

Wisconsin Elks Benevolent Fund

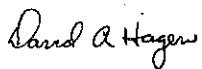
Minutes of the Meeting of Board of Directors of the
Wisconsin Elks Benevolent Fund Inc.
WEA Mid-Winter Conference, Green Bay, Wisconsin
February 17, 2023

1. Meeting of the Board of Directors called to order @ 10:30 by President Ken Bruckner, with the pledging to the Flag.
2. Roll call of officer with all present, except Ray Dabler & Lou Sulsberger Excused.
3. Twenty-nine members were present including Illinois 1st Vice President, Floyd Schmidt. Lincoln IL #914
4. Minutes of the September 16, 2022, Fall Conference read and approved.
5. Treasure report for January 31 read and approved.
 - a. \$25,436.53 Checking
 - b. \$2,573,710.07 in Funds
6. Tyson Ray reviewed the performance of our investments via a prerecorded video reporting a balance of 2,565,684.86 as of February 9, 2023.
7. Dan Clum, Watertown #666 chair of the benevolent fundraising Committee. Reported on the basket raffle fund raiser. Motion was made to provide the fundraising committee with funds for prizes up-to \$500 for prizes for a larger scall raffle for the May conference. Dave DeRosier pledged \$100 to increase the prize money limit to \$600.
8. New Business:

Kenneth Bruckner, President and Tod Kostuck, Vice President terms on the Board of Directors will expire in May 2023. Both have indicated that will stay in their current positions for another term, subject to Lou Sulsberger's appointment.

 - a. The board approved funds to the WEA Charities account to \$150,000 for the fiscal year 2023-2024
9. The following payments approved by the Board:
 - a. State raffle licenses renewal for 2023-2024 in the amount of \$51.00.
 - b. Check to the WEA for Charitable Works in the amount of \$150,000 payable in May 2023
 - c. Check to Dan Crum for \$105.97 for WBF raffle Tickets.
 - d. Check to Portage Lodge in the amount of \$750 for Youth Fishing. Funds were donated to the WEA from a private foundation contribution.
 - e. Check to Hagen CPA for \$45 for Wisconsin Annual Report.
 - f. Check to ENF for \$1,503.00 in GER Bruce Hindley name which \$1,000 was from a check received from the WEA.
10. Weekend collections totaled \$18,389.30.
11. Next meeting May 5, 2023 (10:30 AM) at the Paper Valley Hotel and Convention Center, Appleton WI.
12. Meeting adjourned @ 11:30

Respectively Submitted



Secretary/Treasurer



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COMMITTEE REPORT

Please e-mail this form in to the State Secretary at elksbugle@aol.com and he will post it on the Wisconsin Elks Association web site, welks.org.

Date 2-18-23

Time 10:00 AM

Committee Name BOWLING

Waukesha Reported that 2023 Tournament is ready to go
to start next weekend running 4 weeks. Tournament teams
is low as we are down to 36 teams from 48 four years
ago. Talked about next year as Sheboygan should be hosting
talked about making sure the entry form is in the bugle
so all lodges have a copy. Answered questions on HBL sanction
fees and tournament certifications in the future. Meeting
adjourned at 10:45

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COMMITTEE REPORT

Please e-mail this form in to the State Secretary at elksbugle@aol.com and he will post it on the Wisconsin Elks Association web site, wielks.org.

Date 02/18/2023

Time 10:00 AM

Committee Name Conferences and Conventions

- Opened at 10:00 am

Pledge of Alligance

~~Registration: 216 Registered attendees (includes 73 on site registrations)~~

~~Lunch: 108 Banquet: 165~~

~~Old Buisness:~~

~~1) Back Up for Jason: Back Up Plan being typed up to store on file~~

~~New Buisness:~~

~~1) Too many NON-Preregistered Elks that are upset about not being able to get lunch/banquet tickets or discounted hotel rate. Dealine questions and refund policy.~~

2) Place AD in Bugle to help new attendees (and reminder for others) on operations of Conferences/Conventions

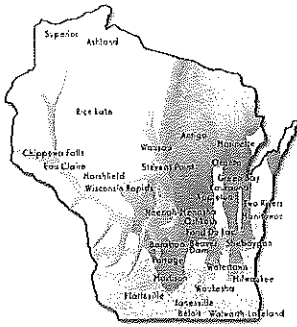
3) BOD Approved 5 Year Extension of contracts with Green Bay & Appleton hotels

4) Respect for hotel staff, WEA Volunteers and yourself. Act as respectable adult.

