

# Mason-Dixon Conference - Winter 2014

## Meeting Minutes

February 17, 2014 10:05 am – 12:55 pm

The meeting was called to order by Mike Pollinger (MDC Chairman). The meeting was taped and for brevity purposes, these minutes represent the highlights of the meeting<sup>1</sup>.

<b>Executive Board Roll-Call</b>		
<i>Title</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Present at Meeting</i>
Chairman	Mike Pollinger (DE-I)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Vice Chairman	J.J. Lightner (NC-XVII)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Secretary	Keith Chase (VA-II)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Treasurer	Lonnie Loyal (VA-III)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
International Rep	John Bull (MD-III)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

<b>State Representatives and Other Appointed Positions Roll-Call</b>		
<i>Title</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Present at Meeting</i>
Delaware State Rep	Bert Littleton (DE-I)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Kentucky State Rep	Ruben Gardner (KY-II)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Maryland State Rep	Steve Smith (MD-I)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
North Carolina State Rep	Gary Folsom (NC-XIII)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Tennessee State Rep	T.C. Hicks (TN-III)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Virginia State Rep	Mike Hart (VA-III)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
West Virginia State Rep	Marshal Parker (WV-II)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Chaplin	Mike Williams (MD-I)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Safety Officer	D.W. Conners (VA-V)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Sergeant-at-Arms	Paul Domingoes (VA-II)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Webmaster	Rick Clark (NC-XVI)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

<b>Agenda Items</b>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. <u>Call to Order</u>: (10:05 am)<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. Moment of Silence.</li><li>b. Opening Prayer – Mike Williams (MDC Chaplin).</li><li>c. Pledge of Allegiance – Recited by all in attendance.</li><li>d. Reading of Blue Knights Pledge – Chairman Pollinger.</li></ol></li> <li>2. <u>Chapter Roll-Call and Report</u>: Keith Chase (MDC Secretary). Roll-Call was conducted and the below listed Chapters were represented at the meeting:</li></ol>

Delaware-I <sup>1</sup>	Kentucky-XII	Maryland-I <sup>2</sup>	Maryland-II
Maryland-III <sup>3</sup>	North Carolina-II	North Carolina-IV	North Carolina-VIII
North Carolina-XIII	North Carolina-XVI <sup>4</sup>	North Carolina-XVII <sup>5</sup>	North Carolina-XVIII
North Carolina-XIX	North Carolina-XXI	North Carolina-XXIV <sup>6</sup>	Tennessee-XII <sup>7</sup>
Virginia-II	Virginia-III	Virginia-V	Virginia-X <sup>8</sup>
Virginia-XIII	West Virginia-II		

- There are 72 Chapters in the conference and 22 Chapters were represented at the meeting for a percentage of 31% in attendance. There were 62 members, spouses and guests in attendance at the meeting.

3. Recognized VIPs:

<u>INTERNATIONAL OFFICERS</u>	<u>OTHER CONFERENCE EXECUTIVES</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul>
<u>PAST INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENTS</u>	<u>OTHER CONFERENCE REPRESENTATIVES</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ronnie Young (VA-V)</li> <li>• Frank Gennari (NY-I)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul>
<u>BOG OFFICERS</u>	<u>OTHER STATE REPRESENTATIVES</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cal Ennals (NJ-V) – Vice Chairman</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Myron Joseph (NY-IX) – New York State Rep</li> </ul>

4. Host Chapter Remarks: President Mike Brown, (NC-XIII), thanked all for attending and hopes everyone is enjoying their weekend.

5. Chairman’s Remarks: Thanked NC-XIII for their hospitality despite the weather and also thanked the “Youngest Rider” for braving the weather to ride to the meeting, by saying “we need more young riders like yourself to keep this organization going”.

