

**Area 74 of Alcoholics Anonymous
Area Committee Meeting Minutes
Zoom December 7, 2024**

The meeting opened at 8:02 am with the Serenity prayer.

Attendance: Five Officers, four Committee Chairs, eleven DCMs, two Past Delegates

Opening Remarks: Chair reviewed housekeeping notes and who has a voice and vote at Area Committee meetings. Bill requested if we could hear DCM reports at end of meeting.

Roll Call:

Officers – Delegate, Alt Delegate/Area Chair, Registrar, Secretary, Treasurer

Standing Committee Chairs – CPC, Grapevine, Now & Then, Structures & Guidelines

DCMs – 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 8, 10, 12, 13, 18, 22

Pat T D05 moved to approve ACM minutes from September 15, 2024, Pat D18 2nd
Approved.

Delegate's Report:

Good Morning Members of the Area 74 Area Committee Meeting,

A few updates from the Delegate. I've sent out the preliminary agenda items for the 75th General Service Conference. The final items will be selected at the January Board weekend. What I sent out will give you an idea of what we will be discussing at conference and the March Delegate's workshop – March 8th in Wausau, same location as last year. I emailed out information regarding the PLBB and from my viewpoint, small changes to the 2nd printing. It is not back in stock. At the International Convention each region can host a hospitality suite and the ECR is. I am on that committee. The hospitality suite will be at the Hyatt Regency and Area 74 has in the past made a financial contribution to the suite. Last time I believe it was \$500, the suite provides trinkets, coffee, water, etc. I will keep you updated and most likely at the April Assembly have an ask for a contribution. On Monday, December 2nd, I made the decision to pull the Area 74 Corrections committee together as an ex-facto chair. The committee had not met since the Delegate's workshop. In attendance were myself, Bill D, James – Michigan Corrections Chair and the three assigned DCMS, Pat T – District 5, Don K – District 10, Jon J – District 21, and Geno P, the current Area 75 Corrections chair to share his experience. We are meeting again on Monday, December 30th at 5pm CST – all are welcome to attend. We especially encourage District Correction Chairs to attend. Please get the word to them. With that said, we are looking for a Wisconsin Corrections chair. If you know anyone interested have them to reach out to Bill or myself to learn more about the position.

Historically there has been a monthly DCM call or zoom and it has lost some steam. Mimicking what we do in the ECR, with the trustee and ECR delegates, I am going to host a monthly informal

chat with the DCMs, a chance for them to ask questions, share experiences, etc. As of now this will be on the last Tuesday of Each month at 7pm CST.

I want to take a moment and expand a bit beyond my words in the now and then and reflection on year 1 as delegate and my hope for year 2.

Last meeting in Minocqua was frustrating. Not pleased with my roll in discussion. Wants a do-over to pause and pray about our love for the program. Loves being right. Loves when he thinks he's right. His hope to do a better job to not add to tension. Some people think Nicholas is not as neutral as past delegates have been. Nicholas does have a vision and an agenda for Area 74. When changes were made to schedule, he had a sense that there was a strong desire to do something different. Wants an Area that serves the districts and serves the still suffering alcoholic. Nicholas has been very inspired by committee

Ex dates to remember, what does it mean? What am I supposed to be at? What am I supposed to do there?

In love and service,

Nicholas Stabenow-Schneider
A74/P74 Delegate.

2025 Conference Report

Prelim program in place, speakers are being contacted, hospitality room is an issue for conference because of hotel (may only be open specific hours), are asking for financial support for hospitality room. The hotel will maintain the room. Has a checking account setup now. Next meeting is Monday, December 9, 2024. Looking for people to fill the committees.

Area Chair: Bill. Use the Now and Then to make people aware of what committees they serve on and their duties. DCMs should make sure to get their district chairs to the corresponding Area Standing Committee meeting. Publish list of when the meetings are. Challenge standing committee chairs to have an agenda for a plan of action.

Need a backup IT person.

No Old Business

New Business:

Workshop, Brent H, Treasurer, Progress Report. Committee is actively discussing how to make the committee more efficient. The committee is looking to do an inventory. Reviewed the budget. We're meeting the 7th tradition numbers.

Looking at guidelines to review Finance Committee procedures. Bill L, Nicholas, Brent, Mary Beth, Terri, Char are on the committee.

What's not working with the Finance Committee? How to handle overages? Nine officers/committee chairs went over budget. Looking on how to be more efficient with that. Help the committee chairs be aware that they're nearing their budget limits.

Hotel expenses and meals have increased (chair budgets, not committee budgets)

Was the seating Delegate's budget corrected? We added an additional \$400.