5) Conferences and Conventions has no part in local Lodge activities. Questions about shuttle or event details must go through the local Lodge(s)

- Closed at 10:48 am

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COMMITTEE REPORT

Please e-mail this form in to the State Secretary at elksbugle@aol.com and he will post it on the Wisconsin Elks Association web site, wielks.org.

Date February 18, 2023

Time 2023 Mid-Winter Conference

Committee Name Credentials and Elections

The registration for the 2023 Mid-Winter conference seemed to go very smooth minimal hiccups. We had 151 members preregistered for the conference and 77 register on site. (41 on Friday and 38 on Saturday) All 29 Lodges were represented. We had seven no-shows making the total attendance 221. This is up from 207 at the 2019 Mid-Winter conference.

We sold 17 luncheon tickets and 28 banquet tickets on site selling out all the meal tickets. It needs to be sent to all the Lodges that preregistering would be extremely helpful for all parties involved.

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The Rice Lake Elks Lodge #1441 hosted the Wisconsin Elks Association Curling Bonspiel October 29th and 30th at the Rice Lake Curling Club. Eight teams from Marshfield, Superior, Stevens Point, Rice Lake, and Wausau participated. The Tom Krake team from Marshfield was declared the winner by defeating the Doug Schultz combination team from Marshfield and Superior. The winning team received the traveling Dietz Eulberg Trophy that will reside at the Marshfield Elks Lodge for one year until next year's bonspiel where it will then be awarded to the new winning team's Elks Lodge. All winners and runners-up received a prestigious engraved Elks Curling Pin. The results are as follows:

1st Event Winners: Krake Team from Marshfield #665 with Tom Krake, Harley Davison, Rob Brown, and Dean Markwardt.

1st Event Runners-up: Schultz Team from Marshfield #665 and Superior #403 with Mike O'Brien, Paul Omberg, Paul Logan, and Doug Schultz

2nd Event Winners: Beguhn Team from Rice Lake #1441 with Jerry Beguhn, Pat Healy, Mel Pearson, and Greg Swanson

2nd Event Runners-up: Mickelson Team from Rice Lake #1441 with Carolyn Mickelson, Kathy Ricci, Patty Smith, Karen Holmstrom and Deb Schmidt

3rd Event Winners: Hovre Team from Marshfield #665 with Tim Hovre, Jake Roberts, Lucas Olli, and Rob Gilreath

3rd Event Runners-up: Buchkowski Team from Wausau #248 with Randy Buchkowski, Brian Jajade, Tommy Ricci, Wally Narins, and Dick Schmidt

4th Event Winners: Konopacky Team from Stevens Point #641 with Jack Konopacky, Karen Konopacky, Don Palmer, and Betsy Palmer

4th Event Runners-up: Okray Team from Stevens Point #641 with Tom Okray, Bill Rudahl, John Koehl, and Matt Van Bever

The \$913. profit from the bonspiel and raffle items will be donated to the Rice Lake Elks Lodge #1441. Thank you to all Rice Lake Curling members, Rice Lake Elks Lodge #1441, Jeff Miller, Rice Lake Elks Exalted Ruler for throwing out the first rock, the Bonspiel Committee, Draw Committee, Ice Keepers, the bagpiper Mike Larson for piping curlers onto the ice and all Elks Lodge kitchen workers and volunteers for their hard work for this successful spiel. We look forward to next year's Wisconsin Elks Curling Bonspiel that will be held in Stevens Point on October 28th and 29th, 2023.



