



**2014 World Service Business Conference
Albuquerque, New Mexico
WRAP-UP REPORT**

“Our Primary Purpose”

Dear Delegates,

This brief summary contains only voting results, which you may submit to your service bodies. The motions are printed in their final format as amended.

The minutes, all speeches, presentation/discussion items, committee reports, workshop reports, names of delegates and trustees, bylaws and the Business Conference Policy Manual will be published in the Final Conference Report. The Final Conference Report will be mailed on September 2, 2014 to all delegates and those service bodies who did not have a delegate at Conference. The report will be available on the OA Web site as well.

The Final Conference Report will be posted online in early August (excluding full delegate names and contact information). If your service body does **not** wish to receive a printed version of the Final Conference Report, notify the World Service Office via email to szimmerman@oa.org no later than **July 11, 2014**.

Thursday, May 1, 2014 – Business Meeting I

Credentials Report

The first item of business was to adopt the Credentials Report. The report was presented as follows:

17 Trustees
180 Voting Delegates

for a total of 197 eligible voters.

The Credentials Report was **adopted** as presented.

Conference Standing Rules

The Conference Standing Rules were **adopted** as presented.

Consent Agenda

New Business Motion **F** (WSBC Policy 1984d)
New Business Motion **G** (WSBC Policy 1984c)
New Business Motion **H** (WSBC Policy 1988a)
New Business Motion **I** (WSBC Policy 2014)
New Business Motion **K** (WSBC Policy 1990)
New Business Motion **L** (WSBC Policy 1993c)
New Business Motion **M** (WSBC Policy 1995a)
New Business Motion **O** (WSBC Policy 1996a)
New Business Motion **P** (WSBC Policy 2003)
New Business Motion **R** (WSBC Policy 2006)
New Business Motion **S** (WSBC Policy 2010b)
New Business Motion **T** (WSBC Policy 2010e)
New Business Motion **U** (WSBC Policy 2012d)
Proposal Item **7** (Bylaws, Subpart B, Article VI, Section 2)
Proposal Item **8** (Bylaws, Subpart B, Article VII, Section 3)
Proposal Item **9** (Bylaws, Subpart B, Article VIII, Section 3)
Proposal Item **12** (Bylaws, Subpart B, Article VIII, Section 4)

Motion required 2/3 vote to adopt. The Consent Agenda was **adopted**.

Conference Agenda

The Conference agenda was **adopted** as presented.

Delegate Briefing

The chair explained the order in which New Business Motions and Bylaw Amendments would be addressed. The items were considered in alphabetical/numerical order. Unless the chair determined otherwise, New Business Motions were considered in the following order: A-a, A-b, A-c, A, B, C, D, E, J, N and Q. The Bylaw Amendments were considered in the following order: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 10, and 11.

Remaining Business

The remainder of business consisted of officers' reports, region reports, and committee reports.

Thursday, May 1, 2014 – Business Meeting II

Credentials Report

The first item of business was to adopt the Credentials Report. The report was presented as follows:

17 Trustees
180 Voting Delegates

for a total of 197 eligible voters.

The Credentials Report was **adopted** as presented.

New Business

New Business Motion A-a

Move to grant the Conference Seal of Approval to the checklist, *Unity with Diversity Checklist*.

Motion required 2/3 vote to adopt. New Business Motion A-a **adopted**.

New Business Motion A-b

Move to grant the Conference Seal of Approval to the manuscript, *Overeaters Anonymous, Third Edition*.

Motion required 2/3 vote to adopt. New Business Motion A-b **adopted**.

Remaining Business

The remainder of business consisted of committee reports, trustee nominee speeches and questions and answers.

Friday May 2, 2014 – Business Meeting III

Credentials Report

The first item of business was to adopt the Credentials Report. The report was presented as follows:

17 Trustees
180 Voting Delegates

for a total of 197 eligible voters.

The Credentials Report was **adopted** as presented.

