

NDIA Iowa-Illinois Chapter

Chapter Established in 1936

Tuesday, September 9th, 2025

NDIA Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order at 5:00 CST on Tuesday, September 9th 2025 by Natalie Linville-Mass

Attendees

Board Position	Name	Present
President	Natalie Linville-Mass	x
Executive Vice President	Brittney Benson	x
Treasurer	Todd Prouty	x
Secretary	Ernie Cychosz	x
Program Director	Dhiraj Raghvani	
Symposium Lead	Logan Brincks	x
Scholarships	Ryan L Bunge	
Awards	Brittney Benson	
Membership	Flint Znamenacek	x
Nominations	George Rivard	
Donations	Mike Lux	
National Policy Group	Brittany Benson	x
STEM Chair	Mike Lux	
Director	Timothy Bower	
Director	Joy Fleming	
Director	Mark Westrom	
Director	Celia M. Hadden	
Director	Joshua Bruce	
Director	Nicholas Santana	x
Director	Jayson Couch	
Director	Kevin Stevens	x
Director	Karl Reuter	x

1. Welcome New Board Members!!

- a. Karl Reuter, KBR

2. Prior Meeting Minutes (Ernie):

- a. July Board Minutes approved.

3. Treasurer's Report (Todd):

- a. Quarterly Report
- b. Treasurer's Report approved.
- c. Transition from local Rock Island Arsenal Credit Union to National NDIA (PNC Bank) finalized.

- d. To possibly use extra funds to update items given away at the symposium, etc.

4. Symposium (Logan)

- a. No date for 2026 Symposium yet - need to set a date by the end of September.
- b. May offer a pre-registration option on the website to be notified when a date is set.
- c. Attended Senator Ernst's Small Business Expo in Ames, Iowa along with Nick and generated interest in the Symposium.
- d. Next Committee Meeting the week of the 22nd; would like to meet with The Arsenal to collaborate/connect the APBI and Symposium.
- e. Need a new registration system. Helen will not be helping us. Nick and Logan reviewing a couple options and plan to decide within the next 30 days.

5. Program Committee (Dhiraj): Dhiraj not in meeting.

- a. "Are You CMMC Ready?" Virtual Lunch and Learn featuring Brendt Lauck with Edie Bailly is coming up on Thursday, September 25th at 11am. This is a free event. As a board member, please sign up for this event or encourage someone from your team to sign up for this event. The sign-up link is on our Website, as well as Facebook and LinkedIn.
- b. Crystal Group Fall Tour is Thursday, October 23rd at 2:30pm. Formal advertising for the event will be launched on Friday. Again, as a board member, please sign up and support this event by signing up to attend or encourage someone from your team to sign up for this event. The sign-up link is on our Website and again will be posted this Friday on our social media pages.
- c. Need committee members to help coordinate future events.

6. Scholarship Committee (Ryan):

- a. All Scholarship Recipients made it to the Ceremony at the Iron Tee, all of the recipients are listed on our website, have received a shout out on our social media pages and also received a shout out on our quarterly eblast.
- b. All recipients have received their scholarship money.
- c. It was suggested that we move up the timeline on applications, so our Scholarships can be advertised with these kids as they're recognized in other venues. Possibly opening in December and closing in January.
- d. Should add more required fields when applying to include school, student ID, and contact information.

7. STEM/Donations Committee (Mike/Celia):

- a. When budgets are determined for 2026 at the November meeting, let's look at where we can add donations. Dhiraj has talked about a STEM group in Cedar Rapids who is doing great things for kids in this region. Are there others we need to consider going into next year?

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- b. Proposals made to add a place on the website to apply for STEM donations and possibly sponsor entire STEM-related competitions in the future.
- c. It has been proposed to donate \$500 to the Linn-Mar Robotics Team. It has over 80 student members and builds robots that play games through the FIRST Tech Challenge and FIRST Robotics Competition programs. This is beyond the budget we allotted, Todd thought we would have room to make this donation now.

From Celia: Thanks for checking in on this. This gives us a great opportunity to expand our STEM impact to the Linn County area. I don't have a budget handy for this year, but there may be discretionary funding available in the current budget; I would support making a grant to them this year.

Vote on Celia's Motion approved.

- d. Celia is stepping down from the board this year. This will be an open position this Fall. Please let us know if this is a position you'd like to contribute too next year.

8. AWARDS Program Committee (Brittney):

- a. Model Chapter/Chapter of excellence (<https://www.ndia.org/chapters/about-ndia-chapters/model-chapter-chapter-of-excellence>) application has been submitted. Each box was checked thanks to everyone on the board.
- b. Most recent Lifetime Achievement Award may be presented at the Crystal Group tour.
- c. Sridhar Award Nominations are open. The Award is in named in honor of Dr. Kathleen Sridhar, a small-business CEO of uncommon ability and accomplishment. The Sridhar Award is bestowed annually on a small-business executive who best reflects Sridhar's leadership, excellence, and support of this business sector within the defense industry. The deadline for submission is October 1, 2025. Talk with Brittney to suggest a small business for our area.

