in January to best use our time together, it isn’t the Area’s time or the Area’s Area Committee Meeting and assembly – it is ours, what do we want to do with it?

Year-to-date I have spent \$3,186.15 which is over budget – and the finance committee will discuss that later. 16 years ago, today – I was homeless in Milwaukee, WI. I was unemployed, recently arrested and alone. Thank you for the opportunity to give back to this fellowship that has given me so much. Thank you for letting me share.

Alcoholics Anonymous.com now belongs to Alcoholics Anonymous. For many years, this website domain was owned and operated by a private individual posting information as if it were coming from alcoholics anonymous. Our General Service Office Manager has worked tirelessly for the last number of years to obtain the domain without entering public controversy and that occurred earlier this year. There were legal costs associated with the transfer of the domain, but we were not charged and paid nothing to obtain the domain. When you now log onto alcoholics [anonymous.com](http://alcoholicsanonymous.com) it directs you to our website, alcoholics [anonymous.org](http://alcoholicsanonymous.org)

Registrar – Katie D

Here are the numbers for Area 74 as of September 13, 2024, 2024. We have twenty-four active districts in the area. Our current numbers compared to the numbers in my May report are as follows:

1,504 groups in the district – 1,498 in May 606 are active – 596 in May.

652 inactive – 650 in May Eleven virtual – 10 in May 110 unknown – 116 in May Three incomplete – 3 in May

There are far too many groups still missing either a GSR, mail contact, a location, or an e-mail address. If groups are no longer active, then we need to get them moved to the inactive group. E-mail addresses are necessary to reduce the number of duplicate accounts created in Fellowship Connection. New forms were created in February that hopefully have made things easier for everyone to get the correct information from me. Please make sure your groups are using the new forms and are sending all changes directly to the registrar@area74.org email. Many groups are still sending old forms and are sending forms to New York. They can find the forms on the Area 74 website. New Group and Group Information change forms are under the "Keep your meeting information up to date" section. The DCM change form is located on the DCM page. Also, when sending in change forms, please make certain to use the ENTIRE group ID number which is nine digits, not the old FNV number which is being phased out.

I really need you, the DCM's, to become more actively involved in getting your districts' information cleaned up in Fellowship Connection. I will be more than happy to collaborate with you and get you comfortable with pulling reports and getting information corrected. You do not have to do it all at once. You can break it down into workable tasks. Thanks for all you do. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to me either by email or phone.

Secretary – Shane R

Thank you for the opportunity to serve.

Area 74's co-secretary position is still vacant. I have previously made a flyer which was sent out in the area newsletter for distribution to groups and districts. Please contact me directly if you or anyone you know is interested in serving. Beginning with our next assembly, I will start printing copies of the previous service meeting's minutes for reference prior to their approval. Just a reminder that these are sent out to all area officers, area committee chairs, and DCMs. They are also printed in the newsletter. If you are a GSR and you are not receiving a copy of the minutes, please speak to your DCM.

The secretary laptop battery is no longer holding a charge. This is not terribly problematic; however, I would suggest that the area consider replacing this or buying a new laptop. I can research the costs but will need direction from the area regarding who pays for this.

Archives – Paul Y

The goal of the Archives Committee is to follow Bill W,'s vision of "...trying to build up extensive records which will be of value to a future historian..."

Our committee held a virtual meeting on June 19, 2024. Items discussed were.

1. Increasing accessibility to items in the Archives collection
2. Finding a permanent home for the Archives instead of residing with the Archivist
3. The upcoming 27th National AA Archives Workshop

I will be attending the NAAAW in Des Moines, Iowa from September 26 through September 29. Our goal is to get information on the accessibility issue and how to find an appropriate permanent home for our Archives. Please contact me if you would like other information so it can go on my radar.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve, Paul Yeager

Corrections Michigan – James H

Out of 8 districts in the UP, 2 of those have district correction chairs (district 17 and 21).

There are 15 counties in the Upper Peninsula. Currently, 6 of those counties have AA meetings in the facility, whether it be AA members or the inmates doing their own meetings:

Baraga, Marquette, Iron, and Dickinson county – have AA members putting on meetings. Luce and Alger county – the inmates are holding their own meetings.

Delta, Houghton, and Chippewa counties – we are in the process of getting AA into these facilities. Background checks, days, times, etc.