Region Trustee Elections

The results of the region trustee elections were as follows:

Region One – Margie G.
Region Four – Cyndy L.
Region Seven – Barbara G.

Virtual Services Trustee Election

The results of the virtual trustee elections were as follows:

Virtual Services – Stephanie D.

Updated Credentials Report

The report was presented as follows:

17 Trustees
180 Voting Delegates

for a total of 197 eligible voters.

The Credentials Report was **adopted** as presented.

General Service Trustee Elections

The results of the general service trustee elections were as follows:

Three-year term – Karen C.
Three-year term – Janice S.

New Business Motion A-c

Move to grant the Conference Seal of Approval to the pamphlet, *The Promises of the OA 12&12*.

Motion required 2/3 to adopt. New Business Motion A-c **failed**.

Remaining Business

The remainder of business consisted of announcements.

Friday, May 2, 2014 – Business Meeting IV

Credentials Report

The first item of business was to adopt the Credentials Report. The report was presented as follows:

17 Trustees
179 Voting Delegates

for a total of 196 eligible voters.

The Credentials Report was **adopted** as presented.

New Business Motion B

Move to amend WSBC Policy 2010d as follows:

WSBC Policy 2010d

It was adopted to:

Establish an OA Young Persons' Conference Committee.

Motion required majority vote to adopt. New Business Motion B **adopted**.

New Business Motion D

Move the Seventh Tradition taken at the world Service Business Conference (WSBC) be specifically directed to the WSBC Delegate Support Fund

Motion required majority vote to adopt. New Business Motion D **failed**.

New Business Motion E

Move to rescind WSBC Policy 1962 as follows:

~~WSBC Policy 1962~~

~~At OA's first Business Conference, then called the National Conference, it was adopted that:~~

~~We endorse as our only basic creed the only thing that OA in general subscribes to (from headquarters), the Twelve Steps and the Twelve Traditions. That this is the only basic program that OA (headquarters) believes as its creed. We acknowledge that these two things are the only creed that OA subscribes to, basically.~~

Motion required majority vote to adopt. New Business Motion E **adopted**.

New Business Motion F

Move to amend WSBC Policy 1984d as follows:

WSBC Policy 1984d (Amended 2013)

The following procedure for Business Conference presentations/discussions was adopted:

- 1) Items for presentations/discussions at the annual Business Conference are selected by the board from those recommended by the Conference Planning

Committee. Selections for topics are made from recurring problems, topics of major interest and topics requested by the Fellowship.

- 2) Service bodies who propose presentation/discussion topics will be sent a letter stating how topics are chosen and that their recommendation has been referred to the Conference Planning Committee for consideration.

New Business Motion F **adopted** on the consent agenda.

New Business Motion G

Move to amend WSBC Policy 1984e as follows:

WSBC Policy 1984e

After a presentation/discussion, a statement on the sale of merchandise was adopted:

It is the will of the Business Conference that sale of merchandise, per se, is not prohibited by the Traditions. With regard to sale of merchandise, "Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or OA as a whole." If you choose to sell merchandise, the following guidelines are suggested:

- 1) All sales be made by and for OA service bodies.
- 2) Each sale item be approved by group conscience.
- 3) Sales at OA events and functions should be conducted in such a manner so as not to divert or distract from our primary purpose to carry the message to the compulsive overeater who still suffers.

In accordance with our Traditions, each group and OA service body may choose to sell or not sell merchandise as they determine. Overeaters Anonymous must be ever mindful of our Traditions, which warn against endorsement of outside enterprise.

New Business Motion G **adopted** on the consent agenda.