9. Chapter Outreach (Nick)

- a. Senator Ernst Expo in August. Nick and Logan attended the event.
- b. NASA looking to get involved with our chapter and may have STEM and scholarship programs we could get involved in.
- c. QC Chamber taking on a new Executive Director for the Rock Island Arsenal Defense Alliance (RIADA) and is looking to reconnect once things settle.
- d. Have not heard from Hispanic Chamber again.
- e. RIADA looking to work with our chapter; outreach efforts will continue.

10. Promotion (Natalie):

- a. Website: Continue to make updates as needed.
- b. Facebook/LinkedIn: We're focused on promoting Eide Bailey, as well as Crystal Group's events. Over the summer, we ran posts for each of our

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donations this year, for each of our Scholarship Recipients and for our new board members.

- c. Eblast: CMMC Webinar sent on September 5th and will be resent beginning of next week. Crystal Group is ready to go for Friday and the Quarterly Eblast went out on August 4th.
- d. OPM (Online Presence Management): Once a Quarter

11. Membership (Flint):

- a. Update on members (Now back to where were. We have 657 members on the last report.)

Membership Package	Member Count
NDIA Individual (life)	18
NDIA Basic 3-Year Discounted	5
Renew Small Business Three Year Corporate Membership (20% Discount)	16
NDIA Industry	396
Government (free - 3 year)	72
NDIA Industry (Small)	7
Small Business Three Year Corporate Membership (20% Discount)	7
Renew NDIA Corporate	78
Renew NDIA Individual (1 year)	7
Renew NDIA Individual (3 year)	4
NDIA Industry Partner	6
NDIA Basic	12
New NDIA Corporate	4
New NDIA Individual (1 year)	4
New NDIA Individual (5 year)	4
New NDIA Individual (3 year)	9
NDIA Industry 3-Year Discounted	3
NDIA Industry Professional 3-Year Discounted	1
NDIA Allied Individual	1
NDIA Industry Professional	2
TOTAL	656

12. Nominating Committee (George): George not in meeting.

- a. All Board Positions expire the end of this year. We will be voting on new positions in the November Board meeting. These are the positions available on our board:
 - i. President (Brittney Bensen next in line)
 - ii. Vice President
 - iii. Secretary
 - iv. Treasurer
 - v. Membership Chair
 - vi. Symposium Chair (Logan Brincks has Volunteered for another year)
 - vii. Program Chair

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- viii. Publicity Chair
 - ix. Stem Chair
 - x. Scholarship Chair
 - xi. Donations Chair
 - xii. Awards Chair
 - xiii. Nominating Chair
- b. Please let Natalie and George know what position you would like to try for this year. Reminder, this is an active board. So, we do need everyone to participate and let us know where they can help out with these positions.
- c. Committee members (especially for the Symposium) are also always needed.

Chapter Director	3/4/2021	Tim	Bower	Flint Cliffs Manufacturing
Symposium Lead	4/1/2023	Logan	Brincks	American Ordnance LLC
Chapter Director	4/10/2025	Joshua	Bruce	Amentum
Scholarships	11/10/2020	Ryan	Bunge	Collins Aerospace
Chapter Director	4/25/2025	Jayson	Couch	LMT
Secretary	1/7/2022	Ernie	Cychosz	Sedona Technologies
Chapter Director	4/17/2017	Joy	Fleming	US Army Joint Munitions Command
Chapter Director	9/23/2014	Celia	Hadden	US Army Joint Munitions Command
President	11/1/2017	Natalie	Linville-Mass	Media Link, Inc.
STEM Chair	12/1/2023	Mike	Lux	Chief, Medium Caliber and Tank Ammunition Division
Treasurer	1/7/2022	Todd	Prouty	Crystal Group Inc.
Program Director	1/7/2023	Dhiraj	Raghwan	BAE Systems
Chapter Director	7/28/2025	Karl	Reuter	KBR
Nominating	10/15/2002	George	Rivard	
Chapter Director	4/10/2025	Nicholas	Santana	Ultiocrati
Chapter Director	7/1/2025	Kevin	Stevens	KBR
Chapter Director	8/13/2013	Mark	Westrom	ArmaLite, Inc.
Membership	12/15/2023	Flint	Znamenacek	Fontaine Consulting

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- d. Please note at least one month prior to elections, Helen and Callie need to be notified of upcoming elections. We will also need to notify Helen and Callie as soon as new board members are voted into the group.

13. NEW/OTHER BUSINESS/INFO:

- a. Next meeting: Zoom meeting scheduled for Tuesday, November 11th at 5pm
(Meetings are held the 2nd Tuesday of each odd month)

Meeting concluded at 6:09 CST.