6. Secretary’s Report (Keith Chase): The meeting minutes from the Fall Conference were completed and sent out to the State Reps, to be forwarded on to the Chapter Presidents and are posted on the website. Motion to accept the minutes was made from the floor, seconded and voted unanimously to approve.

a. Reading of letter from the International President

- “Greetings, Just wanted to drop a note to the attendees of Mason-Dixon Conference 2014 meeting, and convey my apologies to those in attendance and NC-XIII for being unable to attend.
- CHAPTER RENEWALS:
  1. Just to give everyone an update, the International Office is busy working on renewals to get the renewal packets back out to the chapters. Other than a few days being snowed out, they're moving right along.
- AUDIT:
  1. The first RFP was sent out with no takers, so the Audit Committee decided to expand the search a bit, and a second RFP was sent out. We now have a few companies interested and are providing them information needed to respond back.

<sup>1</sup> Bert Littleton produced a voting authorization letter from Baldo Sebastianelli - Chapter President

<sup>2</sup> Steven Smith produced a voting authorization letter from Kenneth Boone - Chapter President

<sup>3</sup> John Bull produced a voting authorization letter from Frederick Roussey - Chapter President

<sup>4</sup> William Wright produced a voting authorization letter from John Rogers - Chapter President

<sup>5</sup> JJ Lightner produced a voting authorization letter from Thomas Loftus - Chapter President

<sup>6</sup> Robert Overby produced a voting authorization letter from John Overby, Sr. - Chapter President

<sup>7</sup> Rick Lubow produced a voting authorization letter from Steve Spano - Chapter President

<sup>8</sup> Cindy Steger produced a voting authorization letter from Troy Lyons - Chapter President

- **INTERNATIONAL 2014:**

1. As of yesterday, the host chapter reported that they've received 1300 bookings total with around 170 being from the United States.

- I hope everyone had a great time this weekend and a safe journey back home. Best wishes and Ride with pride”. D.J. Alvarez – Int'l President (281) 642-8716.

7. Treasurer's Report (Lonnie Loyall): Financial Report – As of 02/16/2014 – See the full version with details in the Presidents section of the Website. A motion to accept the financial report, as provided, was made from the floor, seconded and voted unanimously to accept the report.

8. International Representative's Report (John Bull):

a. International Audit:

- You have already heard the status of the Audit from the International President's letter. The RFP was all set to go out but there was some discussion regarding expanding the audit to include the Board of Governors and adding years. Ultimately we ended up adding another year so it is a four (4) year period. It will include the International, Headquarters and BOG funds, minus the BOG Special Fund as that is a separate fund that has different rules to follow.
- In anticipation of the audit and recognizing that the money has to come from somewhere in the budget...the following has been done to help defray the cost of the audit:
  1. Elimination of the 2014 Conferences donations (\$1000 for each Conference).
  2. The Int'l President has returned some of his travel money back.
  3. Other ways of saving money are also being reviewed.

b. Notes From International Board Meetings

- *Airfare to Convention:* There was a proposal at the last Int'l Board Meeting to fund the airfare for the founding fathers to go to the International Convention in Austria. It is believed that it will arise at the next meeting.

1. Conference Discussion: There was discussion from the floor regarding who's airfare should be paid. While no vote was taken, the general census was to fund the Founding Fathers travels.

- *Chapter Colors:* There have been several incidents with OMG's and our members regarding wearing our colors. There are also International locations that it is illegal to wear 3-piece colors. There is a by-law proposal that has been tabled to review the colors issue. The by-law change would look to have an alternate patch that would be a 1-piece patch to allow those locations to be able to wear our colors. The proposal is with the by-laws committee.

1. Conference Discussion: There was plenty of discussion from the floor regarding colors, vests and the need of uniformity of the organization.

- *Liability Insurance Carrier:* International had to change Liability Insurance Carriers as the previous company dropped the organization because of three claims since 2008 that cost \$35K. The old insurance cost \$1200 a year, the new one cost \$10K a year but does have some added benefits like coverage outside the US. Other companies are being reviewed as well.

