



NSEA Past State President's Advisory Council Minutes

Annual Meeting November 22, 2024

President: William "Bill" Wiseman, PSP, DL
Secretary: William "Bill" Bohnett, PSP, DL, GLAC
Treasurer: Albert "Al" Bye, PDDGER, SP



Date: November 22, 2024 **Call to Order:** 2:05pm **By:** President Bill Wiseman

Invocation: Bohnett **Pledge:** Al Bye

Officers in Attendance: All Advisory Board Officers in Attendance

Members in Attendance (PSPs): Bill Wiseman, Al Bye, Marlen Hoesly, William Bohnett, Gene Presnell, Dee Boskie, Frank Reynolds III, Ted Balash, Debbie Oskin, Dave Pressler

Guests in Attendance: Robert Duitsman PGER (Area 7 Sponsor), Ross Dyer – NSEA SP, Christopher, Rick Stone from Reno Elks Lodge - Representing GL GR Committee, Ben Reed NSEA PE, JJ Lynch PDDGER, DVP, Kathleen Hoss PER – Representing NSEA South Convention Team, Douglass Schiefer- Grand Exalted Ruler

Minutes of the Previous Session: April 26, 2024 Minutes - Motion to Approve – Balash, seconded by Wiseman. APPROVED as published on the NSEA Website.

Treasurer's Report: Board Treasurer Al Bye reported the following:
Begin: \$3058.59

Upcoming Grand Lodge Conventions: Wiseman reported on the following
Kansas City – June 2025. Chicago – July 2026 Chicago celebrating 100 years for the Elks Memorial Bldg. Denver July 2027. Baltimore July 2028.

Logistics were discussed in regards to getting members to visit the Memorial Building in Chicago. Duitsman stated Chicago is working on it.

NSEA Officers for the Upcoming Year: Wiseman reported on the upcoming positions. Ben Reed from the North is incoming NSEA President. The position of President Elect will be decided by the PSPs from the South in January, 2025.

At the Caucuses: District VPs and incoming DDGERS will be determined at the upcoming North and South in January 2025. PDDGERS and PSP (who are also PDDGERS) will select the new DDDGER. PSPs only will vote for their district's DVP. However, the PDDGERS at the caucus may add to the discussion prior to the vote by the PSPs. *[IMPORTANT: Wiseman stated the current sitting DVP should be next in line to be our next President Elect. Certain situations can be*

considered should the “expected” DVP or PDVP not be able to perform the SP duties.] The DLs will submit the names to our area sponsors for final approval. No votes required by the NSEA delegates.

Unfinished Business:

- **Current NSEA Meeting in Carson and Upcoming Meeting Update:** Dee Boskie briefly discussed the success of this 2024 Mid-Term will again be held next November at the same venue in Carson City with a similar agenda. Cost increases were minimal. Any suggestions for the mid-term convention please contact Boskie. Dee also mentioned the Carson Plaza is an older facility with some “minor” inconveniences and that this is the reason we are getting such great rates. There were no negative comments.
- **Upcoming April 2025 Meeting Update:** Wiseman introduced JJ Lynch and Kathleen Hoss who handed out preliminary packets. The new venue in Laughlin Nevada will be at the Harrahs Resort. Kathleen Hoss PER from Laughlin Lodge, discussed the facilities and that Harrahs is being very accommodating for all events, breakout sessions, etc. Meal prices were printed in the packet. Lunches are averaging \$25. Dinners are averaging \$55. Prices include a 21% service charge. But meal prices will still be less than last year’s venue at the Aquarius. Most meals will be buffet style. The Saturday meal will be served to add a little decorum as we are also celebrating NSEA’s 100th Anniversary. Hoss may be bringing in some entertainment, along with commemorative “swag bags” for the attendees.

All 10 dignitary/invited guest rooms will be comp’d, and Harrahs will also provide free use of 1900 square foot Presidential Suite to be used for Hospitality Room. Wiseman stated if we make a 2 year commitment we can lock in the same pricing. A 3 year commitment will lock in the pricing as well and they will review the charge for resort fees. (a \$20/night savings.) A \$6700 advanced assurance fee will need to pay upon our commitment to the hotel. Wiseman thanked Hoss and Lynch for their work and presentation. All agreed.

Wiseman discussed the Convention Committees in place may want to consider continuing in the upcoming years, if they want to, to manage planning conventions now that we are beginning to repeat venues. Making things less labor intensive and familiar.

New Business:

- **Vote by the Advisory Board to Proceed with Meetings Commitment with Harrahs Laughlin.** (See details above) Motion by Hoesly to proceed with the 3 year commitment option Seconded by Boskie. Discussion: Boski asked if there are parking fees, which there are none. Motion passed

- **President Elect Ben Reed Reported on Incoming Chairpersons.** Ben is currently “networking” with several individuals for committees. Appointive Officers: Chaplain – Mark Hilton. Sargent at Arms – Lee Cabaniss. Tiler – Open. Organist – Steve Warenietz. Possible Vocalist is being considered.
Ben asked for suggestions for possible Ritual Chairperson Candidates.
He is currently working on his visitation schedules. He’s also in contact with the probable Area 7 incoming presidents in regards to visitations to their various states.
- **Investment Policies for NSEA.** Ben Reed discussed that there are sizeable funds in the NSEA coffers. There is approximately \$240,000 in funds making low returns. Boski stated that in 2014 an investment committee was formed to manage the funds. They reported to the NSEA Trustees. Boski will get the procedures to Wiseman for placement in the NSEA procedures manual.

Wiseman discussed the possibility of creating an “initial startup funds” procedure to help fund the startup of new lodges with NSEA monies. Concerns of whether these funds would be grants or loans need to be addressed. Wiseman stated a package needs to be put together covering all details. Several options need to be nailed down. This project is still in its infancy.

- **Advisory Board Authority.** *Discussion topic initiated by Jim Grillo, PGER/Area Sponsor.* Wiseman discussed the role of the PSPs Advisory Council. What authority do we have? The answer is none. Wiseman stated our role is advisory only. With the understanding we have a pool of individuals with experience to aid in decision making of officers, lodge business, etc. We need to get more involved guiding and mentoring current and incoming officers of the state association. Various thoughts and scenarios were discussed where the Advisory Council can be helpful. Wiseman asked all in attendance to possibly create ideas moving forward.
- **Advisory Board Officers.** Wiseman mentioned that new officers for the Advisory Council need to be elected at our April meeting. Start thinking of possible officers for a 3 year commitment.

Sickness and Distress: None were discussed.

Good of the Association:

- **Convention Meeting Overruns.** Marlen Hoesly stated he’d like to see better planning of meetings at the conventions so events such as the Major Project Luncheon are not

missed due to meeting overruns. Discussion pursued regarding various scheduling issues focusing on possible afternoon meetings on the Thursday of the conventions.

- **Dave Pressler stated the possibility of PSPs helping other lodges with Ritual Training.**
- **Comments:** Duitsman PGER, Area 7 Sponsor, and Doug Schiefer GER, thanked all for the good work along with pleasantries.
- **Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn by Hoesly. Seconded by Reynolds. Motion passed.
4:40pm

Respectfully submitted,

William "Bill" Bohnett

Advisory Council Secretary