



**UNITED STATES JCI SENATE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
Saturday, September 13, 2025
Columbus, OH**



Meeting was called to order by President Bruce Sostak #52655 at 9:00 a.m.

Chaplain Paul Myers #72173 led us in the invocation.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by all veterans and first responders in attendance.

The Mission Statement was read by President Bruce Sostak #52655.

OUR MISSION IS TO FOSTER FRIENDSHIPS AMONG SENATORS WHILE SUPPORTING THE JAYCEE MOVEMENT

The Roll Call was conducted by Secretary Dawna Norfleet #61999 and a quorum was obtained.
(84 votes present)

Motion to add Jen Ray #68957 to USA JCI Liaison and approve the agenda was made by California and second by Illinois. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting Chair, Jenny Brunner #64688 addressed the meeting with a welcome and everything is going pretty smooth.

Protocol Officer DeLisa Anderson #54310 introduced our guests at the meeting which included Foundation Officers and Past Presidents, Past National Presidents and Spouses, Legal Counsel and National Officers

Secretary's Report Dawna Norfleet #61999:

Motion to approve the June 2025 BOD Minutes from the Chicago/Northbrook June meeting was made by Ohio and seconded by Georgia. Motion passed unanimously.

- **Mentors** Chief Editor Angie Jelinek #60570 announced the Mentors deadlines for the year which are September 25 and March 3. She had a challenge in the last Mentors. Four people reached out to her with the answer. Please have articles in on time. This will be our Christmas issue. Be sure to send in new senators and those who have passed away. Send pictures to pictures@usjcisenate.org Group pictures will be in the Courtyard with Eldon. Times given for pictures.
- **Mentors Business Manager** Christianna Gilliam #78844 encourage everyone to use Zelle and to not send a pdf of sponsor pages. This is the Christmas issue. Looking for ads. Contact me.
- **E-news** Editor Kim Bode #62467 explained the deadlines are the 14th of each month and the last day of each month by 5 p.m. ET. Next deadline is Sunday by 10pm since traveling. We have had 5 issues so far with 52% open rate. There have been 149 views on website. Hope you have enjoyed the changes. Now you can click on the hyperlink green button for more information.
- **Webmaster** Allison Geddes #74777 stated it works. If you have any problems email both webmasters since we live in different time zones. One of us will reach out to you. Be sure to check if your state scholarship page information is correct.
- **Social Media** PM Ruby Weymouth #67303 announced, "We are being social!" If you want anything posted to please email me pictures and info. Would like to post upcoming events to help.
- **Directory** Secretary Dawna Norfleet #61999 reported the 2025-2026 Directory can be purchased

for \$5 from Newton Standridge #29407 at the JCI Senate products table. If you would like an electronic copy, please submit a form on our website. The directory will be updated throughout the year and updates will be sent out electronically to those who request or are an officer/appointee.

Treasurer's Report Tom King #59642: Thanked everyone who attended TIE meeting yesterday.