- *Corporate Email System:* Only about 25% of Chapters have setup their new standard corporate email addresses (chapter@blueknights.org). Chapters need to get these completed so that there is no loss in receiving emails from International. The email addresses help when there are changes in Chapter President. The accounts are very easy to setup and the instructions are on the International webpage. There will be a station set at the Spring Conference to help Chapters get their accounts setup.

- *Membership* – As of December 7, 2013
  - Total Members: 20,151 MDC Total: 2,654
  - Chapters: 630 MDC Chapters: 72
- *Old Business*
  1. **Proposal 2013-0008 Amend Article 3 Section 3.16 of the International By-Laws.** (John Bull) – Withdrawn: This was the proposal related to the last elections and changing to a paper ballot from an outside company.
- *New Business - From September 11, 2013 Meeting:*
  1. **Proposal 2013-0023 - Donate to the Wounded Worrier Project.** (Guy O'Connor) – **Passed.** This is from the Southwest Conference to donate \$1000 to the Wounded Worrier Project. This comes from the money the International allocates to each Conference in the budget.
  2. **Proposal 2013-0024: Have International pay the airfare, registration and accommodation fees for the remaining founding fathers at the 2014 International Convention.** (Koen Huste) – **Tabled.** This motion was tabled until Koen could come up with the cost. He will contact each of the remaining founding fathers and see if they are going. If so he will then determine the cost for that member and bring it back to the January meeting. Note: This came back at the January meeting for discussion and vote. At the meeting the original motion was amended to make this a reimbursement to a maximum of \$1,600 with receipts. Since a portion of the International Board will not be going to the International this money would be used to make the reimbursement.
  3. **Proposal 2013-0025: Amend Article V Section .03 of the International By-Laws.** (Koen Huste) – **Failed.** The intent of the proposal was to remove the requirement of being a past Chapter President to hold office in the Conference or International. They wish to make the requirement to be a Blue Knights a minimum of 5 years to hold these offices.
  4. **Proposal 2013-0026: Amend Article VII Section .02 of the International By-Laws.** – (Koen Huste) – **Failed.** The intent of the proposal was to allow the International to collect a Conference's dues on their behalf and then forward it to them. At the moment each Conference collects their own dues. In the case of the MDC it's \$25 per chapter Note: Under this proposal that would go away and the International would collect \$2.00 per chapter member for Conference dues at renewal. The International would then send the Conference a check for that amount. In our case we collect \$25 per chapter (72) for a total of \$1,800. Under the new proposal it would be \$2.00 per member (2,645) for a total of \$5,290. I voted against this for the simple reason of fairness. By having each chapter paying the same the larger chapters could not say "I pay more dues so I should have a bigger say". This way everyone is equal is voice and representation.
- *New Business From December 7, 2013 Meeting:*
  1. **Proposal 2013 – 0027: Donate \$1,000 to the Wounded Warrior Project in US, Canada and Australia on behalf of the West Coast Conference** (Karl Hutchinson) **Passed.** The money will be split by the three countries with Canada and Australia receiving \$333 each. The US will receive \$334. This is because Canada and Australia no longer use the penny in their currency.
  2. **Proposal 2013-0028: Donate \$1,000 to the Minnesota Law Enforcement memorial Association – Mid-West Conference –** (Brian Gadd) – **Passed.** They train Police Department Color Guards from all over the US on posting colors for details. They also assist the families of fallen Minnesota officer in the time of need.
  3. **Proposal 2013 – 0029: Donate \$500 to the MIRA Foundation – Northeast Conference –** (Serge Fournier) **Passed.** The MIRA Foundation helps the disabled by linking them up with companion

dogs for their specific needs. The dogs and their training are provided at no cost to the individual or family.

4. **Proposal 2013 – 0030: Donate \$500 to the Dream Ride Organization – Northeast Conference (Serge Fournier) – Passed.** The Dream ride is an event held each year in Canada to support the Special Olympics.

