

# **Lone Star Regional Service Conference (LS RSC)**

Sat, Jan 19 to Sun, Jan 20, 2013

RSC Minutes

## **SATURDAY SESSION**

Meeting was opened Saturday morning at 9:22 am. Ft. Worth Area RCMA read the mission statement. Heart of Texas RCMA read the Vision Statement which was followed by a moment of silence and the serenity prayer. H&I (Hospitals and Institutions) Coordinator read the service prayer. Piney Woods RCM read the 12 Traditions. Texarkana Area RCMA read the 12 Concepts.

Facilitator reminded the body that the Secretary is recording the session and please speak up when addressing the body. In addition, the Co-Facilitator is running a little late. H&I Coordinator requested that he be allowed to read his report now as he needs to leave due to his work schedule. No one opposed.

H&I Coordinator asked the body to bring any known discrepancies to his attention then the report was read by H&I Coordinator. The report covered information regarding the facilities covered and the literature disbursement. He also reported about a request from members that were interested in going into a prison unit with H&I. H&I Coordinator set up a meeting to go into the Winnsboro unit. If anyone is interested they will be leaving February 16th from New Beginnings Group in Tyler at 7:30 am. The information, contact H&I Coordinator for more details, needs to be provided by January 31st.

Roll Call was taken (addendum)

## **AREA REPORTS**

Area de Habla Espanol  
absent

Dallas Area  
RCM read the report. There were no questions.

East Texas Area  
RCM read the report. There were concerns in his report regarding the method of CBDM that was being used at the Lone Star Region.

Fort Worth Area  
RCM read the report.

Heart of Texas (HoT) Area  
RCM read the report.

Texarkana Area  
RCM read the report. He announced the Texarkana Area Convention of NA - TACNA that will be held at the Austin Hotel in Hot Springs Arkansas on February 8-10, 2013. You can call [REDACTED] or see their website for more information.

Lakeside Area  
RCM read the report.

Piney Woods Area  
RCM read the report.

Rose City  
absent (showed up late; report read out-of-order)

SATURDAY SESSION, continued

### OPEN FORUM (RSC CBDM WORKGROUPS)

Facilitator acknowledged that some Areas have issues with the way RSC currently does business. He requested we break into Small Groups to discuss ideas of how RSC might better conduct business going forward. All in attendance broke into 4 small groups.

We were given a CBDM flow chart provided by WSO as a template. We began with three 30 minute sessions. The four groups brought forth their discussion notes after each session. After the first three sessions the Facilitator asked that the groups conclude their discussion during the last session by developing a CBDM flow chart. For example, they could adopt the example provided, adopt a different existing flow chart or the group could combine and/or amend existing flow charts. He stated that at the end of the day we will attempt to combine all of the notes from the four groups together to develop a single idea.

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Before we broke for Lunch the Notestaker asked Facilitator if he could address the body. Due to health concerns, the Notestaker did not feel he could continue to serve at the RSC and was very gracious. The Regional Delegate had agreed to take notes and produce minutes for the RSC. He was thanked for his honesty and the attempt to fulfill his commitment.

We broke for Lunch at 1:14 pm to return by 2:45 pm

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RSC Business Reconvened at 2:45 pm after lunch

Rose City Area RCMA arrived after the lunch break and the Facilitator recognized the RCMA to read the Rose City Area Report. When asked if she was going to email her report she stated that she would.

### ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

#### Facilitator

written report

#### Co-Facilitator

written report – withdrawn per below

*Ft Worth Area RCM* questioned why Co-Facilitator chose to put a personal attack in his report. Stated she saw no spiritual principles in that report.

*Alternate Treasurer* If the attack on you had no spiritual purpose why would it be in your report? What was the purpose of putting it in your report?

*HoT RCM* questioned why the language and personal attack in your report?

*Comm Liaison* clarified how the comment came about and admitted that the comment was out of line but wanted it noted that it was not stated on the floor.

Discussion continued and a member questioned why this type of issue was brought up in a report rather than file a personal grievance (10th Concept) with the body. Ft Worth RCM requested the "Co-Facilitator Report" be withdrawn from the Regional record and it was agreed by the body.

Administrative Committee met and discussed issues and the Facilitator apologized to the body on behalf of Administrative Committee.

**LS RSC (Sat, Jan 19 to Sun, Jan 20, 2013), RSC Minutes, continued**

**SATURDAY SESSION -- ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS, continued**

Money Handler (Treasurer)

Money Handler report was given.

Lone Star Regional Board of Directors (open)

The Chairperson for the Lone Star Regional Board of Directors read her report. She provided a Profit and Loss Statement. She stated in her report that the office was in much better financial shape and they are continuing to make improvements.