New Business Motion H

Move to amend WSBC Policy 1988a as follows:

WSBC Policy 1988a (Amended 1989, 1992, 1996, 1998, 2001, 2002 and 2010)

It was adopted that:

These matters should be considered but are not binding upon service bodies:

- 1) Functioning
Service bodies may join together in order to help carry the message, providing they adhere to the Traditions and do not alter, print or electronically transmit any OA-approved literature unless approved in writing by the World Service Office.
- 2) Business Conference Delegates
 - a) In addition to the requirements set out in Article X, Section 3c) of the Bylaws, Subpart B, it is suggested the delegates should be selected for judgment, experience, stability, willingness and for faithful adherence to living within the concepts of the Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions and Twelve Concepts of Overeaters Anonymous. It is further suggested a World Service delegate be a current or past regional representative.
 - b) As participants, delegates shall not be bound by the wishes of their service bodies, but should not vote against these wishes unless situations arise at the Business Conference that make it necessary for the best interests of Overeaters Anonymous as a whole.

New Business Motion H **adopted** on the consent agenda.

New Business Motion I

Move that WSBC 2014 adopt the following policy:

Meetings of Delegates

Annual Business Conference

- a) Oral committee and workshop reports shall be made on the final day of the Business Conference when time allows. Written reports are due in the World Service Office two weeks following the close of the Business Conference.
- b) Special meetings of delegates or committees of delegates during the Business Conference for any purpose or purposes may be called at any time by the chair or by a majority of the trustees and/or delegates.
- c) Communications concerning the Business Conference from the trustees and the World Service Office shall be through the registered delegates and service bodies.

New Business Motion I **adopted** on the consent agenda.

New Business Motion J

New Business Motion J **withdrawn**.

New Business Motion K

Move to amend WSBC Policy 1990 as follows:

WSBC Policy 1990 (Amended 2011)

The following policy statement was adopted:

The World Service Business Conference of Overeaters Anonymous suggests that individual groups and service bodies refrain from publishing the names or non-OA titles of speakers/leaders at OA functions in any informational materials (flyers, newsletters, etc.). OA service titles (but not names) may be used when a speaker/leader is performing the service responsibility of his or her OA office.

New Business Motion K **adopted** on the consent agenda.

New Business Motion L

Move to amend WSBC Policy 1993c as follows:

WSBC Policy 1993c (Amended 1994, 2001, 2002 and 2012)

It was adopted that:

World Service Business Conference 2012 adopt a policy that the World Service Office shall mail an annual letter to all service bodies requesting contributions to help fund delegates to attend World Service Business Conferences. Delegates selected to receive this fund will be those from intergroups and service boards demonstrating need. Priority will be given to those intergroups and service boards that have not previously sent delegates to Conference.

New Business Motion L **adopted** on the consent agenda.

New Business Motion M

Move to rescind WSBC Policy 1995a

~~WSBC Policy 1995a~~

~~It was adopted that:~~

~~Overeaters anonymous designate January as "Media Awareness Month."~~

New Business Motion M **adopted** on the consent agenda.

New Business Motion N

Move to rescind WSBC Policy 1995b.

~~WSBC Policy 1995b (updated 2013 due to amended 1984a)~~

~~It was adopted to:~~

~~Remove abstinence as a tool and replace it with a “plan of eating,” leaving abstinence as our primary purpose as outlined in the OA Preamble: “Our primary purpose is to abstain from compulsive eating and carry the message of recovery through the Twelve Steps of OA to those who still suffer.”~~

Motion required majority vote to adopt. New Business Motion N **adopted**.

New Business Motion O

Move to amend WSBC Policy 1996a as follows:

WSBC Policy 1996a (Amended 1999)

The following policy statement was adopted:

The 2014 WSBC of OA suggests OA’s Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions be read at every meeting. In addition, we suggest all service bodies and the WSBC read the Twelve Concepts of OA Service.

New Business Motion O **adopted** on the consent agenda.

New Business Motion P

Move to amend WSBC Policy 2003 as follows:

WSBC Policy 2003

It was adopted that:

To ensure the personal anonymity of members, an encryption program will be maintained to allow for secure transmission of all meeting information submitted via the OA Web site.

New Business Motion P **adopted** on the consent agenda.

Substitute New Business Motion Q

Move to amend WSBC Policy 2004b as follows:

WSBC Policy 2004b (Amended 2009)

It was adopted that:

Appeals process for service bodies denied credentials at WSBC because they do not meet the requirements of OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article X, Section 3c – qualifications/Selection.

