

Mason-Dixon Conference - Winter 2015

Meeting Minutes

February 15, 2015 09:42 am – 11:21 am

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 meeting¹.

Executive Board Roll-Call		
<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 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"/>

State Representatives and Other Appointed Positions Roll-Call		
<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 type="checkbox"/>
Tennessee State Rep	T.C. Hicks (TN-III)	<input checked="" 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"/>

Agenda Items
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. <u>Call to Order</u>: (9:42 am)<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Moment of Silence.b. Opening Prayer – Mike Williams (MDC Chaplin).c. Pledge of Allegiance – Recited by all in attendance.d. Reading of Blue Knights Pledge – Chairman Pollinger.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:

Delaware-I ¹	Maryland-I	Maryland-III ²	Maryland-IX
North Carolina-II	North Carolina-IV	North Carolina-VIII	North Carolina-XIII
North Carolina-XVI	North Carolina-XIX	Tennessee-III ³	Virginia-I
Virginia-II	Virginia-III	Virginia-V ⁴	Virginia-XIII
Virginia-XVII	Virginia-XX	West Virginia-II	

- There are 72 Chapters in the conference and 19 Chapters were represented at the meeting for a percentage of 26% in attendance. All 19 Chapters were eligible to vote. There were 63 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"> • Karen Borza (PA-XXIV) – Secretary 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Myron Joseph (NY-IX) – Tri-State Secretary
<u>PAST INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENTS</u>	<u>OTHER CONFERENCE REPRESENTATIVES</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Frank Gennari (NY-I) • Ronnie Young (VA-V) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Russ Harper (NY-XVIII) – Tri-State Rep
<u>BOG OFFICERS</u>	<u>OTHER STATE REPRESENTATIVES</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jim Borza (PA-XXIV) – Secretary 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Frank Fallow (NJ-XI) – New Jersey State Rep • Dominic Squillace (PA-X) – Penn State Rep

4. Comments from the International Secretary (Karen Borza):

- a. Audit Update: On 29 Dec 2014, the audit firm of Ed Frust and Smith of Bangor, ME was selected as the firm to conduct the audit of the International books. They started their audit on 5 Jan 2015 and are expected to finish up at the end of February. They should have a report back to the Board by mid-March.
- b. The Board is working on a proposal to have an audit conducted every two years to coincide with the International elections so that the new Board will come in with a fresh audit.

5. Comments from the BOG Secretary (Jim Borza):

- a. Convention Update: Discussed that 1 May 2015 is the cut-off for BOG awards submissions.
- b. Audit of BOG Books: The audit has already been completed of the BOG books and the report should accompany Internationals’ final report.
- c. Special Fund: Six (6) accidents were paid out in 2014. The fund balance is \$210,793.66

6. Host Chapter Remarks: President Keith Johnson, (VA-XIII), thanked all for attending and thanked his chapter for their tireless efforts to put the conference together.

7. Chairman’s Remarks: Thanked VA-XIII for hosting their first conference and stated he had enjoyed himself. The Chairman discussed recent threats against law enforcement and wanted to express to “be safe out there”. The Chairman also read a letter from the International President (DJ Alvarez) wherein he expressed his regret for being unable to attend; hoped all were having a good time; discussed that renewals were being worked and making good process; wanted to ensure the surveys were completed as it

¹ Bert Littleton produced a voting authorization letter from Leonard Arcure - Chapter President

² John Bull produced a voting authorization letter from Robert Carr - Chapter President

³ Norman Rickman produced a voting authorization letter from Dan Barcus - Chapter President

⁴ Tommy Hayden produced a voting authorization letter from Tom Siegler - Chapter President

will help show who the Blue Knights are; stated the audit should be complete in mid-March; reminded about the use of International issued email addresses and they would become the standard way of communicating with Chapters in the near future; provided his telephone number (281-642-8716), if anyone needed to contact him.

8. 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 were posted on the website. Motion to accept the minutes was made from the floor, seconded and voted unanimously to approve.
9. Treasurer's Report (Lonnie Loyall): Financial Report – As of 2/12/2015 – **CONTACT CHAPTER PRESIDENT FOR VERSION WITH FINANCIAL DATA**. To date, 50 Chapters have paid their Conference Dues.