Communications Liaison requested approximate timeframe of when we could get the BOD Representative description of BOD person duties to be added to the Guidelines. BOD Chairperson stated that an individual with marketing background and/or retail sales experience was needed. Especially an individual who is knowledgeable with Point of Sale and/or Quickbooks. She mentioned the Bylaws had been emailed to the Facilitator and the Facilitator stated he would forward the Bylaws.

Regional Delegate

The Regional Delegate read her report - The East Texas RCM questioned the location of the Southern Zonal Forum that is being hosted by the Lone Star Region the weekend of January 26/27, 2013. The flyer says Town Center and the report had Town East Group. The Regional Delegate clarified that the meetings will be held at Town East Group and the Hotel is on Town Center. A member in attendance took the information from the Southern Zonal Forum web site and created a flyer with information regarding the Location and Agenda for the Saturday and Sunday meetings.

Regional Delegate Alternate

open position

Communications Liaison

The Communications Liaison read her report. Ft Worth Area RCM requested upcoming Regional Service Conference dates and Regional Assembly date be posted on the website. The Ft Worth Area RCM also mentioned she had thought the Communications Liaison was providing more information on the Virtual PBX which is why she had not discussed anything with the Phonenumber chair about switching to a new system. Communications Liaison requested that all RCM's take back to their Areas to please go to VirtualPBX.com and review the presentations on the new system that is being proposed.

There was some discussion about how the system could work to replace the current phonelines. The areas currently have their own phonelines and if the region could provide the service the areas could quit using and paying for their individual phone lines. All areas would need to agree to move to the new service whether they used it or not. If an Area wished to keep their current service they can do that but may not have use of the 888-NA-WORKS number if they did not choose to be included. Ft. Worth Area RCM requested some type of visual diagram to describe how the service worked. After quite a few questions the Assistant Money Handler suggested that the Areas put their concerns in writing and forward to the Communications Liaison so that she could develop solutions.

The Lone Star Regional Assembly will be held on October 16, 17 and 18th.  
The registration form will have the cut off dates for registration.

Convention Administrative Committee

Convention Administrative Committee representative (odd years) reported on the "Clean & Serene in 2013", Lone Star Regional Convention.

*LS RSC (Sat, Jan 19 to Sun, Jan 20, 2013), RSC Minutes, continued*

SATURDAY SESSION, continued

Business ended 5:30 pm.

The Facilitator announced that beginning tomorrow we would continue business with Elections, Pen Pal Coordinator Report, Spanish Phoneline Report, and the Money Handler would answer a couple outstanding questions regarding his report. He also stated we would resume discussion on the CBDM flowchart.

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## **SUNDAY SESSION**

Started Business at 9:38 am

Roll Call was taken late: *see following page*

Revisited Money Handler Report: Money Handler explained the line item in question by Ft Worth Area RCM; Conversation continued until all questions for the Money Handler Report were answered. There will be a correction to Misc Donation. This was a cash donation from a group and will be corrected. Money Handler also mentioned he would need minutes from April RSC to add the Assistant Money Handler to the bank account as a signer. It was stated that Banks do not acknowledge "CBDM titles" for a business account and Minutes would need to show Treasurer Alternate and Minutes taken by a Secretary.

## **ELECTIONS**

### Regional Delegate Alternate:

Dave G., Heart of Texas Area was nominated by the Heart of Texas Area. The nominee answered questions that were raised by members.

*Disposition:* Dave G., Heart of Texas Area was elected. (no opposition)

### Communications Liaison Alternate:

no nominations

commitment is 2 years as alternate and 2 years as communications liaison

### RSC Convention Administrative Committee (odd years) representative

Kahle B., Dallas Area had been nominated at prior RSC

*Disposition:* Kahle B., Dallas Area was elected (no opposition)

### Notestaker:

David M., Dallas Area was nominated and requested the qualifications be read. Facilitator read the requirements. Nominee stated that he was willing to accept with the exception that it would take 14 days to complete and send the minutes for review. The body stated concerns about bending rules. To maintain flexibility and structure a member suggested that amending the duties going forward would be a better solution than adjusting the guidelines for a specific individual. Nominee qualified himself; clean date is 12-08-1999. A member asked that the election be put aside until an idea could be decided on to change the requirements to complete and send the minutes. No opposition to putting the election aside at this time.