I attend the monthly UP Traveling Intergroup and hold corrections meetings. Attendance at these has been improving in the recent months.

Purchased literature from Mike, our literature chair, at the Marquette (district 18) area workshop in the amount of \$251.10.

Feel free to reach out with any questions or concerns. Thank you for letting me be of service.

CPC – Mike N

Fellow travelers along the Broad Highway;

Since our last get together at the Spring Conference in Ashland I've been trying to get my feet underneath me in this new service position. Our initial in-person committee meeting in Ashland had 12 participants and the enthusiasm high. We initiated the first Area 74 CPC Committee Zoom Meeting held the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 6:30 Central. Our first committee meeting via Zoom in June also had 12 participants but then summer caught up with us in July and August where there were 3 committed souls spit-balling ideas. We did get some work done with baby steps in Districts 18 and 9. I had intended to present at a District 18 service event on August 3rd but got called away by the death of my mother in Texas. The spot was capable filled by James M, of Bellevue, WI. Initial talks have also been made with Jane M of D02 and I intend to attend their next District Meeting. I've been in contact with Warren G, Delegate A56 and their CPC chair Erika S and they will be attending our monthly Zoom Meetings when able. I have reached out to the Scheduling Desk at GSO to secure a visit by CPC desk chair Michael R at a future Zoom.

All good things start small and I remain enthusiastic and committed. I am also going to try and attend the Area 62 workshop on Sunday, 9/15.

Yours in service;

Mike N-CPC Chair, Area 74 920-228-2019

nvflyguy@gmail.com

Finance – Bill L

We meet on zoom under the Area 74 Zoom account at 7pm CST on the second Tuesday of each month.

We have been looking for some clarity on the finance committee as to the guidelines on reimbursement. Changes that have been approved by the assembly have not been updated in the Area 74 Guidelines since the outbreak of

the Covid 19 pandemic. The Structures and Guidelines committee have been working to bring to the assembly an updated version of the guidelines to be approved. It will help to clarify any questions the committee has regarding proper stewardship of our area's finances.

The Area 74 Finance Committee is seeking guidance on a few items. We ask that you share your voice with your home group General Service Representative (GSR), District Committee Member (DCM) or any standing committee chair or Area 74 officer. **See attachment**

Newsletter – Jeff C and Michelle Z

There are 990 recipients of the newsletter.

For the electronic version, we have a 13% click rate and a 23% open link, so a little over 200 average.

The biggest expense is the monthly subscription to MailChimp. We have not found an effective alternative so far. Our 2025 budget request reflects this expense.

If your group is registered and current with the Area Registrar, therefore GSO, you will receive an electronic version, which is the most complete version. Otherwise, the Now & Then will send any member the electronic version if you provide us with your email address.

Please try to send info to be published by the 25th of the month. We often receive info on the last day of the month and try to get it in, but it's helpful to us if we get it sooner. We send the emailed version on the last evening of the month, but it takes about 8-12 hours each month to complete both versions. The most time consuming parts are producing, printing, and mailing the hard copies; and reformatting documents sent to us. We send the hard copies out 2 days before the end of the month, so the 11 copies are received by the 1st.

We usually get about 5 different formats sent to us each month and we convert them to Word for publication. Final versions of the Now & Then are sent PDF.

Occasionally we have sent a second email to make corrections. Sometimes individual servers convert the newsletter to other unreadable formats, or we forget to include something, or make a mistake that needs correction, or we are asked to get info out that needs to reach as many members as possible.

The Now & Then publishes whatever we are asked to put in the newsletter by members of Area 74 that are within the "guidelines" (no official Area 74 Newsletter Guidelines), and if it is not clear to the co-editors, we go to the groups of Area 74 for guidance or if not possible, the Area Committee for help.

If there are any members that are interested in becoming editors of the newsletter, please inquire and we will gladly enter into discussion about that. We have done this since panel 68, and while we gladly will continue to serve, we would also have no problem rotating out.