5. **Proposal 2013 – 0031: To not pay the registration or lodging of the Int'l Rep's, Past President and BOG Rep for the 2014 Int'l. (Bob Flanagan) Failed.** Each year the Int'l pays the registration fee and room for the entire Board for the convention. They also pay the registration of the spouse if they work the Int'l sales room (this rarely happens). The thought behind this was to take the savings and apply toward the audit. Note: The main concern and reason for it failing was because of the late submission. Many of the people this would have affected have already made a financial investment to attend and were counting on these items to offset the cost. This would throw a last minute burden on the members.

6. **Proposal 2013 – 0032: Donate \$1,000 to Blue Knights COPSRUN – Tri-State Conference (Russ Harper) – Passed.** To help with the cost of the Survivors picnic each year. There was some discussion about donating too the same charity twice. After discussion the motion passed.

7. **Proposal 2013 – 0033: To place Derek Crawford on the Persona non grata list – Tri-State Conference (Russ Harper) – Passed.** He left the Blue Knights on his own. Shortly thereafter he began making accusations against the chapter and some of the members. He felt that there were racial overtones in the chapter. 4 Note: These were his opinion and he stated so. I voted against this proposal for that fact these were his opinions and people should be able to express their opinions. I also did not feel that there was enough information provided on the issues. The other thing that bothered me was the time frame. The Tri-State waited 15 months before bringing this to the Int'l Board.

8. **Proposal 2013 – 0034: To stop a "Good of the Order" rule instituted by President Alvarez – Tri-State Conference (Russ Harper) – Failed.** President Alvarez sent an e-mail to all the Board members after the October meeting. The e-mail Stated: *"I meant to send this out after our last BOD meeting, but better late than never. Starting with the next meeting, if you have something to bring up under the good of the order please submit it in writing to the International Secretary before the deadline for the BOD meeting agenda. In all fairness to the BOD, if any questions need to be answered, research can be done if needed, and blindsided tactics will cease. Many times the "Good of the Order" is used for parting jabs at Board Members, and what I am implementing is for the good of the order. I've grown tired of the infighting, and hoped that a new administration would bring a new beginning for this board. I've stated that I want to work with each one of you, and I meant it. We are the elected leaders of this organization, and should work collectively as a team, not against each other. Great things can happen through team effort. Thank you, and if you have any questions, feel free to contact me."* Ride with Pride, D.J. Alvarez Note: According to the Robert Rules of Order the Good of the Order is for items not found in the rest of the agenda. After some discussion the Board voted and the motion failed.

9. **Proposal 2013 – 0035: Waive the dues for all Blue Knights called to active duty (D.J. Alvarez) – Passed.** This was to continue the waiver that has been done for several years now.

10. **Proposal 2013 – 0036: To amend the By-Laws dealing with the Blue Knight Colors – West Coast Conference (Karl Hutchinson) – Tabled.** The purpose was to allow for an alternate back patch for chapters or members having issues with the OMG's. An example is Australia where the wearing of a three piece patch is actually illegal. At the moment New Zealand is also having an issue with this. This motion was tabled in order to have the By-law Committee look at it since it is such a

drastic change.

11. **Proposal 2013 – 0037: Donate \$1,000 to Kristy’s Kids – United Kingdom & Ireland(John Radcliffe) – Passed.** Kristy’s Kids is a charity in Scotland. They work with children who are terminal or have a life changing injury. The charity was started by the daughter of a member of Scotland III. It’s sort of a make a wish charity.

12. **Proposal 2013 – 0039: Donate \$1,000 to the National Law Enforcement Museum – Southern Regional Conference (Brad Tollefson) – Passed.** This will go toward the completion of the museum.