COMMITTEE REPORT

Please e-mail this form in to the State Secretary at elksbugle@aol.com and he will post it on the Wisconsin Elks Association web site, wielks.org.

Date Feb. 18, 2023

Time 10:10 a.m.

Committee Name Elks National Foundation

Meeting started late as vice chair Aaron Holbrook arrived a few minutes late.

There was discussion of current lodge standings and donations. All but one lodge had made GER per capita goal of \$4.80 per member and the state stood at \$13.56 per member. Donations for this year must be RECEIVED by the ENF office by March 31. That is not a mailing date, they must be received by that date.

For the first time, every lodge in the state had a registered ENF chair last year. Remember, that the ENF chair must register every year. It is very simple to do at Elks.org. If any lodge or lodge chair needs help they should contact the state or district chairs.

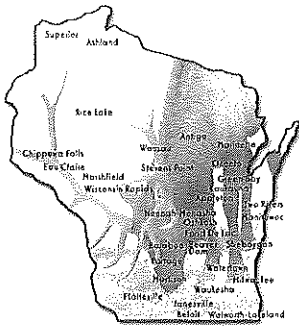
We discussed the chair challenge. Wisconsin is one of the leading states in country for participation and scores in the chair challenge. Sheboygan leads the state and the nation and Rice Lake is right behind. Reaching the chair challenge goal grants lodges an additional \$500 in the gratitude grant next lodge year. About half the lodges in the state are poised to get those funds. Get registered as lodge fundraising chair early and start working on chair challenge points as soon as April. s

Ryan Swantz spoke about converting the donor recognition board to an electronic format. He will provide more details about that when he has it figured out in Watertown, but it would allow for a rapid update at low cost and increase visibility for donor recognition.

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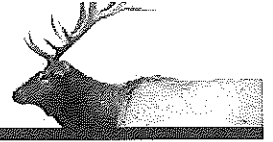
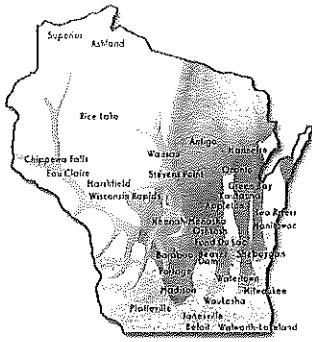
Date February 18, 2023

Time 9:00 AM

Committee Name ENF Scholarship

1. Opened at 9AM with the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. Reviewed State judging timeline.
3. National Judging timeline
4. Legacy scholarship - closed February 7th.
5. Technical scholarship - available of wielks.org website. Deadline is April 1.
6. Reviewed preliminary plans for 2023-24 budget
7. Scholarship breakdown - will be available after national judging is completed.

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COMMITTEE REPORT

2023 Mid Winter Conference, Green Bay Wisconsin

Please e-mail this form in to the State Secretary at elksbugle@aol.com and he will post it on the Wisconsin Elks Association web site, wielks.org.

DATE: February 18, 2023

TIME: 0900 - 1100

Committee Name: ENVSC

Meeting was called to order by Chair Mike Liebelt and opening ceremonies were conducted. Roll call on file. Site reports were given by members present. It was brought to the attention of those attending that the new VA facility, Milo C. Huempfer Outpatient Clinic in Green Bay has been approved. More information to follow regarding this.

Requests for funds were made by; Roman Baca, Wausau Clinic rep for \$1500 for misc. supplies and gift cards, Harvey Lewis, Beaver Dam Clinic for \$1500 for homeless veteran assistance, Tom Widzinski, Appleton Clinic for \$2500 for misc supplies and gift cards, Kay Buck, King Veterans Home rep for \$1500 to assist in making repairs, upgrades and supplies for the onsite bowling facility. These requests were approved totaling \$7000.

