



District 50 Toastmasters District Council Alignment & Elections Meeting Minutes

Thursday, April 30, 2026 | 6:30PM CDT
Zoom Online Meeting

Recorded by: Administration Manager & Meeting Secretary, Nikki Jones

The meeting minutes are based on the District 50 meeting script, reports presented, and the proceedings documented for the meeting.

Call to Order

District Transition Chair DaWane Wanek called the special Alignment and Election Business Meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. He introduced the Meeting Chair, Past International President and Distinguished Toastmaster Jon Greiner.

Meeting Chair Jon Greiner welcomed District Council members, incoming leaders, dignitaries, and guests. Past International Director and Distinguished Toastmaster Dick Poirier served as Parliamentarian. Past International Director and Distinguished Toastmaster Pamela McCown shared an inspirational message.

Distinguished Toastmaster David Dunn read the Toastmasters International Mission; Distinguished Toastmaster Amy Bemis read the District Mission; and Distinguished Toastmaster Kellie McMaster read the Club Mission. The Meeting Chair reviewed the Toastmasters International Core Values of Integrity, Respect, Service, and Excellence.

Credentials Report

District 50 Credentials Chair, Past District Director and Distinguished Toastmaster Kristy Pedersen, presented the Credentials Committee Report. The report confirmed that a quorum had been achieved.

Description	Number
Total Paid Clubs	118
One-third Paid Clubs x 2 (necessary for quorum)	78
Paid Club Votes represented by Presidents/VPEs	121
Executive Committee Members represented	27
Total Votes if all District Council members vote	148
Majority Vote if all District Council members vote	75
Two-thirds Vote if all District Council members vote	99

On behalf of the Credentials Committee, Kristy Pedersen moved adoption of the Credentials Report. There being no objection, the Credentials Committee Report was adopted and a quorum was established.

Adoption of the Standing Rules

The Meeting Chair reviewed the Standing Rules governing the Zoom meeting, including recognition by the Chair, use of the Raise Hand and chat functions, debate limits, voting procedures, and expectations for courtesy and decorum. There being no objection, the Standing Rules were adopted and governed the proceedings of the meeting.

Adoption of the Agenda and Meeting Appointments

The proposed agenda had been made available to District Council members prior to the meeting. There being no objection, the agenda was adopted.

The Meeting Chair appointed Nikki Jones to serve as Administration Manager and Meeting Secretary and DaWane Wanek to serve as Timekeeper. There being no objection, both appointments were confirmed.

District Alignment Committee Report

District Alignment Committee Chair, Past District 43 District Governor and Distinguished Toastmaster Willie Johnson, presented the District 50 Alignment Committee Report for the 2026-2027 club alignment.

On behalf of the District Alignment Committee, Willie Johnson moved adoption of the Alignment Committee Report for the 2026-2027 District 50 club alignment. The motion required a majority vote and, because it came from a committee, no second was required. There being no objection, the District 50 Alignment Committee Report for 2026-2027 was adopted.

District Leadership Committee Report

District Leadership Committee Chair, Past District Director and Distinguished Toastmaster Kellie McMaster, presented the committee report and reviewed the applicable qualifications and election procedures.

Nominated candidates:

- District Director - Distinguished Toastmaster Rhonda Bunte
- Program Quality Director - Shane Gilmore
- Club Growth Director - Debra Cadet
- Eastern Division Director - Distinguished Toastmaster Nancy Manning
- Metro Division Director - Don Teague
- Plains Division Director - Sulabh Sharma
- Town North Division Director - Joan Bradee
- Ozark Division Director - Clint Copeland

The District Leadership Committee report listed the Frontier and Southern Division Director positions as open. Declared floor candidates were subsequently nominated and accepted: Angelica Rodriguez for Frontier Division Director and Cindy Horton for Southern Division Director. Walter Price, Distinguished Toastmaster, was also accepted as a declared floor candidate for District Director. Nominations were then closed.

District Elections

The District Director race was contested between Distinguished Toastmaster Rhonda Bunte and Distinguished Toastmaster Walter Price. Each candidate was allowed two minutes to address the District Council before voting was conducted using Election Buddy.

District Director Ballot #1	Votes
Number of Votes Cast	104
Necessary for Election (Majority)	53
Rhonda Bunte	50
Walter Price	54

Walter Price received a majority of the votes cast and was declared elected District Director for 2026-2027.

With no additional contested races, the Meeting Chair instructed Administration Manager Nikki Jones to cast one vote for each uncontested candidate. Nikki Jones cast the ballots as instructed.

2026-2027 District 50 Elected Officers:

- District Director - Walter Price
- Program Quality Director - Shane Gilmore
- Club Growth Director - Debra Cadet
- Eastern Division Director - Nancy Manning
- Frontier Division Director - Angelica Rodriguez
- Metro Division Director - Don Teague
- Plains Division Director - Sulabh Sharma
- Southern Division Director - Cindy Horton
- Town North Division Director - Joan Bradee

- Ozark Division Director - Clint Copeland

The Meeting Chair congratulated the elected officers and invited District Director-Elect Walter Price to address the assembly.

Announcements and Acknowledgements

The Meeting Chair recognized Kellie McMaster to promote the upcoming District 50 Conference. Members were also reminded of the March Toastmasters International Board briefing recording and the Toastmasters International Convention in Vancouver in August 2026.

District Transition Chair DaWane Wanek acknowledged and thanked the meeting management team. The Meeting Chair thanked all participants for their work and leadership.

Adjournment

There being no objection, the District 50 Council meeting was adjourned. Upon adjournment, the election results became final.