

LWVIA COUNCIL MINUTES

June 6, 2026

Ames, Iowa

Holly Oppelt, President called the meeting to order at 1:18pm

She verified that 44 members were in attendance; quorum was met

Linda Hagedorn served as Parliamentarian

Minutes from last year's Convention meeting were unanimously approved.

Motion: Polly Horton made the motion with second by Martha Wolf.

BUDGET

Shannon Patrick, Treasurer presented the financials for the year. We are ending the FY with 180% above projected revenue and at 98% of projected expenses. Differences are largely due to the change in dues structure through LWVUS. One league has \$585 outstanding for PMP which they are paying in installments. The Board forgave PMP of \$1,775 from another league which had been mistakenly inflated.

Revenue from the Defending Democracy fundraiser declined, but was offset by donations from IRAs and gifts.

Shannon has been working on our 501c3 and 501c4 accounts. We are advised to have a separate advocacy arm, 501c4 from which to pay the lobbyist-work continues on this. Shannon verified that all local leagues are covered for events under the LWVIA insurance umbrella.

Budget for FY 2026-27 was presented by Shannon. John from Metro DM league asked if the \$500 budgeted for Council and Convention was enough and stated that the Convention may be more expensive to hold. Shannon responded that to date the amount charged for delegates to attend had made the event budget neutral.

Motion: Carolyn Klaus moved/second by Jan Beran that the amount be increased to \$1000. Carried unanimously.

Martha Wolf explained line E2, \$6000 of the budget FY 2026-27 pertaining to the upcoming constitutional amendment (SJR 11) on November 2026 ballot. Local leagues may apply for grants of \$300-\$1000 to educate the public on this issue. Applications will be sent to local league presidents.

Martha also explained that all members will receive a survey regarding the Defending Democracy dinner that was held April, 2026. The planning committee was disappointed in the attendance and will be asking for feedback from members. One idea is to hold the dinner the night before the Council or Convention.

SLATE OF OFFICERS FY 2026-28

Polly Horton, chair of the Nominating Committee presented the slate of officers. She announced that Holly Oppelt for personal reasons will step down from the Presidency.

Co-Presidents: Linda Serra Hagedorn (Ames/Story) and Bre Oxley (Linn), 2026-2027

Past President: Terese Grant (Jasper Grinnell) (continuing)

Vice-President: Ashley Vanorny (Linn), self-nominated, 2026-2028

Secretary: Paula Vaughan (Johnson), 2025-2027

Treasurer: Susan Cornforth (BHB), self-nominated, 2026-2028

Board of Directors: Teresa Bomhoff (Metro DM); Peg Lazio (Ottumwa); Marti Hurst (Linn); Sue Wilson (Dubuque); Martha Wolf (SE IA); Maureen White (BHB).

2026-28: Susan Bangert (N IA); Courtney Kuenn (Sioux City).

Nominating Committee next year: Polly Horton, Terese Grant, Cherie Dargan

Motion: Janet Carl moved/second Shannon Patrick that slate be accepted by acclamation. Passed unanimously.

DIRECTIONS TO BOARD: attendees wrote comments on slips of paper that were given to the secretary. Secretary to pass on to board members.

Meeting adjourned by Holly Oppelt at 2:20pm