Our remaining WI ENVSC monies in the amount of \$5000 was discussed as to how to handle these funds. Two possible donations were discussed, one to donate to the VA VORP (Veterans Outreach Program) This has 11 Districts covering all WI counties. They more or less focus on seeking veterans who need help, but are uncomfortable with asking for it. This can be for drug problems, PTSD, abuse, and a number of other situations. We also talked about the Dog2DTAGS program which we have donated to before. Chair Mike would check with National ENVSC to see if we can donate to a VA facility. If we can the money could go there, and if not to the second choice. MMS&C to proceed with 6 yeas and 1 nay, motion carried.

Open discussion: The need to get younger veterans and our female veterans into the VA system, this means having an up to date DD214 registered. Lodges could coordinate with County Veterans Service Office (CVSO) to have "sign up sessions where veterans could register for VA benefits. If they don't have a DD214, they could get help getting one. Also, helping veterans includes Hospice care, contact local facilities to check if you can help with patients who are veterans. Look into areas where you can impact veterans welfare.

Discussion closed and MMS&C to adjourn at 1100hrs.

Mike Liebelt, Chair



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Date 2/18/2023

Time 7:30

Committee Name Executive Committee / 2023 Mt. Western

The comm. met and the State President
Accepted Nominations For the May
State Awards.

UP - Nomination from their District

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COMMITTEE REPORT

Please e-mail this form in to the State Secretary at elksbugle@aol.com and he will post it on the Wisconsin Elks Association web site, wielks.org.

Date February 18, 2023

Time 10 AM

Committee Name Golf - Susan Gatknecht Co-Chair Reporting
~~Chair Don Behnke~~

WEA Golf Tournament will be held Monday June 26, 2023
@ Wild Ridge golf course. Shotgun start @ 10 am. Cost \$100
per player includes 18 holes of golf with cart, coffee & rolls,
boxed lunch and two entree buffet dinner shortly after
golf @ Eau Claire Lodge.

Format 4-person scramble. Register ASAP - No later than
June 12th. Dinner golf awards, raffles & prizes will take
place @ Eau Claire Lodge with happy hour starting right
after golf. Non golfers and guests may enjoy burger and
brats for approximately \$18 per person

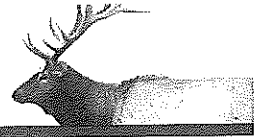
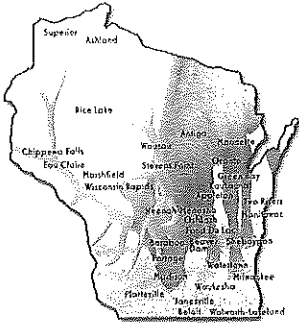
Sponsorships available starting as low as \$50 up to
\$500 which includes 4 golfers.

Special thank you to Jim Wold Tournament Director and
Eau Claire Lodge for hosting 2023 tournament.

Wausau has expressed interest to host in 2024 and
Sheboygan expressed interest to host in 2025

Details including hotels and special golf Sunday before
event will be attached to my report filed with the Secretary

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COMMITTEE REPORT

Please e-mail this form in to the State Secretary at elksbugle@aol.com and he will post it on the Wisconsin Elks Association web site, wielks.org.

Date February 18, 2023

Time 8:00am

Committee Name Government Relations

Meeting called to order at 8:00am by Chairperson Gina Staskal. Attendance was taken and the pledge recited.

Chair went over the new monthly report that Grand Lodge requested be turned into each state chair (handout).

Chair went over the 7 primary functions of the Committee.

Chair is still trying to identify local Lodge Government Relations Chairpersons. Goal is to try and take some of the burden off of Secretaries.

Chair went over the 2 new awards from Grand Lodge. 1st is for 100% reporting in the state and 2nd is for individual Lodges with a net gain of 10% in reporting.

Lodges should try to share the information with as many people as possible in as many mediums as they can, ie. Elks magazine, libraries, local municipalities, etc.

Each Lodge should be sitting down with Manual and the Committee Chairs and help them understand how and why to get in the habit of reporting.

