

**Volunteer Regional Service Meeting  
June 5, 2011**

Meeting opened at 9:30 with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer.

Reading of the 12 Concepts.

Reading of the purpose of an RSC (ARTICLE III).

All visitors and new members were welcomed and recognized.

**ROLL CALL and Establishment of a quorum.**

**ADMINISTRATIVE:**

Chair	here
Vice-Chair	here
Secretary	here
Alt-Secretary	here
Treasurer	here
Alt-Treasurer	absent
Regional Delegate	here
Alt-Regional Delegate	vacant

**SUBCOMMITTEES: Present/Absent**

Activities	vacant
Hospitals & Institutions	absent
Outreach	vacant
Policy & Procedures	vacant
Public Relations	vacant
VRC Oversight	absent
Financial Legal Adhoc	present
Exploration Adhoc	absent
VRC 29	present

**Represented by:**

**AREAS:**

Chattanooga	here(pre Feb Dec)
Greater Nashville	here(pre Feb Dec)
Greater Smokey Mountain	
Knoxville Area	here(pre Feb Dec)
Mid West Tennessee	here(Abs Feb pre Dec)
Middle Tennessee	here(pre Feb Dec)
Stones River	absent

**Represented by:**

here(pre Feb Dec)

Southern Middle  
West Tennessee

here(pre Feb abs Dec)  
here(pre feb Dec)

Quorum - reached

**SECRETARY REPORT:**

This will be my last report as VRSC Secretary. At the beginning of my term I was given \$175 for expenses throughout the year. I'm returning \$125. \$30 went for copies I made at my work for minutes and forms throughout the year. \$20 went to reimburse me for buying a file box and forms made on my printer at home. I'm turning in the receipt to the treasurer.

Also, I was spending some time updating the guidelines this past week. Part of my duties was to keep a motion log, so I was updating that, and going back even further than what my term was and that's when I ran across a change to the guidelines that was not in any of the copies of the guidelines I had. This affected a motion that was made earlier in the year. We discussed this at the admin and policy meeting yesterday. The guideline change earlier in the year was to change:

**From Section 3 Payment of Expenditures: All expenditures for the VRSC shall be pd. by check. Treasurer shall maintain balance in bank account sufficient to cover 2 Regional meeting cycles operation expenses, based on treasurer's projected expenses.**

**To: Section 3 Payment of Expenditures and Prudent Reserve: All expenditures for the VRSC shall be paid by bank instruments. The treasurer shall maintain a prudent reserve sufficient to cover 2 Regional meeting cycles operating expenses, based on treasurer's projected expenses.**

What section 3 Payment of Expenditures was supposed to say was....

**All expenditures for VRSC shall be paid by check with the exception of:**

**1. AT&T phone bill may be paid by electronic check and**

**2. Treasurer may also secure a Bank debit card to be used for the primary purpose of paying expenses associated with the Regional webpage and that can only be paid by credit/debit card.**

That was changed in June of 09. but the guidelines I had which had a 2010 date on them had not been updated. The intent of the motion made earlier in the year was to clarify what our prudent reserve is. While the motion was being discussed, it was suggested to change the wording to say "bank instruments". My thoughts are that the term bank instruments takes into consideration the AT&T phone bill and paying the web expenses.

The guideline change passed. But since the original guideline was wrong in the motion, do you have a problem with the motion passing as it was written? I do believe that keeping the guidelines updated fell under the Policy and Procedure Chair, which we haven't had in a while. Once we get this issue straight I will upload the guidelines to the website. I also updated the VRC guidelines with changes that have been made the past few years and will upload them also.

### **TREASURER REPORT:**

**Balance of \$11,969.62**

### **AREA REPORTS**

#### **Chattanooga Area: Area Subcommittee News**

H&I – Struggling to keep the female meeting at the Silverdale Workhouse; we only have one female with the clean time, clearance, and willingness and she doesn't want to see the H&I meeting stopped but it is against Area guidelines for one person to go alone; also, there is very little cooperation from the jail to provide a meeting space (they meet in the cafeteria during cleaning time, banging of tables and chairs and arguments break out between meeting attendees and cleaning people) and the jail only gives them about 20-30 minutes total for the meeting

Outreach – Created a questionnaire for all the home groups to answer and bring back to next Area meeting for the purpose of gauging groups' needs; they asked me to bring the questionnaire to the Region for input/comment (attached to this report); subcommittee is active in visiting outlying home groups that need support (at least 2-3 a month)

