

WESTERN CONFERENCE
Meeting of the Board of Directors
Rancho Mirage, CA
December 15, 2011

The meeting was called to order at 7:53 p.m. The following board members were present: Bonnie Bagley, Bruce Blakely, Marion Robertson, President Teri Atkinson, Ken Monzingo. John Van Ness was unable to attend because he fractured his leg the day before on his way to the airport. Secretary-Treasurer Tom Shulman was also present. Guests who were present included new ACBL President Sharon Anderson and Roger Anderson, and Barbara and Bob Heller.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Board reviewed the minutes of the February 2011 Las Vegas annual meeting. Upon motion and second the minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report

Shulman presented the Treasurer's report, copies of which had previously been emailed to the Board. WC had a net profit of \$6,715 in FY 2011, and as of November 30, 2011 WC had a net worth of \$77,283. Blakely questioned Shulman about one of the items, and after a brief discussion, upon motion and second the Treasurer's report was accepted.

Forum

Ken Monzingo reported on *Forum* operations and told the Board about a burglary that resulted in the loss of most of his equipment and data just before the *Forum* issue was due to be published. Notwithstanding that costly (and uninsured) loss, Ken and his great staff (Leticia and Sergio) were able to get the paper out on time. Ken purchased new equipment at a cost of about \$12,000 and arranged for better data back-up arrangements.

STaC

The Board discussed whether and how to try to bring back the districts (14, 15, 18) that had withdrawn from participating in the WC STaC. The Board decided to defer further discussion of this topic until next year.

The Board discussed stratification by average masterpoints in the STaC. It was moved and CARRIED that Robertson would investigate the conditions of contest and make an appropriate proposal to stratify the STaC by the masterpoints of the pair's player with the most points and the Board would vote on it by email.

Money to Districts

Because WC is financially healthy, the Board discussed returning money to the districts. After discussion the following motion was CARRIED: In 2012, WC will pay/distribute \$1500 to each member district.

Regional at Sea

The Board discussed the Regional at Sea (RAS) contract tendered by ACBL and the differences in the RAS contract with ACBL depending on whether it was a west coast cruise or an east coast cruise. Atkinson asked the Board for approval that she sign the RAS contract tendered by ACBL. The Board gave its unanimous approval.

The Board then thanked Monzingo for all his hard work that resulted in the WC RAS, and noted that it would not have happened without his efforts.

Next Meeting

The Board decided that the next meeting would be in D21 at the Monterey Regional in January 2013, date and time TBD.

Election of Officers

Teri Atkinson and Tom Shulman were nominated to be president and treasurer, respectively. There were no further nominations. Atkinson and Shulman elected.

At 10:20pm MONZINGO left the meeting and the remaining members of the Board went into executive session to discuss personnel matters that impacted Monzingo.

In Executive Session, the Board voted to pay to Monzingo a one-time payment of \$6,500 to help offset his loss from the burglary. The Board also authorized a \$2,000/year (approx) (\$166.68/mo.) increase in the amount paid to Ken Monzingo, bringing the total to \$7,998 per month for a 12-page issue.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:50 p.m.