Do you want the feedback from the finance questions you sent out?

Bill D wanted to know if any DCMs do not understand their committee assignments.

Nicholas asked if we were going to talk about what we want our next ACM (8 hour day) will look like

Grapevine, the ACM can put together a generic doc to instruct Area Chairs on what to work on.

Brent: wants feedback about publishing Treasurer's reports in the Now & Then. Monthly or quarterly?

Pat T likes monthly. Brent guidelines are the minimum, no limit on the maximum.

January 18, 2025 is the next ACM

Now & Then cannot publish info that has not yet been approved by the assembly.

Bill needs to set the agenda. Work with past delegates

Melissa no new DCM workshop, each committee chair have a preliminary agenda for their committee for the day. Pick one goal for the year for each committee. Chair committees come up with itinerary and brainstorm and come up with a goal or goals.

What are allowable and not allowable expenses? Stipends, travel etc. If we're spending money to help alcoholics it's good.

Don K Workshop breakout and how we do a workshop

Jeff C We have the ACM on 1/18/25, then we have the Area Standing Committee Workshop on 4/11

Nicholas we have the ACM, the night before each assembly we have standing committees meet

Michelle moved to start the next ACM at 9:30 am, Bryon B 2nd

Vote 12 yes 2 no

DCM Reports -no time. Written reports at the end of the minutes.

The meeting closed with the Responsibility Statement

Respectfully submitted by Michelle Z standing in for Secretary Shane R

District 01

Greetings one and all in Area 74;

District 01 continues to operate with a modicum of efficiency and availability to the still suffering alcoholic. Our filled Chair positions continue to measure up to the challenge, but we are not without our struggles. We now have the following positions open on the Committee: Alt. DCM, Accessibilities and Grapevine. Green Bay Correctional Institution continues to go without meetings behind the walls, and our major challenge continues to be preparation for the NFL Draft next April. We continue to try and secure a venue for Hospitality as well as daily meetings during the event itself.

Blessings to all this holiday season!

Mike N-DCM D01

920-228-2019

District 02

- On 11/16 we had a GSR/Service Workshop. Attendance was not great. But it was informative and fun.

- We need an Alternate DCM and a GV chair. Some of our current chairs are not showing up at district meetings. It's a concern.

- 2 new meetings started: one at Veterans Village in Appleton and one with lots of young people in Oshkosh.

- Appleton Intergroup is Dec 14 at St Pius Church, starts at 5pm. Very Christmasy!

- We are still having about 25 people at our hybrid district meetings. They are at rotating locations: second Sunday of the month, 1:30 GSR discussion, 2pm district meeting.

- Finance questions feedback: 2 groups said they didn't have enough information. 14 groups participated.

Honored to be of Service

Jane M - DCM District 02

District 04

- I will be participating in The Area Committee Meeting (ACM) on December 7 and the Special Election ACM on December 9 to possibly nominate a candidate for East Central Regional Trustee. Both ACMs will be on ZOOM.
- To clarify the Picnic chair's responsibilities, I have contacted Portage County Parks Dept, Village of Plover Parks, and City of Stevens Point Parks Department to learn the earliest date we can reserve a venue for our picnic. I found nothing that meets our requirements in Waupaca county online. If anyone has suggestions for Waupaca county, please share. Portage county is 11 months prior to the event, so we need to wait 1 month after the event

before we can reserve for the following year. Plover is the first business day of January. Stevens Point is 18 months prior to the event and it's \$50 cheaper if a Stevens Point resident reserves it. This is the information I received in December 2024. We should assume that it is probably subject to change from year to year. This always seems to be an area of confusion. I will put together a document outlining this information to be disseminated to the picnic chair every year. A change to the guidelines might be in order as it is important to get the venue secured ASAP after the preceding picnic and it is not specified as to whom this responsibility falls on.

- District 04 has closed the books on the Area 74 Fall Conference 2024. \$440 in Bill W. Funds was sent to the 2025 Spring Conference to use for that purpose, \$487 was sent to Area 74, and \$487 went into the District 04 Treasury
- Our district meetings are held the 1st Thursday of every month with most committee chairs and approximately 10 GSRs in attendance.
- We are contemplating holding a concepts/traditions workshop sometime in 2025
- Through Group Conscience, 2 of the 3 largest groups in District O4 have ceased contributions to Area 74 and GSO. Copies of the group conscience letters will be forwarded to Area 74 and GSO respectively.