Surrender Under the Stars – Planning “Speaker Jam” with spaghetti cook off (Golden Meatball award to home group with best tasting spaghetti, currently held by the Today There's Hope group), July 23, 2:30PM at First Christian Church, 650 McCallie Ave, Chattanooga, TN; anyone with willingness to speak (and 3 years clean, I think) should contact me; this will be coupled with an “H&I Learning Day Workshop” beginning at 12PM same location

PI – Bus sign, now has a contract with CARTA for \$126/month (July)(normally \$140 but b/c we are non-profit we get 10% off), if spot doesn't sell we can keep it up after July, could be on any route at any time, about \$60 to printer to make the sign but sign can be reused; looking into translating schedule to Spanish (for just one location for now); we are re-doing our website, looking into using software called WordPress to make a webpage (supposedly easier for us non-webbies to make our own site, we will keep the same host; planning presentation to CADAS because the facility is biased against NA (requires AA signatures, will accept NA but the required number of AA signatures must still be met by inpatients)

Open positions – Chair (Jason S. has been nominated), V-Chair, Secretary, Alt Sec, Alt Treas, and PI Chair, Activities, Alt RCM

**Greater Nashville Area:** A quorum could not be established for both April and May ACMs. Our April meeting ending up falling on Easter and is understandable why quorum couldn't be established. More will be revealed about a possible change to what quorum is. We have no P&P chair or Newsletter committee. Kiss Kampout has done well during its term and VRC should be seeing a check (\$4,500 -5,000) soon. H&I has been more prudent with it's money, not asking for any in 3 months. They are still in need of female volunteers. A chair for PI has been voted on at MTA but not yet at GNA. The vice chair position has been active for the past 6 months and the committee is functioning. On June 18<sup>th</sup> there will be a workshop starting at 9:30 on Nolensville Rd. There has been no report from Outreach in 3 months. Activities is in need of support. We have a vice chair in place but no chair. The previous chair has stayed on board to help train the vice chair. There was a good turnout at our Memorial Day picnic.

**Greater Smokey Mountain Area:** Area struggling to fill vacant admin positions. Current filled positions will be completed after this month and as of today no

nominations have been made. Recovery on the Ridge will be on Sept 2-4 at Big Ridge State Park in Union County on Norris Lake. Planning and preparation for ROR is being handled by Activities which s also holding functions in support of ROR. Various GSMANA s/c are cooperating with their counterparts from the KNA to insure services continue to be available.

**Knoxville Area:** Convention was a success. Motions in the area for the convention to be every other year and to create a literature s/c and website. New Area Chair. More females are need for H&I.

**Midwest Tennessee Area:** Clean Air group moved to West Forest Ave. New Meeting Sow Seeds 6 PM. Free Spirit Annual Picnic June 18 at Grove Creek Park.

**Middle Tennessee Area:** Outreach held a Group Booklet Learning Day with 23 in attendance. Unity Convention will be held Aug 28-30. Made \$1,000 due to stability in the region.

**Southern Middle:** New Area. Area has grown from 2 years ago. Consists of Lawrence, Columbia, Hohenwald, Collenwood, Lewisburg, Loretto, and Summertown. Lawrenceburg group, Caring and Sharing goes to Giles Co. jail on Mon and Thurs.

**Stones River Area:** absent

**West Tennessee Area:** Our area service committee is still struggling to fill some service positions (chair, treasurer, literature). Our H&I committee continues to serve 5 treatment centers, but had to stop going to the men's prison, because of lack of getting members cleared to go in. PR is looking good, & going in a positive direction. On June 18 we will be having Phone Line orientation. Activities Committee is planning at the beginning of July to celebrate the 32<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary of NA in Memphis. WTA Outreach is trying to plan events on a three month cycle to provide advance notice to members of our plans and also to maximize our exposure via the newsletter. In June, Fellowship Focus will be attending the Thursday Nighters. Join us for dinner a 6:00pm at CK's, 1698 Poplar at Evergreen. In July, Addicts on Asphalt is travelling to Clean AIR in Jackson, TN on July 16<sup>th</sup>. The meeting is at 4:00pm at the Highland Park Conference Center. Join us at First Congregational at 2:00pm to carpool to the meeting. In August, Fellowship Focus will be attending the Saturday morning meeting of You+Me=We, 8:00am at Life Link Church, 1015 South Cooper at Walker following the meeting; join us for breakfast at IHOP, 2060 Union Ave, at Diana. NA in May was held the 3<sup>rd</sup> weekend in May & had a good turnout. There is still some discrepancy on how that money is exactly going to be used for the basic text fund. I received feedback for the region from only one home group in the area.