*Disposition:* laid aside

Roll Call actually taken 10:30 am (addendum)

SUNDAY SESSION, continued

**SUBCOMMITTEE WORKGROUP REPORTS**

Pen Pal Coordinator

Pen Pal Coordinator report was given by Pen Pal Coordinator. She brought additional forms for "Pen Pal volunteers" and "Inmate request for volunteer". She mentioned that there is a 6 month clean time requirement to be a pen pal. She reported a software program is being created to put pen pals and inmates together. This will speed up the process of getting the letter to the volunteer. She also mentioned that some pen pals were having the letters mailed directly to their groups instead of the Lone Star Regional Service Office. She requested that the Pen Pals follow the guidelines so that 1) the pen pal is protected and 2) we can see that the program is effective. Some volunteers are waiting for inmates. Loretta reached out to the current volunteer list to determine if they still wanted to be a volunteer and only one responded. It is not always effective to attend an event to obtain volunteers. They sign up at the event because it seems like a good idea but they don't follow thru.

**NEW BUSINESS**

IDEA: Lakeside RCM proposes a change to the duties of the Notestaker regarding the timely generation of the minutes for the RSC. To change item D and E under section 3 as follows:

d. Compiles and submits minutes to Facilitator and Co-Facilitator within 14 days of the RSC for review/approval.

e. After receiving approval, Notestaker is responsible for distributing minutes to RSC body and emailing a cleansed version of the minutes to the Communications Liaison within 21 days of the RSC.

Disposition: Compromise was discussed to clean up the wording and final disposition was accepted as shown (no opposition)

IDEA: Brought to the floor by the Communications Liaison. In the absence of the Co-Facilitator that another Admin member, that was present at the RSC, help review the minutes for approval.

Intent: To help or aid the Facilitator in reviewing the minutes.

There are several versions of current guidelines and as far as anyone could tell the Guidelines state the minutes are to be reviewed by the "Admin". A Member stated that the idea seemed out of order due to the fact that reviewing the minutes was not currently a Co-Facilitator duty. Member requested the idea be referred to Guidelines Workgroup.

Disposition: minutes are to be reviewed by the "Admin" including a member present at [Sunday] RSC; refer to Guidelines Workgroup:  
no one opposed to the intent of the idea but since the current guidelines were not clear the issue of who reviews the minutes is to be included as a topic for the guidelines workgroup and reviewed for clarity.

Clarified Guidelines Workgroup duties: Changes regarding Elections; revisions that are not supported by minutes.

SUNDAY SESSION, continued

**ELECTIONS (resumed)**

Notestaker:

David M., Dallas Area (revisited)

*Disposition:* was elected (no opposition)

**OPEN FORUM (RSC CBDM WORKGROUPS)**

Resumed discussion on How RSC Conducts Business: Question concerning how we will decide how we decide since there are different versions of the Guidelines. Suggestion was that we use simple majority of all persons in attendance. It was agreed that we use a simple majority.

One opposed and requested we compromise and use a 2/3 majority. Anyone opposed to 2/3? Three were opposed to a 2/3 majority. Simple majority will decide each provision passed.

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midway during the discussion below, the Facilitator resigned (verbally)  
He stated he would *not* submit a written resignation

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DISPOSITION SUMMARY (see ADDENDUM for full information)

- A. RSC Members (definition)
- B. Who can introduce an idea to the RSC Members:
  - i. RCM/RCMA may present/introduce ideas passed/requested by their respective areas
  - ii. RSC Member (other than RCM/RCMA) may present/introduce ideas pertaining directly with their position and/or duties
- C. When may ideas be presented:
  - i. up until the Friday the week prior to RSC
  - ii. out of an RSC member report (section "B" above)
  - iii. presented from discussion on the floor (considered new business)
- D. How RSC Members introduce/present an idea (*Idea Presentation Form*)
- E. Who can participate in the discussion of an idea (All in attendance)
- F. Who can participate in a Straw Poll (RSC members)
- G. Who can participate in the DECISION of an idea
  - i. Old Business coming back from Areas for a decision (only RCM's)
  - ii. Old Business where the disposition has not been decided (only RCM's)
  - iii. New Business (RCM's + Admin gets 1 voice)
  - iv. "*Any Area Representative ... that believes the outcome ... needs to go back to the groups may make that request ... If at least 3/4 of the Area Representatives present agree ... the idea will go back ... for a decision to be brought back under Old Business ... for a decision*"
- H. How Ideas are treated at the RSC:
  - a. ideas "owned" by body once on floor (withdrawal: "straw poll" / Facilitator discretion)
  - b. compromises: all in attendance ("straw poll" / Facilitator discretion)
  - c. Notestaker adds idea disposition to *Idea Presentation Form*; responsible for introducing/presenting all Old Business at the next RSC
- I. How a decision is reached (passes if 20% or less opposed)
- J. APPENDIX: *Idea Presentation Form*

We will hold work group meetings and in May this would be followed, At that time we would then go back over guide lines and ideas brought from work group.

In Loving Service, Your Notestaker Team

*Cathy N.*

*David M.*