- 1) The World Service Office shall notify the service body of any challenges to delegate credentials within seven days of receipt of delegate information by the World Service Office.
- 2) Each region will provide, at the time they submit their delegate information, a list of up to five individuals willing to serve on an Appeals Committee.
- 3) The Appeals Review Committee shall be composed of two members of the Board of Trustees, two region chairs and two representatives of the region bringing the appeal.
- 4) Service body notifies the World Service Office if it wishes to appeal denial of delegate credentials.
- 5) The Appeals Review Committee, via electronic and/or written communications, will consider relevant information and collectively decide the final disposition of each appeal with a deadline of one month prior to the first session of the upcoming WSBC.
- 6) At the expense of the service body, a telephone conference call may be scheduled to review the findings of the committee within two weeks of notification of the Appeal Review Committee's disposition.

Motion required majority vote to adopt. Substitute New Business Motion Q **adopted** as amended.

Motion required majority to adopt. New Business Motion Q **adopted** as substituted.

New Business Motion R

Move to rescind WSBC Policy 2006.

~~WSBC Policy 2006~~

~~It was adopted to:~~

~~Change the name of the HIPM (Hospitals, Institutions, Professionals and the Military) Committee to "Professional Outreach" Committee.~~

New Business Motion R **adopted** on the consent agenda.

New Business Motion S

Move to rescind WSBC Policy 2010b.

~~WSBC Policy 2010b~~

~~It was adopted to:
Add a ninth tool: "Action Plan."~~

New Business Motion S **adopted** on the consent agenda.

New Business Motion T

Move to amend WSBC Policy 2010e as follows:

WSBC Policy 2010e

It was adopted to:
Require all groups and service bodies wishing to register electronically with the WSO to provide at least one email address and name when submitting their registration request. The required email address is for use within the OA organization and will not be published.

New Business Motion T **adopted** on the consent agenda.

New Business Motion U

Move to amend WSBC Policy 2012d as follows:

WSBC Policy 2012d

The following policy statement was adopted:
The terms of WSBC delegates from service bodies shall be limited. After completing four consecutive years, service shall not exceed an additional two years. A one year rotation out of service shall then be observed. Request for a waiver of this limitation shall be submitted to the Board of Trustees.

New Business Motion U **adopted** on the consent agenda.

Proposed Bylaw Amendments

Proposal Item 1

Move to amend OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article X – Meetings of Delegates, Section 3 – Delegates as follows:

Article X – Meetings of Delegates
Section 3 – Delegates

3) Delegates

- c) Qualifications/Selection
- ~~6) If region, intergroup or service board bylaws are in conflict with OA, Inc. Bylaws, including failure to include amendments to OA, Inc. Bylaws adopted by a World Service Business Conference two or more conferences prior to the current WSBC, that region, intergroup or service board will not be permitted to register delegate(s) for the current Conference. In order to be allowed to register delegate(s), a service body has until thirty days before start of Conference to submit bylaws that are not in conflict with OA, Inc. Bylaws.~~

Motion required 2/3 to adopt. Proposal Item 1 **adopted**.

Proposal Item 2

Move to amend OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article IX – Board of Trustees, Section 4 – Qualifications as follows:

Article IX – Board of Trustees
Section 4 – Qualifications

- d) In addition, region trustees:
- 1) Are to physically reside in the region represented no less than the six months immediately prior to election.
 - 2) Elected regional trustees will maintain physical residency in the regions represented for two-thirds of each year of their terms, excluding OA-related business travel.
 - 3) If a change of status of physical residence of a regional trustee occurs following the election to office, said trustee will notify the Board of Trustees of the change in status immediately. The trustee will vacate the position at the next World Service Business Conference, where elections will be held to fill the incomplete term.
 - 4) Additional qualifications for regional trustee may be set by each region.
- e) In addition, general service trustees at the time of election:
- 1) Shall have completed one full term as a member of a regional board, the term as defined by that region; or
 - 2) Shall have been a regional trustee for one full term.