In service,

Jeff C & Michelle Z Now & Then Co-Editors

Public Information – Shane S

1. Our P.I committee meets on the last Wednesday of every month at 7pm. Zoom ID: 830 3370 6846/Password: PI. Our committee consists of Sunny DCM 13, Elyssa DCM 06, Jane DCM 02, Debbie P District 01 PI chair, Cameron S AA Member, Laurie G District 02
2. At our monthly P.I meeting we encourage all Public Information chairs from Districts and Groups of Area 74. The purpose is to come together and share ideas on how we can reach out to the alcoholic that still suffers. Our Flyer is posted in the Now & Then Newsletter Monthly.
3. What is going on in the PI committee sense we last met at the 2024 spring conference
 - a. Northwoods Advertising Bathroom Stall Digital AA Flyers posted in over 65 cities in Restaurant's, gas stations, retail stores, etc. Contract goes from June 1st, 2024, to June 1st, 2025
 - b. We now have a Billboard in Green Bay, Wisconsin on Hwy 41, Geano Beach Road, size of the Billboard is 11'X23'. Total weekly impressions 122,180 for 16 weeks.

- c. We will be introducing online Chat to Area 74 at the Area Committee Meeting
 - d. For 2025, Eagle Media, an Ojibwe owned company in the upper peninsula of Michigan. It would be broadcast on two radio stations, including the KBIC Reservation 15 second public service announcements from the AA.org website.
4. PSAs are a huge focus this upcoming year, our servants at GSO have provided us with amazing Radio clips, video clips and for social media platforms.
- a. Two new videos from the Young People's Video project – now available on aa.org. “Young and Sober in AA: it could save your Life, and I thought drinking made me an Artist.
 - b. We are so excited to announce that for the first time in the history of Alcoholics Anonymous Deaf alcoholics can share their stories with other Deaf alcoholics through mass media in American Sign Language. How? Grapevine & La Viña YouTube Channel
5. What's on the horizon for our PI committee:
- a. Radio PSAs in Upper Peninsula of Michigan
 - b. Helping upper Michigan with PI work
 - c. Putting together workshops for 2025
 - d. Invite Meshia Q from GSO PI chair to one of our Monthly meetings in 2025.

Structures & Guidelines – Sunny L

Summary: Hi you all, I'm Sunny L, the Chairperson of Structures & Guidelines Committee. I've done many reviews & readings of the Assembly approved minutes and some Now & Then Newsletters from late 2020 almost leading up to 2023 and is time consuming. I been physically limited since December 2023 as I had some neck procedures done that really didn't work and I suffer from headaches and neck flexibility painings. That is better and I've had another appointment on Tuesday May 28th for pain relieving neck injections. I continued downloading all the Assembly Minutes starting around the year 2020 and some Now & Then Newsletters thru early 2024. I used my personal email address.

Assembly passed Motions: My ongoing plans was to continue to look for the past Area 74 Secretary's emailed Minutes and other related documents. And when I came across potential Amending Motions for my Motion guide of what evolved into a 10 (ten) page writeup directing which Motion changes was going to be located and edited into both the Structures & Guidelines document and Advisory Actions document. I located 23 (twenty-three) of them that I documented them into a 10 (ten) page write up using word and pdf. A Couple was repeats. The DRAFT updated documents will be the Structures & Guidelines and Advisory Actions of Area 74. I documented them in doc and pdf format. During our Structures & Guidelines zoom meetings the amount of Assembly passed Motions was reduced to 16 (sixteen).

Documents Edited an Hard Copied:

For the next Saturday September 14th Aassembly, I again had a local printer shop make copies of:

- a. 10 page write up has 36 double sided copies at a cost of \$81.90, and
- b. 24 page double sided copies of the DRAFT edited with changes in yellow ink texts for Area 74 Structures & Guidelines at a cost of \$ 132.34, and
- c. 24 page DRAFT edited with changes in yellow ink texts for the Advisory Actions we had none copied but will have a copy on site..
- d. Did not have copies made because of the costs of 24 page yellow ink texts with Motions changes edited into it.

Both b) and c) had different font type and font size so I reformatted both documents using the Times New Roman font and a font size of 12. That allowed me to copy the Motions Text and Paste from the main 10 page Writeup doc directing which Assembly passed Motions was going to be located within both the Guidelines & Advisory Actions. The two sets of copied documents a) and b) will be hardcopy available for both Assembly and Area Committee Meetings Saturday May 18th & Sunday May 19th 2024.