Pat T
DCM

District 05

There is an organizational meeting (Flyer can be found on the Events Calendar tab of our website, district05.org) for the 2026 ECR and Area 74 Conference 1/8/25, 4:45 CST at Alano Club 12 in Eau Claire. We will have Zoom access also, Zoom ID: 829 0126 1204, PW: district05. Our District is doing well. There is a service workshop planned for March. All our committees are filled and active. The special accessibility chair is looking to pass the torch. We have a committee reviewing our District 05 Guidelines. Recommendations should be presented to the GSR's soon. We are also reviewing our web hosting and email server options to improve and simplify rotation needs. I attended a Zoom call with other Corrections committee members to discuss ideas about how to get our districts more involved and best carry that message to the prison and jails. We will be meeting regularly and encouraging District Corrections Committees to attend that meeting. Meeting information will be provided in Now and Then.

District 12 Report (Johni Baxter, DCM-12)

DISTRICT 12 → 22 groups with 6 GSRs in Cable, Hayward, Ladysmith, & Minong
Meeting: 1st Sat at 9am (8am fellowship), Serenity Club in Hayward (hybrid)

PRAYER REQUEST → Paul Taylor (PI/CPC Chair) - cancer in throat, tongue, & lymph nodes in neck; undergoing radiation & chemo treatment (shared w/ permission)

CORRECTIONS → 6 dedicated volunteers carry the message to up to 30 Sawyer County Jail residents every Tuesday night (juicy service!)

HELPLINE → Recently switched to Freedom Voice... seamless transition, able to keep existing Helpline number, & very affordable; ordering new business cards to share with newcomers/visitors & jail residents on discharge date

STRUCTURES & GUIDELINES → elected new chair

District 13 is located in Ashland and Bayfield Counties of North Wisconsin. The District Committee meeting convenes on the first Friday of each month at 5:00pm for the 2025 year. The meeting location is at the PIRC “Partners In Recovery Club” in Ashland WI.

Meetings List Hardcopy Schedule: There are 26 Monday thru Sunday meetings with one of them being 1 seasonal meeting that meets in the warm season. Some meetings meet and still meet by zoom or hybrid. The meetings list hardcopy schedule is updated as needed and current update date is 11/27/2024. It was submitted to Area 74 org’s webmaster for uploading on their website and was uploaded.

The AA Meeting Guide App spreadsheet was again updated twice for 2 meetings as one was added and one is new. Spreadsheet was submitted to Area 74 org’s webmaster for uploading and then be available on cellphones.

Website: The district has been making learning how to develop and have its own website. And has put in operation its own website at <https://aadistrict13wi.org/>. It’s a work in progress. Three members went to Eau Claire WI October 19 and sat with Brian to learn the basics of working with the Districts website.

Financial: Financial situation is that the district is maintaining a positive financial balance.

Phone “Hot Line” (715) 682-4460: The phone company provider is Freedom Voice and with the Meeting App. running now we get a few calls.

Corrections: There has been meetings started at both Ashland or Bayfield County jails.

Bayfield County Jail: The men’s and women’s meeting is active. The men’s meeting day is every week on Wednesdays.

Paul E has been the District’s Corrections member who has done all the contactings to the jails. Some volunteers went to Bayfield County Jail to get the pictures taken for Identification lanyards. He also is coordinating the volunteers schedules of chairing the meetings at both Jails

Ashland County Jail: The men’s meeting is active and the women’s meetings are inactive. The mens meetings day is every week on Thursday.

Some actions have been taken to meet with the Asland County Jail Captain with an AA list of AA members volunteers who are willing to go to the jail and chair an AA meeting.

Gordon Prison: The District 13 has some volunteers going into the prison to have AA meetings.

Elections: The District held elections October 2023 and mentions each month about open committee positions. Current filled positions are: District Committee Member, Treasurer, Corrections, Public Information and Secretary. Some of the positions are filled by same person and positions are continuous as the district committee is small in members. Next elections are October 2025.

Area 74 AA Organization: The district members advise of the agenda items that occurs and does an overview of the agenda items as needed. Currently it's the General Service Conference agenda and supporting background information. Area 74 Fall Conference: Area 74 Fall Conference was at Stevens Point, WI the dates of Friday September 13th thru Sunday September 15th.

DCM Monthly Zoom Meeting or Phone Call

Nicholas the Delegate has sent an email to DCMs about him hosting that monthly session each month.

Here is Nicholas's email words:

"I'm wondering how you guys feel about modeling monthly Area 74 DCM Call similar to the East Central Regional call.

The Delegate will host the monthly call for the DCMs?
Same day and time just the delegate will host/facilitate and send out reminders."

FYI I have not responded to his email.

Sunny L, DCM D13