**Delegate Report: See Attachment**

**Regional Delegate-Alternate Report: Vacant**

**Activities:** Vacant

**H&I:** Mountain area asked to help their area by putting on an H&I workshop Sept 10. If everything stays in order the committee is asking for \$300 to put on this one time event. H&I does not have a budget due to lack of activity. Asking each home group to go to NA.org and make corrections to update the meeting schedule since a lot of people use it as a tool to get to a meeting.

**Policy and Procedure: get report**

**VRC Guideline Revision/Oversight:**

One thing they are looking at is getting rid of historical fundraising and just allow the host city to raise funds how they chose to. The historical fundraising events would become area fundraising events (i.e. Memphis in May, Kiss Campout, etc.)

**Financial AdHoc:** Stan Dunlap (state revenue) is recently retired. He said to contact Stacy Gibson. Committee hopes to go to office this week. This is about literature sales tax.

**Outreach Report:** Vacant

**VRC 29 Report:** Alt-Treasurer and Alt-Sec are vacant. Bank account is open and committees are working on budgets. Registration has come up with a HOPE chest drawing. Programming committee will be presenting their choice of main speakers and workshop topics at the next VRC meeting. All other s/c are fulfilling their commitments. A hotel liaison has been elected. Several events are in place and all will donate proceeds will go to VRC. Flyers are attached.

**Exploration Adhoc Report: absent**

**Chair Report: verbal report**

### **Administrative Report: get report**

It was asked how we could help fix a disconnection between areas and the region. Feeling of disconnect is greater now that RCMs voted not to send a motion to the groups after VRSC last month. Discussion was that the motion was not framed clearly and most RCMs felt that an individual not an area.

Point was made that everything should go back to groups because we serve the groups. Observation that it is not a disconnection but rather the areas feel they are self-supported. Maybe we should get a resource panel to move towards a project based solution. Maybe we need to clarify that the RCMs are the decision making body at the VRSC. Since there is a lot of information coming out of VRSC maybe RCMs could divide the information into two parts (since there is two months between VRSC meetings) so there will not be an information overload at areas.

We should be practicing the principle continuity by finding and training alternates (replacements) so we leave no void.

### **Vice Chair Report: no report**

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

#### **Motions:**

#### **Motion #2-2/6/11**

Made by VRC29 Chair, seconded by GNA

The motion reads as follows:

To modify the Volunteer Regional Convention (VRC) from a five (5) day event, to a four (4) day event. Eliminating the entire day of Wednesday. Changing start date to Thursday. This will amend following changes under Program, page 21, of the VRC Guidelines.

- Wednesday *eliminated*
- Thursday NA meeting 8pm-9pm. Workshops and banquet eliminated.
- *Please note:* Friday and Saturday workshops will remain the same.
- *Please note:* Friday, Saturday, and Sunday main speaker meetings will remain the same.
- Effective VRC 30, 2012

**In February this motion was deferred to Policy and Procedure, to be discussed at their April meeting.**

We were about to vote to send to groups, questions arose:

Question: when going to a city - any idea how many attend from home cities where VRC is held?

Reply: When talking about local support, yes it would be less in smaller cities because there are fewer addicts in the program there.

Comments: Hate to see us get rid of Thanksgiving meal since it was the biggest number there.

If we're raising seed money, why have efforts to cut events.

Suggestion: to table/defer to VRC oversight committee

Comment: reason for increasing seed money was to take pressure off of having fund raisers.

Comments: Since VRC chair isn't here.... Although he's interested and willing to do it, couldn't be here today because of job overextended. Most committee stuff will need to be done by email/by conference call.

Chattanooga didn't bring up at their area because it was deferred to P&P - need more information.

Since VRC chair/VRC oversight committee chair aren't here to answer questions....

Vice Chair made motion to table and it passed.

MTA seconded

All in favor - 6

No - 1

Note: someone will need to make a motion at a future date to remove it from the "table"

Craig will contact Chuck about the status of this motion.