Expenditures:

There were hardcopies made for 3 (three) Assembly Meetings & ACM Meetings is \$431.74. Committee Members & Meetings:

I picked the date of Thursday June 20th at 7pm to hold first zoom meeting with the Committee Members. And meetings were held July 18th and August 8th using zoom for those sessions that were 1 to 2.5 hours long. The Committee Members were emailed with all the edits they wanted changed or what I was writing with the main 10 page writeup document. The 3rd zoom meetings I had all three documents. Assembly passed Motion wordings were written with yellow ink tests into both Guidelines & Advisory Actions.

The Committee Members are: Nicholas the Delegate, Bill the Alt Delegate/Chairperson, Sara the Past Delegate, James and Lil two Group Service Representatives and/or District Committee Members either current or past. Also in the zoom meetings is Bill from Finance Committee.

The Meetings Minutes were taken during zoom Meetings were wrote up by. The total number of pages are 5 (five) and can be emailed in support of the Committee's Zoom Meetings. All four (four) documents involved with the Assembly passed Motions were emailed to Committee Members. The Meetings Minutes will be on hand at the next Assembly meeting.

The next Committee session will be held informally at the Assembly in September 2024 an might be available at the September Assembly meeting in Stevens Point.

Area 74 Organizations' Conference:

Further, I emailed the 10 (ten) page writeup that has the Committee request & its' Motion to use it cause it shows where the Motions were written into an located in all 3 (three) documents. The email went to both the Alt Delegate Bill and Secretary Shane. Others included in that email is the Structures & Guidelines Committee Members. The reason is my Committee's request to be on the next Assembly Agenda at the Area 74 Organizations Conference in Steven's Point WI. If approved for Agenda time, the DRAFT edited changes in yellow ink texts for Structures & Guidelines will be presented for Assembly Members approvals. The DRAFT Advisory Actions edited with yellow ink texts will be on hand if needed..

Committee Reminders for Reference:

The Structures & Guidelines Committee is to keep and update the Area 74 Guidelines, to discuss and then recommend changes of the Area 74 service structure to the Assembly for Approval. A review of passed motions will be done for placement on the Area 74 Assembly Actions list.

Source: "Article VIII Amendments to the Guidelines: Section 1: The Guidelines maybe amended at any Area Assembly, by a vote of two thirds of the voting membership voting on each ballot."

Treatment and Accessibilities – Adam G

My committee and I have been meeting for the last 3 months. We are meeting on the 4th Friday of the month at 6 o'clock on zoom. The zoom info is in the now and then. If you want the info I can get that for you. We would like to get more people involved. If any of the districts have treatment and accessibilities committees please encourage them to join us. We have been working with some people from district 2 trying to set up an ASL meeting.

Webmaster – Lucas

Hello,

I won't be able to attend the conference this weekend. I hope you both have a great time! Here is my report:

- I have continued assisting districts with listing their meetings on the meeting guide app
- I have helped people post material on the website including event flyers, minutes, now & then, and conference reports.
- I worked with our delegate on a new page where he can submit blog posts.

- I have been helping with the technological aspects of implementing a chat feature on our area website. Shane S. will be presenting our findings on Sunday to the area committee.

Area 74 2024 Spring Conference – Adam G and Marty L

We thank all the A.A. members and Alanon that attended and participated in the Area 74 Spring Conference 2024. A special thank you to District 12 for their help in hosting another great conference. Panelists from Home Groups - Port Wing, Cornucopia, YPAA , District 04 , Alanon and District 12. The Iron River Group for the Ice Cream Social, the musicians for the Friday night entertainment, The Hybrid guys for the Saturday night entertainment, and of course our 4 speakers sharing their recovery journey with us all.

And last but not least our East Central Region Trustee for her experience and insight in the workings at the General Service Office.

After a slow start to registrations, we ended up with an attendance number of 227 with 16 being newcomers with one year or less of sobriety. We served 160 banquet dinners on Saturday night, a sobriety countdown went from 46 years to 18 days of sobriety!

Financially, we again finished with a gain as our expenses in Ashland are exceptionally low for a conference of this size. The AmericInn provides great pricing for renting their facility. The conference financial result is a \$1,053.30 gain on our budgeted projection. Splitting that with the Area is \$ 526.65 returned to the Area as 50% of the gain. As instructed by the Area Officers, the unplanned, non-budgeted cost of the trustee's expenses to attend were \$981.89 , leaving \$2,018.11 of the seed money returned along with the \$526.65 gain results in a return to the Area of \$ 2,544.76 of the \$3,000.00 borrowed to start up the conference.

