



## **Board Meeting of September 6, 2022, 9pm EST**

Held on Zoom video conference

Minutes Prepared by Ed Massena, VOA Secretary

### Attendees

Dave Adest, North Texas President  
Matt Altomare, NY/CT President / VOA Deputy Treasurer  
Wes Angelotti, South Florida President  
Bob Bierman, Western Reserve President  
Joe Boscia, VOA Treasurer  
Rob Buckman, Illinois President  
Greg Cerny, South Central Texas President  
Cheryl Dlouhy, Crossroads of America President  
Matthew Durish, Mid-South President  
Wes Frasard, VOA Vice President  
Bruce Hadfield, Ontario President  
James Jackson, Indiana/Kentucky President  
Jim Johnson, Colorado/Montana/Utah/Wyoming President  
Shirley Johnson, NVE 5 Event Director  
Rose Klutz, MCVO President

Mike Kuchavik, VOA President  
Audwin Lindsay, Carolinas Secretary  
Steven Long, NVE 5 Steering Committee  
Troy Maki, Minnesota President  
Ed Massena, VOA Secretary  
Frank Palazzo, St. Louis President  
Andy Scrafford, Capital Region President  
Richard Sewell, Houston President  
Michael Sutton, New Mexico President  
Chris Szeszko, Georgia President  
Jay Tanti, Ontario Membership Director  
Anil Vemulapalli, AZ President  
Kurt Wadsworth, PA/WV President  
Kim Weakley, Alabama/Tennessee President  
Shannon Whitehead, New Mexico President

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### Call to Order

VOA President Mike Kuchavik welcomed attendees and began the meeting at 9:05pm EST.

### Meeting Details

#### **Topic: Agenda**

Kuchavik presented the agenda for the meeting:

- Provide an update on the Finances
- Provide an update on Viper Quarterly Magazine
- Shirley Johnson will update on NVE5

#### **Topic: Financial Update**

Wes Frasard Presented the financial snapshot:

- The Budget is balanced, with a projected surplus at the end of the year.
- 1260 VOA members as of 9/6
- 68% of those members are Mamba Level
- \$17,927 in revenue from Sponsors
- Estimated cash available right now \$43,305

Altomare presented some detail on income:

- Dream Raffle continues to produce a little bit
- The web sponsors are starting to pick up. We have created a package for advertising that combines web and magazine advertising. Brian Willey is actively going out and selling those packages and it's generating new revenue.
- Altomare has also started recording Spirit of Viper revenue. The Spirit of Viper program is funded by donations. Altomare has recorded those, and recognized them as a deferred liability. The program can spend up to the amount they've received in donations and that's it.

### **Topic: Viper Quarterly**

Frasard provided an update on Viper Quarterly

We are not on track for release dates. We need to push to get another issue out by October 15, and push further to get December 15th release for the fourth one this year.

On the budget for VQ, we are on target. Although the first issue cost us more than expected, the year-end projection was \$75,000, and the current trajectory should end up between \$65,000 and \$68,000.

Maurice Liang has requested a small budgeted amount for photographers to cover something that can't be done by amateurs. The amount we would plan to allow is \$750 per magazine for subcontracting photographers. That amount is well within the 10% budget variance, so this is essentially a heads up with time for comment.

Comment – Rob Buckman

*As a professional photographer, I have seen what happens when amateurs are the only contribution for the publication, and it's not good. I think having a professional contribute the photos is a good idea to keep the quality up, but I'm not sure the amount of money you're talking about is enough. Also make sure to get a release from the photographer for the use of the photos.*

Frasard clarifies: the club isn't going to be paying photographers or dealing directly with them. The intent here is to give Maurice a little funding to contract his own help for gathering higher quality images remotely.

Question – Bob Bierman

*Is the \$750 budgeted for each region to cover an event that they're doing?*

Frasard – No, the amount is Maurice's total for one issue of the magazine.

Bierman – *If the photographer needs to travel and stay someplace to cover an event, is the club going to be on the hook for any of that?*

Frasard – No, the money is just for purchasing the pictures, and no one should feel

compelled to pay beyond that unless they want to.

Question – Bruce Hadfield

*We haven't paid in the past other than to Maurice, so why now? Is Maurice saving his time?*

Massena – You'd have to ask Maurice directly, but certainly this arrangement would help him save time and prevent going out-of-pocket for travel (and the club also doesn't need to pay for travel).

Shannon Whitehead – This also helps maintain the quality of the images, which really need to be 300dpi for printing, which is not something most people with cell phones can produce or even know they should.

Question – Anil Vemulapalli

*Where are all the submissions from people who love the magazine?*

Massena – Good question, but we don't know if Maurice is receiving low quality images from people and can't use them. The focus here is the quality of the product.

Frasard explained the timeline for having all 4 magazines published by December 31 may be at risk. Kuchavik followed that he has been in contact with Maurice to push on the speed. The goal is to have a third magazine coming out around renewal time, and he will continue to attempt to get there.

### **Topic: NVE5 planning update**

Shirley Johnson presented an update on the planning for NVE 5

The CO region is excited to welcome everyone September 6-10 of 2023.

The event is planned to keep you busy if you like, or to allow for free time to enjoy.

Some important dates to remember:

- Oct 1, 2022 Renewal date
- October 15, — Early bird registration for renewed Mamba members
  - Hosted on NVE5Colorado.com and linked from DriveViper.com
- October 22, — Early bird registration for renewed Regular members
- Starting October 15, if you have your paid reservation, you can make hotel Reservations (220 per night, including 3 days wrap around)
  - Encouraging Double occupancy in as many rooms as possible
- January 1 - Regular Registration opens

The Pricing is \$695 per person for early bird / \$795 per person for regular registration.

- The fee includes entry to all planned events (cash bars at the evening venues).
- The Cancellation deadline is January 1 (\$150 fees and costs will be retained).

- No refunds after January 1.
- Trip cancellation insurance can be purchased at the time of your registration (for you personally).

Shirley Johnson also reminded the meeting that other accommodations, including spa and golf at the hotel, will be open to reservations as soon as you get your hotel room booked.

NVE 5 registrations will be monitored, and if membership is not renewed the event registration will be placed on a waitlist until the member renews (they will be reminded by email).

All questions and information described here can be found on the event website: [nve5colorado.com](http://nve5colorado.com)

Question – Chris Szeszko, Anil Vemulapalli, Kurt Wadsworth  
*Not receiving the email updates – can you look into why?*

Kuchavik & Shirley Johnson – Anyone who is not receiving emails should ask Mike Kuchavik directly. He will follow up with the website and database information to figure out why / fix it.

### **Topic: Closing**

Kuchavik suggested the meeting be adjourned, as we have covered the agenda and everyone has been putting a lot of time into the meetings.  
The next operations meeting will cover a lot of new ground, including bylaws, website, insurance, and more.

Question – Bruce Hadfield  
*Do we have an update on the Membership Forum being down? And are there any new membership initiatives the officers are considering to grow membership?*

Kuchavik – Those are all items on the agenda for the next operations meeting. I'm having meetings between now and then that will help me to have better answers for you.

Without further questions, Kuchavik adjourned the meeting at 9:51pm

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Respectfully submitted for approval,  
Ed Massena, VOA National Secretary

Approved  
Mike Kuchavik, VOA National President