**This motion (#2-2/6/11) will NOT go back to groups. It is tabled because there was no one from either VRC subcommittee present to answer questions.**

**This motion (#2-2/6/11) was brought off the table by an RCM vote and sent to the Oversight Committee.**

### **Motion #4-3-11-3**

Made by VRSC Secretary, seconded by \_\_\_\_ (forgot to write down who seconded... does anyone remember)

This motion reads as follows:

Remove the position of Web Servant from PR subcommittee guidelines and create the position of "Information Technology and Communications Coordinator" (ITCC) as a trusted servant position of the VRSC.

Changes to the VRSC Guidelines are as follows:

Under Article VI, Section 1 add "Information Technology and Communications Coordinator" to list of VRSC Officers.

Under Article VI, Section 3A, #2 add "Information Technology and Communications Coordinator" to list of VRSC Officers to be elected in June.

Under Article VIII, add the following: (Please note this will change the numbering of positions in the rest of this "Article")

H. Information Technology and Communications Coordinator

1. Qualifications

- a. One year commitment
- b. Two years continuous abstinence from all drugs
- c. Previous service experience in NA
- c. Knowledge of and access to a computer, printer, word processing software, scanner, access to the internet, and HTML/FTP/CMS software

2. Responsibilities

- a. Maintain VRSC website, email list, and online event calendar
- b. Forward any correspondence received thru the website to the proper channels
- c. Set up Web/Tele Conferences as requested by the VRSC
- d. Digitize the VRSC archives
- d. Before end of term, train incoming ITCC.  
Incoming ITCC will be reimbursed travel expenses for one cycle if needed.
- e. Attends all VRSC meetings from opening to closing;  
encouraged to attend Saturday Administrative Committee meetings
- f. Other IT and communication related duties as requested by VRSC

Under Article IX, Section 11, add the following: (Please note this will change the numbering of positions in the rest of this "Section")

H Information Technology and Communications Coordinator Report

**Intent:** The VRSC needs a trusted servant to maintain the website and handle other IT and communications needs as they arise.

Chattanooga	yes	
Greater Nashville	yes	
Greater Smokey Mountain		yes
Knoxville Area	yes	
Mid West Tennessee	yes	
Middle Tennessee	yes	
West Tennessee	yes	

**PASSED**

**This motion, #4-3-11-3, goes back to groups for a vote.**

**Motion #4-3-11-4**

Made by Treasurer, 2nd by MTA

This motion reads as follows: to purchase a computer (laptop) solely for the purpose of Treasurer functions. At a maximum of \$600.00

**Intent:** To have one computer with all the account information. To be passed to the next Treasurer. Also will ensure that anyone may hold service position.

Chattanooga	yes	
Greater Nashville	no	
Greater Smokey Mountain		no
Knoxville Area	yes	
Mid West Tennessee	yes	
Middle Tennessee	no	
West Tennessee	yes	

**This motion, #4-3-11-4, goes back to groups for a vote**

**PASSED**

**Nominations and Elections:**

**Open positions:** vice chair, alt-secretary, outreach, literature, Information Technology Technician chair, PR

**Nomination #1 was made by WTA and seconded by GNA.**

**The nomination is for Lucy O for VRSC Regional Delegate Alternate (RDA).**

**This motion, #4-3-11-4, goes back to groups for a vote.**

Chattanooga	yes	
Greater Nashville	yes	
Greater Smokey Mountain		yes
Knoxville Area	yes	
Mid West Tennessee	yes	
Middle Tennessee	yes	

West Tennessee                      yes

**PASSED**

**Nomination #2 was made by MTA seconded by GNA.**

**The nomination is for Luke H for VRSC Secretary.**

Chattanooga                      yes  
Greater Nashville                      yes  
Greater Smokey Mountain                      yes  
Knoxville Area                      yes  
Mid West Tennessee                      yes  
Middle Tennessee                      yes  
West Tennessee                      yes

**PASSED**

**Nomination #3 was made by GNA and seconded by WTA.**

**The nomination is for Callie G for VRSC Treasurer.**

Chattanooga                      yes  
Greater Nashville                      yes  
Greater Smokey Mountain                      yes  
Knoxville Area                      yes  
Mid West Tennessee                      yes  
Middle Tennessee                      yes  
West Tennessee                      yes

**PASSED**

**Nomination #4 was made by GNA and seconded by WTA.**

**The nomination is for Craig G for VRSC Chair.**

Chattanooga                      yes  
Greater Nashville                      yes  
Greater Smokey Mountain                      yes  
Knoxville Area                      yes  
Mid West Tennessee                      yes  
Middle Tennessee                      yes  
West Tennessee                      yes