A motion to accept the financial report, as provided, was made from the floor, seconded and voted unanimously to accept the report.

10. International Representative's Report (John Bull): As we start 2015, remember this is an election year and time to consider who you want as your leaders for the next two years. Please take the time to read the minutes from the past two years and decide for yourself if you are happy with how things have been going or do you want a new direction. As the weather starts to warm up and riding season begins, keep safety in mind. Don't forget to check your bikes and make sure they are in top shape...speaking of top shape, now would be a good time to brush up on our riding skills and lucky for us, we have one of the best Safety Officers around and he is always willing and able to help chapters with their skills.

a. **Membership – As of January 1, 2015**

Total Members:	19,812	MDC Total:	2603
Chapters:	626	MDC Chapters:	72

b. **Old Business**

1. 2015 International Budget: **Jerry Bryan -Passed**

The budget was reviewed and approved at the November Board meeting. A copy should be available on the International website, under the Members Only section.

2. Loan to Arkansas-IV– 2013 International Convention Debt: **Jerry Bryan -Passed**

The chapter is about \$5,900 in debt from the convention. Of the \$5,900, a total of \$4,200 was paid out of the pocket of one of their members to help cover expense. The chapter sought a loan from the International to pay the member back and pay off the rest of the bills. After debate the Board voted to loan AK-IV a total of \$5,875.41

c. **New Business**

1. Proposal 2014 – 0016 – Proxy Voting at the Board of Governors Meeting: **Rory Mac Connell (Florida-XVIII) - Withdrawn**

To adjust the proxy voting currently allowed by the BOG. The proxy voter must be a member of the chapter. This was withdrawn because it must first go to the BOG for approval. Expect this to be on the BOG agenda for the meeting in Reno, NV.

2. Proposal 2014 – 0017 – To Insert Article 6. Section 6A Electronic Voting: **Russ Harper - Withdrawn**

This proposal would have added electronic voting as an option for International elections.

3. Proposal 2014 – 0018 – To Amend Article 3. Section .16 Election, Term of Office, and

Qualifications: **Russ Harper - Withdrawn**

This would have eliminated the need for ballot counting if electronic voting was used. It was withdrawn since it would be a moot point without the previous proposal.

4. Proposal 2014 – 0019 – Amend By-Laws Article 1 Section .04 Colors: **Bob Flanagan - Passed.**

This proposal approved the design of the new alternate back patch for the International. The new patch will look like the old one with Blue Knights running down the left side and the international designation running down the right side.

5. Proposal 2014 – 0020 – Allow Jim Beam to Use the International Logo: **D.J. Alvarez - Passed**
Jim Beam will use the approved logo on a run of “Booker’s Special Edition Bourbon”.

6. Proposal 2014 – 0021 – Enhanced Security Paper Ballot for Elections: **Ellen Smit - Withdrawn by GLRC**

This proposal was to add a security enhanced ballot to the 2015 election. The process would involve an outside company handling the printing and mailing of a paper ballot. The proposal was withdrawn because it was not properly submitted.

7. Proposal 2015 – 0001 – Article V, Section 1 Change Requirements for Motorcycle Ownership: **Dennis Deppert, SRC Int’l Rep - Failed (Lack of a Motion)**

Would have extended the time to purchase a motorcycle from six months to one year. The proposal died for a lack of a motion.

8. Proposal 2015 – 0002 – Article 2, Section 2.06 Membership at Large: **Bob Flanagan (By-Law Committee) - Passed**

Makes the Conference Board responsible for verifying that a prospective MAL qualifies. The Conferences already do this and the proposal puts it in the By-Laws.

9. Proposal 2015 – 0003 – Article 6, Section 2 Associate Membership: **Bob Flanagan (By-Law Committee) - Passed**

Changed the requirements for associate membership by allowing part-time officers who separate with 15 years of total service to become members. Also allows current members with at least 10 years of service to remain a member if they separate from their departments.

10. Proposal 2015 – 0004 – Military Members’ Dues: **D.J. Alvarez - Passed**

Any member called to full-time active duty before January 31, 2015, will not have to pay their dues.