13. **Proposal 2013 – 0040: Donate \$1,000 to the Peace Officers’ Memorial Foundation in Austin, TX. – Rio Grande Conference (Chuck Doran) – Passed.** This will help fund the Memorial Fund.

• New Business *From January 28, 2014 Meeting:*

1. **Proposal 2013 – 0038: To adopt the BOG By-Law Change from the July 2013 Meeting – Board of Governors (Lon Strayer) .** At the July 2013 meeting the Presidents voted to change the by-laws in regard to vacated positions on the BOG. The By-Law was changed by a vote of 92 for and 18 against at the meeting. The by-laws require that this be presented to the International Board for implementation into the By-laws.

• **2014 BK International Budget:** The new 2014 Budget has been past. If it’s not already it should be on line in the very near future. Take the time to look at it, but keep in mind it is only a projection. As the year goes on the Board will be keeping an eye on it to find savings were we can. You will see that this year there are some big ticket items in the budget such as the cost of the audit. At the moment \$50k is projected in order to give us a cushion to work with. It is doubtful that amount will be spent, but we had to think of worst case scenario.

NOTE FROM REP: *Please remember that my report is a synopsis of board activity. Read the full minutes which are currently on the International website and currently emailed to each Chapter President.*

9. Vice Chairman’s Report (J.J. Lightner):

a. Membership – End of Year Stats for 2013 for the MDC – 2654

- I have come up with a new recruiting flyer and have enough to supply one for each President. We will get these posted on the website.
- All Members-at-Large have moved to Chapters with the exception of one.

## Representatives Reports

*This will be a summary of topics presented by each reporting member... Check the MDC Ride List for events*

1. Delaware State Representative – Albert Littleton (DE-I):

- a. Delaware has 1 Chapter with 70 members.
- b. See flyer for the Ride-to-the-Tide to benefit Special Olympics.
- c. Chapter’s main Ride is the Salvation Army 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Toy Ride in September.

2. Kentucky State Representative – Ruben Gardner (KY-II) Absent – Electronic report by Vice-Chairman:

- a. Kentucky has 14 Chapters...All Chapters Renewed

3. Maryland State Representative – Steve Smith (MD-I):

- a. Maryland has 8 Chapters.
- b. Law Ride – May 11<sup>th</sup> at RK Stadium.
- c. See flyers for MD-I Crab Feast and MD-III’s Shrimp Feast.

4. North Carolina State Representative – Gary Folsom (NC-XIII):

- a. North Carolina has 20 Chapters.
- b. Chapters donated over \$7K in 2013.

- c. See flyers for rides.
- 5. Tennessee State Representative – TC Hicks (TN-III) Absent – Electronic report by Vice-Chairman:
  - a. Tennessee has 10 Chapters.
  - b. All reservations that were received for the Spring Conference have been mailed by to the senders...any issues contact TC.
  - c. A starter-Kit has been requested for a new Chapter in Jackson, TN
- 6. Virginia State Representative – Mike Hart (VA-III):
  - a. Virginia has 15 Chapters.
  - b. Started a new Chapter in Charlottesville.
- 7. West Virginia State Representative – Marshal Parker (WV-II):
  - a. West Virginia has 4 Chapters.
  - b. See flyers for rides and Wild and Wonderful event.

### Website

- 1. Rick Clark is the Webmaster:
  - a. Website will get some updated and changes over the next month.
  - b. Email address is [webmaster@bkmdc.org](mailto:webmaster@bkmdc.org)
  - c. There is also a MDC Facebook page and we have 187 members.
  - d. The President's page has links to the contact listing...Chapter Presidents should have a password and if they don't, contact John Bull.