**PASSED**

**Nomination #5 was made by MTA and seconded by GNA.  
The nomination is for Mike R. for VRSC Alt. Treasurer.**

Chattanooga	yes	
Greater Nashville	yes	
Greater Smokey Mountain		yes
Knoxville Area	yes	
Mid West Tennessee	yes	
Middle Tennessee	yes	
West Tennessee	yes	

**PASSED**

**Nomination #6 was made by Chattanooga and seconded by MTA.  
The nomination is for Pete F for VRSC RD.**

Chattanooga	yes	
Greater Nashville	yes	
Greater Smokey Mountain		yes
Knoxville Area	yes	
Mid West Tennessee	yes	
Middle Tennessee	yes	
West Tennessee	yes	

**PASSED**

**Nomination #7 was made by GNA and seconded by MTA.  
The nomination is for Melvin S for VRSC Policy and Procedure Chair.**

Chattanooga	yes	
Greater Nashville	yes	
Greater Smokey Mountain		yes
Knoxville Area	yes	
Mid West Tennessee	yes	

Middle Tennessee      yes  
West Tennessee        yes

**PASSED**

**New Business:**

**Motion# 6-5-11-1**

**Made by VRSC Vice-Chair, Seconded by MTA**

Motion to read as follows:

To **add** to Article XI: Funding, Section 4: Check Signatures –

“In the event this is not possible, we will have up to 4 signatures on our account and we

will follow the following order for preference: 1. Treasurer, 2. Chair, 3. Vice-Chair, 4.

Secretary, 5. Alt. Treasurer, 6. Alt. Secretary, 7. RD, 8. RDA.

To **change** Article VIII: Qualifications and Responsibilities of the VRSC Officers,

Section 2, A, #2c from “To be...”, to “May be...”(See Article XI: Funding, Section 4)

Section 2, B, #2b from “One of...”, to “May be...”(See Article XI: Funding, Section 4)

Section 2, C, #2n from “To be...” to “May be...”(See Article XI: Funding, Section 4)

Section 2, E, #2b from “To be... to “May be one of the 4 cosigners...VRSC check, if

possible.”(See Article XI: Funding, Section 4)

To add to Article VIII: Qualifications and Responsibilities of the VRSC Officers,

Section 2, D, #2c “May be...”(See Article XI: Funding, Section 4)

Section 2, F, #2d, “May be...”(See Article XI: Funding, Section 4)

Section 2, G, #2i, “May be...”(See Article XI: Funding, Section 4)

Section 2, H, #2e, “May be...”(See Article XI: Funding, Section 4)

To add to Article XI: Funding, Section 3: Payment of Expenditures and Prudent Reserve:

All expenditures for the VRSC shall be paid by bank instruments.

The treasurer shall

maintain a prudent reserve sufficient to cover two regional meeting cycles operating

expenses, based on treasurer’s projected expenses. The VRSC debit card will be held

by someone other than the treasurer, which will be determined from the list of officers

in Article XI, Section 4.

Intent:

To allow the VRSC to handle its financial responsibilities, regardless of circumstances of our trusted servants positions not being filled or two possible check signers living in the same household. Previous guidelines limited solutions to our current circumstances.

**Sent back to groups for vote.**

**Motion# 6-5-11-2**

PRO: groups have a fair voice

**Made by GNA, Seconded by MTA**

To change Article X: Voting, Section 1: General Voting Provisions, letter A from-  
“Voting on all VRSC motions and elections shall be done in a one area-one vote system.” To “Voting on all VRSC motions and elections that go back to groups shall be done in a one group, one vote system and votes to be cast by the voting members, as described below.”

**Intent:** To ensure an accurate group conscience and to allow all the groups in the Volunteer Region to have an equal vote in all business that directly affects them.”

**Sent back to groups for vote.**

**Announcements:**

**Open positions:** vice chair, alt-secretary, outreach, literature, Information Technology Technician chair, PR

There will be a function after the Service System workshop in Knoxville on 6/11/11. The August 6 2011 VRSC will be in Knoxville. A hotel tour will be held during the middle of the August VRSC. Hotel number 865-637-1234 ask for VRC 29. August 5 2011 at 5pm will be subcommittee meetings. 5 Fin Adhoc 530 PP 630 Admin 8 H&I

**Final Treasurer's Report:**

11969.62 starting

10255.54 ending

1755.00 sent to world

**Review of Day's business**

Motion to close, seconded, passed

In loving service, Luke