

# NDIA Iowa-Illinois Chapter

## *Chapter Established in 1936*

Tuesday, November 18th, 2025

### NDIA Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order at 5:00 CST on Tuesday, November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025 by Natalie Linville-Mass

#### Attendees

| Board Position           | Name                  | Present |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|---------|
| President                | Natalie Linville-Mass | x       |
| Executive Vice President | Brittney Benson       |         |
| 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         | x       |
| Donations                | Mike Lux              |         |
| National Policy Group    | Brittany Benson       |         |
| 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!!

#### 2. Prior Meeting Minutes (Ernie):

- September Board Minutes approved.

#### 3. Treasurer's Report (Todd):

- Treasurer's Report approved following a correction on the REF.
- Only \$15 remaining to be sent over to the PNC system, then the transition to National will be complete.
- Waiting to pay the facilities charge to Vibrant until an itemized bill is received. Logan and Natalie will also review the itemized bill for their review.

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- d. A budget including symposium costs and increased STEM donations will be discussed at a later date (aiming for the first week of December). Todd will send out a meeting invite.

## 4. Board Elections

- a. Below is the slate of current and proposed board position changes. New positions will start January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026 and end on December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2027.

| Board Positions       | 2024-2025             | Proposed 2026-2027    | Approved 2026-2027 | 2026 Retiring Board Members |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|
| President             | Natalie Linville-Mass | Brittney Bensen       |                    | Ryan Bunge                  |
| Vice President        | Brittney Bensen       | Flint Znamenacek      |                    | Celia Hadden                |
| Treasurer             | Todd Prouty           | Kevin Stevens         |                    | Ernie Cychosz               |
| Secretary             | Ernie Cychosz         | Josh Bruce            |                    |                             |
| Membership Chair      | Flint Znamenacek      | Todd Prouty           |                    |                             |
| Symposium Chair       | Logan Brincks         | Logan Brincks         |                    |                             |
| Programs Chair        | Dhiraj Raghvani       | Nick Santana          |                    |                             |
| Publicity Chair       | Natalie Linville-Mass | Natalie Linville-Mass |                    |                             |
| Scholarship Chair     | Ryan Bunge            | Karl Reuter           |                    |                             |
| STEM/ Donation Chair  | Celia Hadden          | Dhiraj Raghvani       |                    |                             |
| Nominating Chair      | George Rivard         | Nick Santana          |                    |                             |
| National Policy Chair | Brittney Bensen       |                       |                    |                             |
| Awards Chair          | Brittney Bensen       | Todd Prouty           |                    |                             |

- b. Potential Board nominees approved. National will be notified.
- c. George Rivard will serve in an advisory role as Board Member Trustee.

## 5. Symposium (Logan)

- a. Preliminary dates for the symposium are June 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2026. Natalie will inform Vibrant, contacts at the Arsenal will be notified, and the dates will be added to the website.
- b. GivePulse software is proposed for hosting events throughout the year (specifically the 2026 symposium). There is a \$250 base membership fee per year with an add-on (\$600 annually or \$60/month) to send out texts to attendees throughout the conference or alert them when registration opens.
  - i. GivePulse can also be used for reviewing scholarships for \$10/month during scholarship award months.

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- ii. An estimated \$800 would go toward this for 2026. The Board approved the use of this program for 2026.
  - c. Progress for 2026 Symposium
    - i. IAI (<https://www.iai.co.il/>) is an Israeli defense company that would like to sponsor the Symposium and other events throughout the year. A date will be communicated to them and other interested companies—new and previously involved—as soon as possible.
    - ii. Natalie will also be reaching out to John Deere with a symposium date and to see what they would like to contribute.
    - iii. Nick has drafted a preliminary sponsorship package.
    - iv. Breakout rooms with additional speakers could be possible based on the amount of interest.
    - v. Natalie, Karl, Brittney, and Nick will be having a meeting to discuss further symposium outreach.
  - d. Committee members are always needed. The next Committee Meeting is TBD.
- 6. Program Committee (Dhiraj): Dhiraj not in meeting.**
- a. Had 6 attendees at the “Are You CMMC Ready?” Program.
  - b. Crystal Group Fall Tour was successful.
  - c. Next Event we be planned once Nick has met with Diraj and Natalie and taken over the position.
  - d. Committee members are needed to help coordinate future events.
- 7. Scholarship Committee (Ryan): Ryan not in meeting.**
- a. 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. This was agreed upon in the last meeting.
- 8. STEM/Donations Committee:**
- a. Received a really nice thank you from the USS IOWA SSN-797 Commissioning Committee for our recent donation!

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- b. Natalie will be meeting with Jill Wilkins, NewBoCo to run through what they offer for STEM in the Cedar Rapids area. Dhiraj connected Jill to our organization.
- c. We are making an additional donation of \$500 to the Linn-Mar Robotics Team. A check will be sent to them.
- d. Tom Hein from QCESC reached out to Natalie. Natalie committed to Sponsoring another \$2500 Scholarship for 2026 ([tkhein@gmail.com](mailto:tkhein@gmail.com)/ 309-798-0556 ). We've been supporting this program for 16 years straight.

## **9. AWARDS Program Committee (Brittney): Brittney not in meeting.**

- a. Our Chapter was selected as a NDIA Chapter of Excellence. Way To Go Brittney!!!
- b. A Lifetime Achievement Award is being put together for Jan, which was designed by Nick.
- c. Nominated Fontaine Consulting for the Sridhar Award Nomination.

## **10. Chapter Outreach (Nick)**

- a. Chapter Vision Planners and Chapter Short Term and Chapter Long Term Planner. Meeting with Karl, Brittney, Nick and Natalie tomorrow (Weds 11/19).
- b. Nick will be meeting with Congressman Sorenson's District Director, tomorrow November 19<sup>th</sup>, to inquire about speaking opportunities at the Symposium.

## **11. Promotion (Natalie):**

- a. Website: Continue to make updates as needed. We are working on embedding the eblasts into the website for SEO Purposes.
- b. Facebook/LinkedIn: Continuing with 2-4 posts per month.

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- c. Eblast: Quarterly Eblast will go out within the next two weeks of this meeting.
- d. OPM (Online Presence Management): Once a Quarter.

## **12. Membership (Flint):**

- a. Update on members: There were 657 members on the last report. We are now back to 651, but have added 8 new individual members.

## **13. Nominating Committee (George):**

- a. No new updates.

## **14. NEW/OTHER BUSINESS/INFO:**

- a. A symposium meeting invite will be sent out for Monday/Tuesday (Nov. 24/25)
- b. Next meeting: Zoom meeting scheduled for Tuesday, January 13<sup>th</sup> at 5pm (Meetings are held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each odd month)

*The NDIA has a policy of strict compliance with federal and state antitrust laws. The antitrust laws prohibit competitors from engaging in actions that could result in an unreasonable restraint of trade. Consequently, NDIA members must avoid discussing certain topics when they are together – both at formal association membership, board, committee, and other meetings and in informal contacts with other industry members: prices, fees, rates, profit margins, or other terms or conditions of sale (including allowances, credit terms, and warranties); allocation of markets or customers or division of territories; or refusals to deal with or boycotts of suppliers, customers or other third parties, or topics that may lead participants not to deal with a particular supplier, customer or third party.*

**Meeting concluded at 6:16 CST.**