11. Proposal 2015 – 0005 – Funding for the Australian Back patch Changeover: **Karl Hutchinson WCC Int’l Rep. - Passed**

This proposal helps to fund the Australian chapters change to the new alternative patch. The original proposal called for \$3,000 however it was amended to \$1,500 each by the Int’l and WCC. Members MUST turn in their current illegal patch in order to receive the new patch. This is for current members only. Any new violations will be dealt with. As a way to put the issue to rest the BOD has decided not to pursue any disciplinary action. It is time to close the issue and move on.

d. **Good of the Order**

1. Audit Report: I am happy to report the Audit is currently under way. It began on January 5th. As soon as they complete the audit a report will be given to the BOD. Hopefully by the next conference

meeting I'll have more news.

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.*

11. Vice Chairman's Report (J.J. Lightner) Absent: *Electronic report by Chairman:*
 - a. Sorry I could not make it but my wife is having some complications and I felt it best to be home with her.
 - b. Membership – MDC has **72** Chapters with **2603** Members

Representatives Reports

(See the MDC website calendar for events)

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

1. Delaware State Representative – Albert Littleton (DE-I):
 - a. Delaware has 1 Chapter with 74 members.
2. Kentucky State Representative – Ruben Gardner (KY-II) Absent: *No Report:*
 - a. Kentucky has 13 Chapters.
3. Maryland State Representative – Steve Smith (MD-I):
 - a. Maryland has 7 Chapters. We lost MD-II as it folded early in the year.
4. North Carolina State Representative – Gary Folsom (NC-XIII) Absent: *Nothing to Report:*
 - a. North Carolina has 19 Chapters with about 550 members.
5. Tennessee State Representative – TC Hicks (TN-III):
 - a. Tennessee has 11 Chapters.
 - b. Have several requests for Members-at-Large but we have managed to find them Chapters.
6. Virginia State Representative – Mike Hart (VA-III):
 - a. Virginia has 17 Chapters.
 - b. Starter Kit going to Fredericksburg.
7. West Virginia State Representative – Marshal Parker (WV-II):
 - a. West Virginia has 4 Chapters with approximately 183 members.

Website

1. Rick Clark – Webmaster:
 - a. On the Chapter contacts page we are now using the official email address for each Chapter.
 - b. We will be putting up a calendar for rides and safety courses.
 - c. Send flyers webmaster@bkmdc.org
 - d. There is a MDC Facebook page.
 - e. President's page has the contact listing. Chapter Presidents have a password. Contact Rick for issues.
 - f. Corporate Email System: As everyone should be aware by now, the International is switching to an in-house email system. If your chapter has not switched or set-up your account; now is the time. You need to occasionally purge the files, as there is a limited amount of space.

Quartermaster

1. Ordering Sales Items: The coins, pins and patches are up on the Virginia-II website or can be ordered directly through the Conference Secretary (Keith Chase). We take cash, checks or credit cards or we can invoice directly using square payment.
2. New Patch Order: We ordered and received 200 more MDC patches...this patch is an exact replica of the ones we already have.
3. Decals: A request was made to look at the possibility of having some stickers/decals made. The Quartermaster will look in to the cost and report back at the Spring meeting.
4. Inventory: Our current inventory:
COINS = 243 ** PINS = 57 ** PATCHES = 193

Safety

1. D.W. Conners – Safety Officer:
 - a. We continue to have safety round-tables. This is an open discussion on safety issues. We had 23 attend the session on Saturday.
 - b. I am still doing the ride workshops. These drills are not MSF but of my own design. I am also helping other conferences.
 - c. I am working on a “trike course”.
 - d. 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.
 - e. Emergency Cards...if you need one, please don't hesitate to ask.
 - f. I have fliers for bike checks, etc.
 - g. If there is something from a safety perspective that you need, please let me know.
 - h. Chapter Safety Officers...please send their info to me.
 - i. Email Address: BKMDC@frontier.com

Old Business

1. Chapter Changes: Please ensure you email the MDC Secretary, MDC Chairman and the International of any Chapter changes (E-Board officers, website, and contact info).
2. Spring 2015 Conference Update: Ronnie Young provided an update on VA-V's hosting of the Spring Conference in Chesapeake, VA over Memorial Day Weekend (22-14 May 2015). The flyer info is posted on the MDC website.
3. Fall 2015 Conference Update: John Weinstein provided an update on VA-II's hosting of the Fall Conference in Culpeper, VA over Labor Day Weekend (4-7 September 2015). The flyer info is posted on the MDC website.