1. **Finance Committee:** Past President Susan Hatcher #58143 was not present. Chairman of Board Hal Williams #43912 reported that the Finance Committee met this morning as well as on September 3 by Zoom due to lengthy agenda. The following items were reviewed: Minutes of June 18, 2025, were approved. 2024-2025 Budget to Actual Final report and Past Treasurer explained the overages after the Finance Committee/Executive Committee met in June. Reviewed Financial Accts/Bank Statements and Investments. Insurance Coverage for those handling cash on behalf of US JCI Senate Business. We have a committee set up which I am on along with Legal Counsel to review due to individuals who handle large amounts of our money. We discussed the use of Reserves to be presented to Executive Committee in January along with the Budget 2025-2026 will be come up later.
Membership Database software was discussed. At this point we did not approve any money in the budget for it. This was due to lack of a firm contract. It was still being prepared. That will be discussed by the Executive Committee and if monies are approved, it will be by the Executive Committee because it will be under the 5% rule. Finally, we heard from the Audit Committee and you will be hearing more from Randy on it.
2. **Approval 2025-26 Budget** was presented by Treasurer Tom King #59642.
Motion to accept 2025-2026 Budget by Washington and Second by South Dakota.
Following changes were made from the "preliminary"- increases to expense items:
Appointed officers changed to \$1400 (added 1appointee reimbursement)
Mentors distributions changed to \$34,700 and Postage changed to \$6229
Enews changed to \$1000
Motion passed unanimously.
3. **Membership Information Service:** PM Lisa Badger #67974
There were 1,822 members due in September. Our results were 130 drops and 79 adds for a net change of -51. Three regions grew in September with Region 4 being the largest with +9. The remaining growth regions were Region 3 at +5 and Region 2 at +4.
A total of 12 states grew with New York being largest at +6 followed by Virginia at +5 and New Jersey, North Carolina and Oklahoma at +3.
December 1 dues kits will be sent out October 1. We have 1779 due. All states but 4 met the September 1 deadline.
4. **Audit Committee:** Chairperson Randy Young #46420
The Audit Committee reviewed various financial documents requested of the 2024-2025 US JCI Senate Treasurer, Gary Duell #48384, to examine the strength of the internal operating procedures of the organization. In comparing the itemized Quicken Category Report to the FY25 Year-end Budget Report, all income and expense lines matched up with the budget report. Income increased slightly mainly due to the income increase from Presidential Sweepstakes and interest income. Expenses were similar. The Treasurer seemed to regularly monitor the budget and brought any needed adjustments to the US JCI Senate Finance Committee in line with the currently accepted guidelines.
The following recommendations were presented to the Financial Committee.
The committee's recommendations to strength internal procedures:
 - Continue the practice of making entries into the Quicken Check Register when they are made rather than when they have cleared the bank. This not only aids in being able to reconcile the transactions against budget but is consistent with cash basis accounting principles.
 - All bank accounts should be reconciled by the Treasurer in Quicken for the month

immediately preceding each Finance Committee meeting and the resulting reconciliation report distributed to the Finance Committee members.

- Utilize a dual signature submission form, similar to the one posted on the US JCI Senate website, to accompany all cash collections (such as Sweepstakes ticket promotions, Mentors sign-in sheets, etc.) when a US JCI Senate elected or appointed official is present for such collections. This will provide documentation and added protection for officials that all cash collected on behalf of a US JCI Senate program at state/regional/national events have been duly accounted for prior to being deposited.
- Recipients to whom we have paid \$600 or more in prize money received throughout the year for sweepstakes or other such drawings should be issued a W-2G. Implementing this practice would keep our organization in line with IRS regulations.
- The insurance policies should be reviewed to verify coverages meet the needs of the organization, especially the theft policy for the treasurer, sweepstakes ticket chair and Mentors Business Manager.

The committee's recommendations regarding the investment/reserve account:

- Develop a long-term strategic plan for the reserve account. Such a plan should consider but not limit to:
 - Minimum/maximum amount that should be restricted as a "rainy-day" fund
 - Other restricted funds that should be established, including, but not limited to future anniversary meetings (55th, 60th, 70th, 75th) and past president pins
 - Annually budget contributions to the reserve amount
 - Maximum amount for any unrestricted reserve funds should not be over 2 and ½ times annual expenses.
- Monitor the balance of the checking account. The current balance is above necessary reserves so should be transferred to an interest-bearing account.

Administrative Vice President's Report Gary Duell #48384

Programming note- The Round Table has been cancelled. Please go to the showcase/vendors/products.

Ambassador Reports:

- Europe- Lawrence Pittman #53932 thanked President Bruce for allowing him to serve and thanked Russ Cooper and wife for a wonderful job serving as Ambassador. He stated he will never appear before the BOD in a bumble bee suit. In January will be Austria's Vienna Waltz Gala and Drumming Out in UK. Reach out to him or the Coopers for more information.

National Vice Presidents: The NVPs entered the room dressed in green jerseys and throwing footballs. They present President Bruce with his own jersey with his number. NVPs reports are on the website.

- **Region 1** Bonnie Blaisdell #69956 thanked Ohio for a good weekend so far. She announced upcoming events and all her states participating in Wreaths Across of America.
- **Region II** Ann Harrison #75822 announced upcoming events.
- **Region III** Letha Grimes #63946 announced upcoming events.
- **Region IV** Liz Martin-Young #47759 announced upcoming events including Fall Region Meeting October 23-26. Check states Facebook pages as well as Region IV page. Each state grew. We were +9.
- **Region V** Monte Schroeder #62203 announced it has been a very busy with the summer tour. He announced upcoming events.
- **Region VI** Rose Steen #57178 announced upcoming events including Nebraska Apple Jack Days and Fall Meeting in Spicer, MN October 3-5.
- **Region VII** Dewayne Sumner #66239 not present-excused
- **Region VIII** Anita Cummings #69380 reported on upcoming events including KS Golf Tournament, OK Route 66 Museum Tour, October 18 OK Wine Festival and December 6 CO Christmas Party.
- **Region IX** Susan Manthey #68777 not present-excused
- **Region X** Steve Balint #43364 reported he is having a great time this weekend. He reported on upcoming

events including Nevada Days Carson City Costume Party Oct 31-Nov 2. Working on celebrations for their Region X conference in Las Vegas, Nevada April 16-18, 2026. Registration forms and save a dates cards available this weekend.