### Quartermaster

- 1. Ordering Sales Items: The coins, pins and patches are up on the Virginia-II website or can be order directly through the Conference Secretary (Keith Chase). We take cash, checks or credit cards through paypal.
- 2. New Patch Order: Based on our limited inventory of patches, there was some discussion regarding ordering new patches or maybe a rework to make it a little cleared. Quartermaster will to submit a proposal at the Spring Conference.
- 3. Inventory: Our current inventory:  
COINS = 291 \*\* PINS = 120 \*\* PATCHES = 53

### Safety

- 1. D.W. Conners – Safety Officer:
  - a. We had a safety round-table with 15 present. We have already scheduled another for the Spring Conference.
  - b. I am still doing the ride workshops. These drills are not MSF but of my own design.
  - c. I am available to do “On-Road” workshops. Day 1 will be classroom and the second day would be on the road. This is at no cost...I just need a place to lay my head.
  - d. Emergency Cards...if you need one, please don't hesitate to ask.
  - e. I have fliers for bike checks, etc.
  - f. If there is something from a safety perspective that you need, please let me know.
  - g. Chapter Safety Officers...please send their info to me.

h. Email Address: [BKMDC@frontier.com](mailto:BKMDC@frontier.com)

### Old Business

1. Chapter Changes: Please ensure you email the MDC Secretary and Chairman along with the International of any Chapter changes (E-Board officers, website, contact info).
2. Spring 2014 Conference Update: Due to the closure of the event site that TN-III had planned to use, we had to find a new location. MD-II stepped up and will hold the Spring MDC along with their 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary. **Note, the date has changed** and will be Hagererstown, MD from 16-18 May 2014. The flyer info is posted on the MDC website.
3. Fall 2014 Conference Update: VA-II will again be hosting the Fall Conference in conjunction with their 38<sup>th</sup> annual Blue Ridge Rally in Culpeper, VA over Labor Day Weekend (29 Aug-1 Sep). The Theme will be "Medieval Knights". The flyer info is posted on the MDC website.

### New Business

1. Proposal Number: 2014-001: To amend the current Mason Dixon Conference (MDC) By-Laws, regarding Article VI, Section 2 as it pertains to amending by-laws of the Conference.
  - a. The Proposal, if enacted would read: "Section 2. Proposals for by-law amendments must be submitted in writing to the conference secretary at least thirty (30) days prior to a Conference Meeting. Upon receipt of a proposal for a by-law amendment, the Mason-Dixon Conference Secretary will then distribute the proposal to all MDC Chapter presidents in order that the proposal can be discussed at the Chapter level prior to the forum and vote." The conference secretary will also place the proposal on the agenda for the next regularly scheduled conference meeting.
  - b. Background: The current by-law section allows for presentation at the Conference meeting with no prior information or the ability for discussion at the chapter level, only that "proposed action setting forth the substance thereof has been given to all chapters with the call of the meeting."
  - c. Intent: This proposal would establish protocols for submission and distribution to chapter presidents so that the membership of the organization may at least consider items of by-law changes as it affects the entirety of the membership of the Conference.
  - d. Advantages: To establish an opportunity for the rank and file membership to be a part of any changes to the structure of our Conference, and the chapter Presidents to be able to have the ability to examine and determine any potential by-law conflicts or needs to amend other portions pursuant to a proposal.
  - e. Disadvantages: None Stated.
  - f. Suggested and Submitted By: Richard C. Smith, Sr., President, MD-II.
  - g. Discussion: None
  - h. Vote: Motion to accept by John Bull, Second by Tommy Hayden. **Vote was Unanimous.**
2. Proposal Number: 2014-002: To clarify the nomination procedure for conference officers and establish an election procedure for how ballots are cast in the Bylaws of the Blue Knights International Law Enforcement Motorcycle Club, Inc. Mason-Dixon Conference.
  - a. Current By-Law - Article IV (proposed changes are underlined in bold red lettering):
    - Section 1: The officers of this Conference shall be the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, and International Representative. A single person may hold the office of Secretary and Treasurer. Only regular members of the Conference who have been Past Presidents or current Presidents of a chapter may hold the office of Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and



International Representative. In the event there are no nominations of a member that is or has been a President or Past President, any regular member may hold the office of Secretary or Treasurer. **The nomination of candidates for Conference Officers shall be made at the Spring Mason-Dixon Conference meeting every two (2) years (even numbered years).** Members being nominated must be in attendance to accept such nomination. Associate and Honorary members may not hold any Conference elected office either by election or appointment. The term of office for all officers shall be two (2) years.