New Business

1. International Elections: Elections are coming up this year. The candidates are:

<p><u>INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DJ Alvarez - (RGC, TX-XXXI) • Wes Francis - (WCC, NV-II) • Frank Gennari - (TSC, NY-I) • Bill Haylett - (GLRC, NY-V) 	<p><u>INTERNATIONAL VICE PRESIDENT</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jerry Bryan - (MWRC, OK-II) • Pat Fox - (TSC, NY-XXIV) • Russell Harper - (TSC, NY-XVIII) • John Lopotosky - (SWC, CA-XXIV)
<p><u>INTERNATIONAL SECRETARY</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Karen Borza - (TSC, PA-XXIV) 	<p><u>INTERNATIONAL TREASURER</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • James Borza - (TSC, PA-XXIV) • John Gordon - (GLRC, OH-XVIII)

- a. Each candidate, present at the meeting, was given three minutes to speak. Additionally, Pat Fox sent an electronic request that was also read.
- b. A motion was made, seconded and voted unanimously for the following slate of candidates to be endorsed by the Mason-Dixon Conference:
 - President: Frank Gennari - (TSC, NY-I)
 - Vice President: Russell Harper - (TSC, NY-XVIII)
 - Secretary: Karen Borza - (TSC, PA-XXIV)
 - Treasurer: James Borza - (TSC, PA-XXIV)
- c. Ensure ballots are returned. They should be in the mail in May.

2. Bids for 2016 MDC Winter Meeting:

- a. Virginia-XIII (Danville, VA) submitted a bid for the Winter meeting. There were no competing bids.

Good of the Order

1. Recruitment and Retention: Seven months ago, our Vice Chairman sent some recruiting and retention ideas that were presented by John Weinstein (VA-II), to the International Vice Chairman...finally, two weeks ago, the Int'l Vice Chairman held a Vice Chairman's call and immediately turned to JJ to talk about the ideas that he and John Weinstein had previously discussed. Thanks to John and JJ for getting this started.
2. Recruitment and Retention Funds: A request was jointly made by NC-XIX and NC-V in 2013 for use of recruitment and retention funds...somehow, the request was lost. Motion made, seconded and voted unanimously to reimburse the Chapters for \$347.78 that were expended for a recruiting picnic.
3. MDC Scholarships: Two \$500 scholarships are available...applications must be submitted by 25 April. See the website for details.
4. Blue Knights Grave Marker: Present to VA-XVII for Pat Kelleher to be placed on the gravesite.
5. CCW Safe: Insurance policy that provides for lawyer support on a case if involved in a shooting while carrying under HR-218. Click the link for comparison and further details. <http://ccwsafe.com/concealed-carry-insurance-comparison/>

Announcement of Mason-Dixon Conference Meetings

1. Spring Conference Meeting - 2015:

- Hosted By: Virginia-V
- Location: Chesapeake, VA
- Dates: 22-24 May 2015
- Information: See the MDC website for the Flyer

2. Fall Conference Meeting - 2015:

- Hosted By: Virginia-II
- Location: Culpeper, VA
- Dates: 4-7 September 2015
- Information: www.bkva-ii.org

3. Winter Conference Meeting - 2015:

- Hosted By: Virginia-XIII
- Location: Danville, VA
- Dates: 13-15 February 2016
- Information: See the MDC website for the Flyer

Announcement of International Conventions

1. 2015 Convention:

- Hosted By: Nevada-II
- Location: Reno, Nevada
- Dates: 12-17 July 2015
- Info: <http://www.bknv2.org/Convention.php>

Adjournment – 11:21 am. Next meeting 09:30 am / 24 May 2015 at the 2015 Spring Conference

Contact Information	Website: www.bkmdc.org	<i>Secretary's Contact</i> Email: secretary@bkmdc.org Phone: 703-893-1823 Fax: 571-748-4240
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ⁱ File size is 161KB in MP3 format.