Chair went over the new GER motto of "Promoting Elkdom with Enthusiasm"

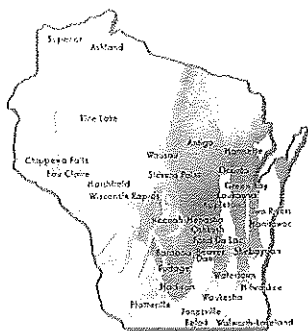
Chair went over the basics of the Civics program. Lodges don't have to expend the money up front. The Framework of your WI Government textbook is available to all WI Lodges and the Chair has 20 boxes available. The goal is to get them in the hands of as many 7th graders as possible. The program was modeled after the Dictionary program.

Discussion on all the social media outlets and how we can promote our charitable works and to keep alcohol out of the pictures.

Day at the Capitol is still a work in progress. Permitting, volunteers and timing are all being worked out.

Chairperson opened the floor for general discussion and questions.

Meeting adjourned at 8:52am



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Date Sat Feb 18th 2023

Time 8:00

Committee Name Hoop Shoot

Meeting started with discussions on the local and District Contest. At the Local level, Registration Cards must be filled out completely and correctly. Print clearly, Directors at each level must be able to read for communication purposes with the families. Birth certificates are no longer needed to verify ages. Local Directors must use the online age calculator to place contestants in proper age group. We talked about the three phases of online reporting. Local Directors must first enter their contest date online. Second, advance their local winners after contest, and third, do their final Report online at elks.org/HoopShoot.

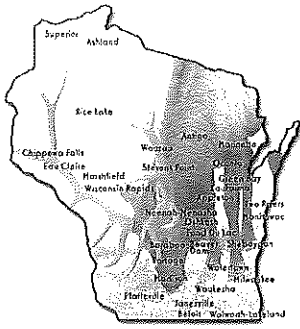
We touched on District Contests and finished with the State Finals which were held in Wausau, Feb 11th. Our six State Champions were decided. Two from the NE District, Two from the Central and One each from NW and South District.

The Six State Champions will now have a month to practice before the Regional Contest in Iowa City, March 18th.

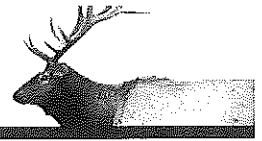
Good luck to our Six Champions!

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COMMITTEE REPORT

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Date 02/18/2023

Time 8:00 AM

Committee Name Grand Lodge Attendance Committee

- Opened at 8:00 AM

- Pledge of Allegiance

- Discussed Details on Minneapolis 2023

1) Room RSVP Forms are out and available - must be booked through Jason

2) Hotel Details, skywalk system and parking

3) Discussion on Hospitality Room hours and operations

a) Bags

b) hours

4) Train & Tram details

5) Convention Website is live to talk about Minneapolis

- Registration for convention starts April 1 on Elks.org

- New Trailer talks

1) Lodge Donation form will be mailed out

2) Opportunity for members to sponsor items needed for trailer & committee

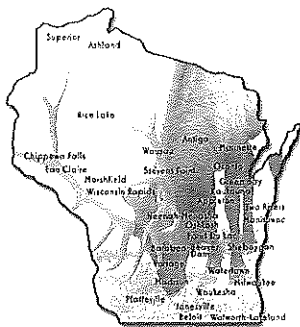
- Closed at 8:47 AM

Respectfully Submitted,

Jason Somers, PER

Grand Lodge Attendance

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COMMITTEE REPORT

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Date 02/18/2023

Time 9:00 AM

Committee Name Lodge Development

- Opened at 9:00 AM

- Pledge of Allegiance

- Discussion on Antler Program

- Discussion on Elks Riders Motorcycle Club

- Discussion on membership retention. Reaching out to members you don't see or that don't renew to see what events / activities they would like to see happen at the lodge to bring their interest back.