- Section 5 (**ALL NEW SECTION**). **The following procedure for balloting during the Fall Mason-Dixon Conference election meeting (every two (2) years (even numbered years) shall be used.**

- 1. If all the candidates for office (Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and International Representative) are running unopposed then the Mason-Dixon Conference Secretary shall cast 1 vote for each candidate.**

- 2. If any office is contested then the Chairman shall appoint an Election committee of three members not running for office or voting, to include the Sergeant-At-Arms to collect and count ballots.**

- a. The President of each Chapter or his designee, who must be a Regular member, shall be entitled to vote in the election of officers at the Fall election meeting of the Mason-Dixon Conference.**

- b. The President of each Chapter or his designee eligible to vote shall be given a paper ballot listing the names and offices of the candidates.**

- c. The President of each Chapter or his designee shall cast their ballots in secret. The ballots will then be collected and counted by the Election committee.**

- d. The Election Committee shall report back to the board and voting members the results.**

- e. In the event of a tie then a second paper ballot listing the names and offices of the candidates shall be issued to the President of each Chapter or his designee and they shall cast their ballots in secret. The ballots will then be collected and counted by the Election committee.**

- f. The Election Committee shall report back to the board and voting members the results.**

- g. In the event of a second tie the members of the Mason-Dixon Conference Executive board to include the following; Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, International Representative, Chaplain and all seven (7) appointed State Representatives shall be given a paper ballot listing the names and offices of the candidates. They shall cast their ballots in secret. The ballots will then be collected and counted by the Election committee.**

- h. The Election Committee shall report back to the board and voting members the results.**

- i. In the event of a third tie the members of the Mason-Dixon Conference Executive board to include the following; Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, and International Representative shall be given a paper ballot listing the names and offices of the candidates. They shall cast their ballots in secret. The ballots will then be collected and counted by the Election committee.**

**j. The Election Committee shall report back to the board and voting members the results.**

- b. Advantages: The additions of the sections above under the proposed bylaw change clarify the nomination procedure and outline a procedure for the casting of ballots for the conference officers during election years. The outlined balloting procedure defines how ballots are cast and what happens in the event of a tie or ties.
  - c. Disadvantages: None stated.
  - d. Suggested and submitted By: Richard Clark, Member NC- XVI
  - e. Discussion: During the last election, and for the first time on record, there was a tie for the Vice Chairman position and there was no listed method in order to be able to break the tie. Therefore the Executive Board had to create a procedure.
  - f. Vote: Motion to accept by Richard Smith, Second by John Weinstein. **Vote was Unanimous.**
  - g. Secondary Discussion: After the vote was taken, there was a “what if” discussion about a potential candidate being on their way to a meeting and having an accident or break-down that prevents them from being at the meeting. There was also discussion about someone having to work. The outcome of the discussion was that John Bull will prepare and present a proposal to be submitted regarding a change in the by-law nomination process whereas the candidate must submit a letter to the Secretary NLT 45 days prior to the nomination meeting indicating the desire to run for an office.
3. Bids for 2015 MDC Winter Meeting:
- a. MD-III (Hanover, MD) and VA-XIII (Danville, VA) submitted bids for the meeting.
  - b. The vote was tied and the presenting Chapter representatives both agreed to a coin-toss.
  - c. VA-XIII won the coin-toss and will host the Winter Meeting.