We, along with District 12 thank you for your support and participation in the spring conference.

**Appendix C – Finance Committee’s Questions to the Groups of Area 74
September 14, 2024, Area Assembly**

Define Reimbursement

The Area 74 Finance Committee is seeking guidance on a few items. We ask that you share your voice with your home group General Service Representative, District Committee Member or any area standing committee chair or Area 74 Officer.

1. Should Area 74 reimburse expenses incurred by Officers and Committee Chairs prior to the day of the event?

- Yes
- No
- Only in case of financial need.

Please note: Historically the practice of reimbursements prior to an event is rare to the best of our collective knowledge. This would set a new precedent if we choose this new practice.

A precedent is defined as an earlier event or action that is regarded as an example or guide to be considered in subsequent similar circumstances.

- If Area 74 adopts the practice of reimbursements prior to an event. Do we need a policy in place that **if** the Officer or Chair could not attend, to pay back the reimbursement to the area?

2. Should Area 74 reimburse Conference Banquet expenses for Officers and Standing Committee Chairs?

- Yes
- No
- Only in case of financial need

Committee stated purpose.

Should each Committee layout a yearly stated purpose (List of activities for the year that specifically shows what the committee expenses are for)?

- Yes
- No

Should Area 74 fully reimburse all meal expenses for Officers and Chairs while attending Area 74 service event?

- Yes
- No

Should Area 74 provide a meal stipend for Officers and Chairs while attending Area 74 service event? (example \$5.00 breakfast, \$10 Lunch, \$15 Dinner)

- Yes
- No

Should there be a maximum allowed reimbursements for meals while attending Area 74 service event? (example \$50 for the whole weekend)

- Yes
- No

**Appendix D – Back to Basics Motion
September 14, 2024, Area Assembly**

Motion for Area 74

Started by Back to Basics, Eau Claire, District 05

Group # 000021507

Motion:

Area 74 will fully fund its delegate seat at the general service conference with an annual budget line item equal to the previous year's cost of attending the general service conference.

6/27/2024 Passed unanimously Back to Basics group

8/14/2024 District 05 voted in favor with unanimity 11 in favor, 2 did not vote

Background information:

This motion is based on the spiritual principle of our 7th tradition.

7. The A.A. groups themselves ought to be fully supported by the voluntary contributions of their own members. We think that each group should soon achieve this ideal; that any public solicitation of funds using the name of Alcoholics Anonymous is highly dangerous, whether by groups, clubs, hospitals, or other outside agencies; that acceptance of large gifts from any source, or of contributions carrying any obligation whatever, is unwise. Then too, we view with much concern those A.A. treasuries which continue, beyond prudent reserves, to accumulate funds for no stated A.A. purpose. Experience has often warned us that nothing can so surely destroy our spiritual heritage as futile disputes over property, money, and authority.

Pg 1. Area 74 Guidelines

The Area shall continually be guided by the General warranties contained in Concept XII of the Twelve Concepts, namely that the Area shall observe the spirit of the AA Traditions, taking great care that the Area never becomes the seat of perilous wealth or power; that sufficient operating funds, plus an ample reserve, be its prudent financial principle;

Pg. c50 The AA Service Manual combined with Twelve Concepts for World Service by Bill W.
Warranty Two: "Sufficient operating funds, plus an ample Reserve, should be its prudent financial principle."

But when it comes to the actual spending of cash, particularly for A.A. service overhead, many of us are apt to turn a bit reluctant. We think of the loss of all that earning power in our drinking years,

of those sums we might have laid by for emergencies or for education of the kids. We find, too, that when we drop money in the meeting hat there is no such bang as when we talk for hours to a newcomer. There is not much romance in paying the landlord. Sometimes we hold off when we are asked to meet area or Intergroup service expenses. As to world services, we may remark, "Well, those activities are a long way off, and our group does not really need them. Maybe nobody needs them." These are very natural and understandable reactions, easy to justify. We can say, "Let's not spoil A.A. with money and service organization. Let's separate the material from the spiritual. That will really keep things simple."

Remarks:

Every year the General Service Office has covered Area 74's shortfall in the cost of the area's delegate to attend the General Service Conference. This essentially amounts to other groups supporting our Area.