Chairman Reports:

- **Convention & Bid Review:** Gary Duell #48384 provided a report on Convention & Bid Review. Reports from Northbrook, Columbus, Melbourne, San Antonio, Topeka, letter of intent PA June 2027 and letter of intent VA June 28.
- **Constitution & Bylaws:** New Chairman Scott Bryant #67910 reported we have 4 issues presented to us and will report on them in January.
- **Future Directions:** Tanis Friedman #70297 reported it has been a busy year so far. We are monitoring the online membership management system and looking for ways of reducing cost of Mentors. We have developed a general survey for polling wishes of our membership. Deadline for survey October 31.
- **Presidential Sweepstakes:** PM Kristen Johnson #72859 introduced committee members. The Welcome Party (formerly Region Party) Chair Katy Lemmer #73037 explained our sweepstakes region booth party is getting a fun makeover! On Monday, June 15, 2026, our exploration of the senate east to west will be celebrating ALL senators with a Welcome Party at the Westin San Antonio North hotel. The biggest advantage to this new format is everyone get to have fun! We will be asking each state to donate to help get this party started. Your NVPs will discuss with their states. The sweepstakes ticket sales and prize drawing will stay as is. More details in Melbourne.
PM Kristen Johnson #72859 reported we have sold 52 of our 100 buttons. We have surpassed the halfway mark of our \$40,000 budget. We have raised \$26,405. We can take electronic payments, except Venmo. There will be drawing for a free Melbourne, FL registration this evening from tickets that have been sold.
Ticket Chair Larry MacQuirter #67377 announced the top 3 states: 3rd IL, 2nd PA, 1st OK and top 3 regions: 3rd V, 2nd IV, 1st VI

Program Managers:

- **Chaplain:** Paul Myers #72173 reported a good turnout at yesterday's training.
- **Wreaths Across America:** Leisa Peebles #56001 reported for every sponsored wreath @ \$17 our organization will receive a \$5 credit toward additional wreaths. We have reached 285.4 wreaths so far. Our goal is 1000. National cutoff date to purchase is October 31, 2025, for this year. Please put your initials after your name. The 58th Texas President presented a \$300 check for wreaths.
- **President's Information Exchange:** Sally Traczuk #68943 reported we had 24 attending yesterday's meeting. Theme "PI" for this year.
- **S.O.A.R.:** Melanie Paschal #70372 announced Top 2 State winners were 1st Iowa and 2nd Illinois and Top 2 Region winners were 1st Region V Monty Schroeder #62203 and 2nd Region 1 Bonnie Blaisdell #69956. She made a challenge to everyone. The Grand winner will be presented at year end.
- **First Timers:** Jess Kling #78271 reported we had 8 First Timers who had booklets since Thursday night. I have introduced photos this year. Needing Freshmen Senators pictures and information so we can send a welcome letter and invite to upcoming national events. Announce winner First Timers tonight.
- **Enhanced Membership Benefits:** Brenda Swank #67214 reported we are working on adding others. When we get them finalized it will be posted on the website and E-blast.

- **Vendor Showcase:** Jaci Newmark #56368 reported we have 5 vendors from 1pm-4pm. If you make a purchase, you will be in a drawing for a \$25 Amazon gift card.
- **JCI USA Liaison:** Heather Danley #74897 was not present. Past JCI USA President Jen Ray #68957 reported sorry both JCI USA Liaison Heather Danley and JCI USA 105th President Bethany Miller couldn't make it. President Bethany sends thanks to those Senators who are here helping the Jaycees. In two weeks JCI USA and Senators will come together in NC. Thanks to all Senators who have stepped up to help. There are extensions in Montana, Michigan, Alaska, Louisiana, and Florida in the progress. The 2025 Year End Convention will be a cruise April 9-13 leaving from Galveston, TX. Reach out to Heather for additional information.
- **Friendship:** Lloyd Mueller #57186 announced to see website for application. The submission deadline is December 15. If you want plaque mailed, get in touch with him and he will arrange it.
- **Historian:** Melissa Sleeth #69220 stated she is working on a data base. We have a file on the website for each region/state. I have been scanning on a multiyear project. If you have anything you want to add please out to me.