**Good of the Order**

1. Virginia-III Presentation: Mike Hart made a presentation the Virginia-XIII for being the largest Chapter at VA-III’s 31<sup>st</sup> annual Teddy Bear Run.
2. Heaven-I Members Recognition: Eric D. Radwick, VA-II began a project to sort through the names of the thousands of names on the Law Enforcement Memorial in DC to find Blue Knights who lost their lives in the line of duty and whose names are inscribed on those hallowed walls. He the Heaven-I roster into an Excel spreadsheet, sorted the names by chapter, and then removed the non-US chapters (not to lessen their importance, but only US officers are on the memorial). He then began the long process of searching each name against the NLEOM Fallen Officers’ name registry. His search of the Heaven-I list had 1,697 members. Of these, his search revealed thirty he is fairly certain are Blue Knights who were killed in the line of duty, and an additional five who may well have been. The Heaven-I roster lists a member’s name, chapter, and year of death. The NLEOM database lists an officer’s name, department and their EOW (End of Watch) date. I had to be certain the name and year matched and the department had to be in the state where the member’s chapter was located. The five “maybes”, mentioned above are cases in which one of these three was missing.
  - a. The list Eric came up with is posted on the “Dedication” page of the Chapter website ([www.bkva-ii.org](http://www.bkva-ii.org))
  - b. VA-II is making plans to honor each Blue Knight who has made the ultimate sacrifice at this year’s Law Ride. Our Chapter will decide how best to do this: a mass wreath Laying Ceremony with each Knight listed, individual remembrance cards placed at the panels identifying our Brothers and Sisters,

- or another such tribute.
- c. After spending the last couple of months going through the names of our fallen, Eric realized the Heaven-I database has some flaws and errors. Some names have been entered multiple times, some have potentially erroneous information, and some of our Brothers and Sisters are listed by the name we knew them by rather than by their legal name, which is what the memorial lists. His fear is not that he added a Knight who did not die in the line of duty, but that he missed one who paid the ultimate sacrifice. He is asking that fellow Knights from across the US review his work and validate the names. Responses can be sent to my attention at [napom@iride.us](mailto:napom@iride.us).
  3. 2014 Mason-Dixon Conference Scholarship Fund: Applications for the two \$500 scholarships must be submitted by April 25, 2014. Guidelines and applications are posted on the MDC website.
  4. MDC Meeting Times: Because the length of the actual meetings, we will be moving the meeting start time to 9:30 am for future meetings.
  5. Benefits Program: The new benefits program from Affinity Marketing was discussed which is scheduled for an International Board Meeting vote. After the discussion the vote by the MDC members present was unanimous **NOT** to use the program.

### Announcement of Mason-Dixon Conference Meetings

1. Spring Conference Meeting - 2014:
  - Hosted By: Maryland-II
  - Location: Hagerstown, MD
  - Dates: 16-18 May 2014
  - Information: See the MDC website for the Flyer
2. Fall Conference Meeting - 2014:
  - Hosted By: Virginia-II
  - Location: Culpeper, VA
  - Dates: 29 August - 1 September 2014
  - Information: [www.bkva-ii.org](http://www.bkva-ii.org)
3. Winter Conference Meeting - 2015:
  - Hosted By: Virginia-XIII
  - Location: Danville, NC
  - Dates: 13-15 February 2015
  - Information: See the MDC website for the Flyer

### Announcement of International Conventions

1. 2014 Convention:
  - Hosted By: Germany-XXI
  - Location: Pillerseetal, Austria
  - Dates: 22-27 June 2014
  - Info: <http://bk-convention2014.eu/>

Adjournment – 12:55 pm. Next meeting 09:30 am / 18 May 2014 at the 2014 Spring Conference

<b>Contact Information</b>	Website: <a href="http://www.bkmdc.org">www.bkmdc.org</a>	<i>Secretary's Contact</i> Email: <a href="mailto:secretary@bkmdc.org">secretary@bkmdc.org</a> Phone: 703-893-1823 Fax: 571-748-4240
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<sup>i</sup> File size is 197MB in MP3 format.