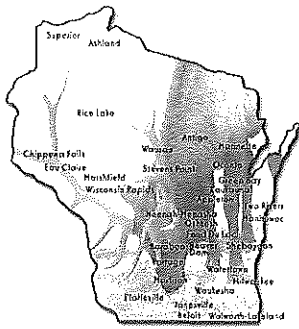
- Closed at 9:36 am and sent group to Membership & Lapsation for further discussion

Respectfully Submitted,

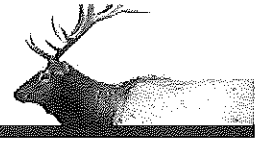
Jason Somers, PFR

Lodge Development

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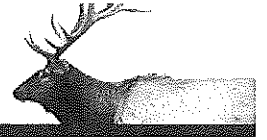
Date Saturday February 18, 2023

Time 11:00am

Committee Name Officer Training

Attendance of 26 people. Discussion and projection on wall of manuals from elks.org
including: Lodge Activities Manual, Manual on Protocol, Annotated Statutes, ER, Officers
and Committee Members Manual, Investigation Interview Committee Manual, Ritual of
Special Services, Ritual of Local Lodges. Discussed Local Lodge upcoming events
including: Annual Election, Installation of Officers, Establishing Committees, Presenting
the Budget, Planning for Flag Day. Listened to stories of what local lodges are doing to
train their officers and how to encourage new member volunteering. Meeting closed at
12:02pm. Respectfully submitted by Rick Miller (Chair) and Jeff Bjerke (Co-Chair).

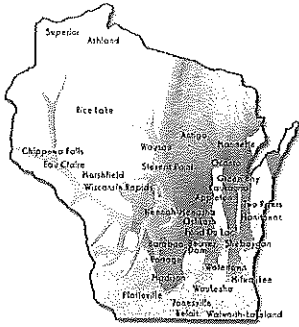
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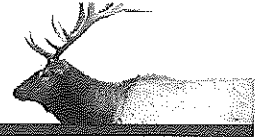
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Date February 18, 2023

Time 7:30am

Committee Name Recreation at State Conferences & Conventions

Committee Chair called the meeting to order at 7:32am

Pledge was recited and attendance taken.

Balance in the check book was \$1,030.46

Funding requests today from Milwaukee 46 for Law Enforcement Awareness for first responders events. Denied due to no youth involved. Request from Kaukauna 962 for Trunk or Treat. Motion/2nd Gina Staskal/Doug Vavricka to fund \$100. Motion carried.

\$5 donation to play the Barn Craps game. Winner will receive a limited edition Dewar's gift box or a \$25 cash.

Discussion on pins for the committee. Doug will bring information back at next meeting.

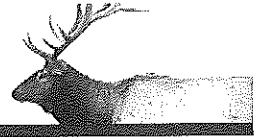
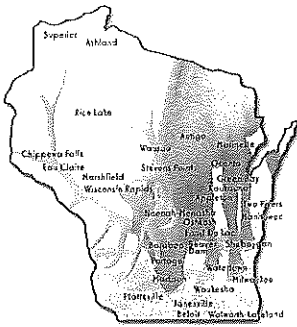
Convention game to be determined.

Meeting adjourned at 7:52am

Winner of game today was Pam Shedivy and took the gift box.

Net funds raised was \$235

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COMMITTEE REPORT

Please e-mail this form in to the State Secretary at elksbugle@aol.com and he will post it on the Wisconsin Elks Association web site, wielks.org.

Date 2-18-23

Time 11 AM

Committee Name Trustee Training

Chairman Pat Moran of Milwaukee Lodge #46 called the meeting to order at 11 AM.

Co-Chair Rick Miller had to be replaced by Dave Lang (Milw. #46) due to a scheduling conflict at this Convention. The pledge was followed by attendance check in. There were 5 Committee Members and 22 guests in attendance.

A reminder was given that all Lodge Chairman of the Boards are automatic members of this Committee and attendance at this meeting is required.

A brief discussion was held on moving forward with your lodge's Budget and approval process.

A verbal test on Statutes was given with answers supplied to take back to individual Lodges. The test was given to get people involved with the Statute Book and seemed to be well received.

A brief question and answer session followed. No problems were reported by any lodges at this meeting.

Trustee Training adjourned at 11:45 AM

SAVE