Motion required 2/3 to adopt. Proposal Item 2 **defeated**.

Proposal Item 3

Motion **withdrawn** with no objection.

Proposal Item 4

Motion **withdrawn** with no objection.

Proposal Item 5

Motion **withdrawn** with no objection.

Saturday, May 3, 2014 – Business Meeting V

Credentials Report

The first item of business was to adopt the Credentials Report. The report was presented as follows:

17 Trustees
178 Voting Delegates

for a total of 195 eligible voters.

The Credentials Report was **adopted** as presented.

Proposal Item 6

Move to amend OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article I – Twelve Steps, Steps 3, 7 and 11 and Article II – Twelve Traditions, Tradition 2 as follows:

Article I – Twelve Steps

- 3) Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God *as we understood God.*
- 7) Humbly asked God to remove our shortcomings.
- 11) Sought through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with God as we understood God praying only for knowledge of God's will for us and he power to carry that out.

Article II – Twelve Traditions

- 2) For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority – a loving God as God may be expressed in our group conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern.

Motion required 2/3 to adopt. Proposal Item 6 **defeated**.

Proposal Item 7

Move to amend OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article VI – Intergroups, Section 2 – Registration, Part c as follows:

Article VI – Intergroups
Section 2 – Registration

- c) Each intergroup shall evaluate its bylaws upon receipt of notification from the World Service Office of amendments to OA, Inc. Bylaws adopted at the World Service Business Conference to ensure that the intergroup bylaws do not conflict with OA, Inc. Bylaws. Notices shall be deemed to have been given if sent by mail and/or electronic transmission to the registered contact for each intergroup. Any updates shall be submitted to the World Service Office pursuant to OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article VI, Section 2a) 2) above.

Proposal Item 7 **adopted** on the consent agenda.

Proposal Item 8

Move to amend OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article VII – Regions, Section 3 – Registration, Part c as follows:

Article VII – Regions
Section 3 – Registration

- c) Each region shall evaluate its bylaws upon receipt of notification from the World Service Office of amendments to OA, Inc. Bylaws adopted at the World Service Business Conference to ensure that the region bylaws do not conflict with OA, Inc. Bylaws. Notices shall be deemed to have been given if sent by mail and/or electronic transmission to the chair and/or secretary/coordinator representing each region. Any updates shall be submitted to the World Service Office pursuant to OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article VII, Section 3a) above.

Proposal Item 8 **adopted** on the consent agenda.

Proposal Item 9

Move to amend OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article VIII – Service Boards, Section 3, – Registration, Part d as follows:

Article VIII – Service Boards
Section 3 – Registration

- d) Each service board shall evaluate its bylaws upon receipt of notification from the World Service Office of amendments to OA, Inc. Bylaws adopted at the World Service Business Conference to ensure that the service board bylaws do not conflict with OA, Inc. Bylaws. Notices shall be deemed to have been given if sent by mail and/or electronic transmission to the registered contact for each service board. Any updates shall be submitted to the World Service Office pursuant to OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article VIII, Section 3a) 2) above.

Proposal Item 9 **adopted** on the consent agenda.

Proposal Item 10

Move to amend OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article VI – Intergroups, Section 3 – Functioning as follows:

Article VI – Intergroups
Section 3 – Functioning

- a) Intergroups may conduct the business of their groups by any method they choose.
- b) With prior notice to all member groups, intergroups shall convene at least once a year for election of officers and selection, when necessary, of delegate(s) to the World Service Business Conference of Overeaters Anonymous.
- c) An intergroup must be formally registered, along with its delegate information, thirty days prior to Conference opening to send delegates to the current Conference. (See Article X, Section 3c for qualifications and selection of delegates.)
- d) In order to deregister, an intergroup must submit a written request to the World Service Office, region chair and region trustee.