Meeting Coordinators:

- **2026 Winter BOD Meeting (Melbourne, FL):** James Warren #42572 provided an update 2026 Winter BOD Meeting to be held in Melbourne, FL. Theme "Hot Time in Melbourne". Phyllis Bowers won the gift basket. We will have a live band, super hospitality. Give your family a mini-Florida vacation.
- **2026 Annual Meeting (San Antonio, TX):** Ron Holzer #56549 provided an update 2026 Annual Meeting to be held in San Antonio, TX. Registration at hotel invoice states if you have more than 2 in the room you will be charged \$20 more. This will not happen. There is free parking for us and room rate is \$160 per night. We are doing a fundraiser by selling lanyards with a save a date for \$20 each. Drawing tonight for free registration. Buy ticket at registration table \$5 each or 5 for \$20. Follow Facebook page for updates.
- **2026 Fall BOD (Topeka, KS):** Rob Wiley #56033 provided an updated on the 2026 Fall BOD to be held in Topeka, KS. Amtrack 1 block from hotel. Registration form will be out in Melbourne. Rooms \$119 per night. We have raffle tickets for many prizes.

Legal Counsel John Badeen #73089

Policy Bylaws update will be on the website in a week or so.
President Bruce owes the Foundation \$50 due to his phone ringing.

Chairman of the Board Hal Williams #43912

Recently went to Alaska with President Bruce and Region IX NVP Susie. We tour my 50th state. Had a great time shopping and seeing the sights. One of his purchases had the inspirational words: Just because it is a bad idea doesn't mean it won't be a good time!

U.S. JCI Senate Foundation: President Wayne Kiefer #36498 announced in Northbrook that name scholarships will be \$2000 instead of \$1500. The auction will be proceeding this afternoon. We are setting up in Salon B/C. Must have an auction number and give information so we can get in touch after auction closes 1 hour after banquet. He will be introducing a new named scholarship tonight. We have big goals we would like to achieve in the next few years.

Unfinished Business:

- Maureen Niedenthal #67669 provided a final report on the 2025 Annual Meeting.

New Business:

No new business

President's Comments: President Bruce Sostak #52655

Presented gifts to Chairperson Jenny Brunner and Shelly with great job with tours. Will save my comments for tonight.

Good of the Order Announcements:

- Tom King announced Newton will be pulling mailing addresses in November for Mentors. Please send in new members and correct addresses asap.
- Florida Bash "Tacky Tourist Orlando \$114 per night. Registration is \$35. Bring your own meat. We will be cruising in Feb. 19-22, 2026.
- Vino Belles/Fellas will be meeting this afternoon.
- ESSAC current Director and incoming President, Susan Geddes announced working on annual reunion celebration to be a cruise under \$1000 per person. You may join or pay dues to Lawrence Pittman.
- MA invite to everyone to Fall Frolic in October. Early registration ends this weekend.
- MO President presented President Bruce a gift for working during Sikeston Rodeo.
- Region VII meeting February 19-22, 2026 in Pigeon Forge. Theme is "3-Ring Circus".
- WV 55th Anniversary November 7-9 in Triadelphia.
- NY is hosting MAI April 9-12, 2026 in Jamestown. We have the National Comedy center.
- Michigan Football game Thanksgiving raffle tickets.
- Ruby Weymouth #67303 announced Chris Travis won prize.
- Chief of Staff Logan Giesie #51120 announced we will be seating by regions at banquet.

A motion to adjourn was made by Maryland and seconded by Tennessee. Motion passed unanimously. We adjourned with the Jaycee Creed led by Region III NVP Letha Grimes #63946.

Meeting adjourned at 10:59 CT.

We Believe:

*That faith in God gives meaning and Purpose to human life;
That the brotherhood of man transcends the sovereignty of nations;
That economic justice can best be won by free men through free enterprise;
That government should be of laws rather than of men;
That earth's great treasure lies in human personality;
And that service to humanity is the best work of life.*

C. William Brownfield #197