Motion required 2/3 to adopt. Proposal Item 10 **adopted**.

Proposal Item 11

Motion **withdrawn** with no objection.

Proposal Item 12

Move to amend OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article VIII – Service Boards, Section 4 - Functioning as follows:

Article VIII – Service Boards
Section 4 - Functioning

- a) Service boards shall conduct business under the bylaws and policies established by their intergroups and groups.
- b) With prior notice to all member groups and intergroups, service boards shall convene at least once a year for election of officers and selection, when necessary, of delegate(s) to the World Service Business Conference of Overeaters Anonymous.
- c) A service board must be formally registered, along with its delegate information, thirty days prior to Conference opening to send delegates to the current Conference. (See Article X, Section 3c for qualifications and selection of delegates.)
- d) In order to deregister, a service board must submit a written request to the World Service Office and either the region chair and region trustee, or the virtual services trustee as applicable.

Proposal Item 12 **adopted** on the consent agenda.

Substitute New Business Motion A

Move to direct the Board of Trustees to conduct a survey of the Fellowship to determine whether or not there is substantial unanimity to change the name of Overeaters Anonymous. At least seventy-five percent of all registered OA groups must vote “yes” to change the name of Overeaters Anonymous to achieve substantial unanimity.

Motion required majority to adopt. Substitute New Business Motion A **adopted**.

Motion required majority to adopt. New Business Motion A **defeated** as substituted.

Substitute New Business Motion C

It was moved that Overeaters Anonymous email groups, commonly called loops, (groups that do not meet in real time), may list their group on www.oa.org as a courtesy with the following criteria:

- 1) Email groups must comply with the definition of an Overeaters Anonymous group as per OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article V – Overeaters Anonymous Groups, Section 1 – Definition a) 1-4, and b) 1-2.
- 2) The topic and/or focus of the email group are consistent with those listed on www.oa.org for Overeaters Anonymous face-to-face and virtual groups.
- 3) New members must be informed of the loops policies, norms and practices.
- 4) Archives are to be deleted at least once a month unless the loop’s policies dictate otherwise.
- 5) Email groups are moderated to stay on topic.
- 6) The format of the email groups is structured similarly to a registered OA group. Postings to email groups are limited to the topic, the Twelve Steps, the Twelve Traditions or the Twelve Concepts of OA Service. Feedback, crosstalk, and advice-giving are discouraged.
- 7) Each email group will have a coordinator who registers the loop with an email service provider and a secretary who will liaise with the OA World Service Office.

Motion required majority to adopt. Substitute New Business Motion C **adopted**.

Motion required majority to adopt. New Business Motion C **adopted** as substituted.

Remaining Business

The remaining business consisted of committee and workshop reports, the green dot ceremony and acknowledgements.

Three-day total for Seventh Tradition - \$4,455.36.

World Service Business Conference 2014 Intergroup/Service Board Representation

Per the November 2004 BOT meeting, a motion was passed that states “On the final morning of the Conference, a count of those represented intergroups and national/language service boards shall be made.” Therefore, the counts below are based on the final morning (5/3/14) of WSBC 2014.

Region	Total # of Intergroups/Service Boards (as of 5/3/14)	Total # of Intergroups/Service Boards Represented at WSBC 2014	Percentage of Intergroups/Service Boards Represented at WSBC 2014
Region 1	24	12	50%
Region 2	35	18	51%
Region 3	25	16	64%
Region 4	19	8	42%
Region 5	30	10	33%
Region 6	39	21	54%
Region 7	24	14	58%
Region 8	57	15	26%
Region 9	60	9	15%
Region 10	11	2	18%

Per OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article X, Section 3, Part a) 5: Where the region is represented by fewer than forty percent of its intergroups and other eligible service bodies, the region may send up to five additional delegates. Preference shall be given to delegates selected from intergroups and service bodies which would otherwise not be represented by delegates.

Therefore, Regions Five, Eight, Nine and Ten are eligible to send five additional delegates to WSBC 2015.