



**2009 World Service Business Conference
Albuquerque, New Mexico**

“I Put My Hand in Yours”

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 8, 2009 to all delegates and those service bodies who did not have a delegate at Conference. All workshop and committee reports are due at the World Service Office no later than May 26, 2009. To prevent delays in printing the Final Conference Report, any workshop or committee reports not received by the due date will not be published.

Thursday, May 7, 2009 – Business Meeting I

Credentials Report

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

- 15 Trustees
- 173 Voting Delegates
- 0 Alternates

for a total of 188 eligible voters.

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

Conference Standing Rules

Standing Rule Amendment One

Move to amend WSBC Standing Rules, Section 2E as follows:

There will be no children under age twelve and no pets. Service animals assisting people with disabilities in the business meetings, committee meetings or educational workshops are allowed.

Motion required 2/3 vote to adopt. Amendment was **adopted**.

Standing Rule Amendment Two

Move to amend WSBC Standing Rules, Section 6H as follows:

An automatic motion to move the previous question and proceed to vote will be stated by the chair after twenty minutes of questions. If this motion fails, the chair will automatically ask for the vote at ten-minute intervals.

Motion required 2/3 vote to adopt. Amendment was **adopted**.

Standing Rule Amendment Three

Move to amend WSBC Standing Rules, Section 7B by striking:

~~The chair will report amendments following the pro and con debate.~~

Motion required 2/3 vote to adopt. Amendment was **adopted**.

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

Consent Agenda

New Business Motion C (WSBC Policy 2004), Proposal Item 14 (Bylaws, Subpart B, Article VII, Section 1b), Proposal Item 8 (Bylaws, Subpart B, Article IX, Section 7c), Proposal Item 4 (Bylaws Subpart B, Article IX, Section 5b), Proposal Item 7 (Bylaws, Subpart B, Article IX, Section 5c), Proposal Item 5 (Bylaws, Subpart B, Article IX, Section 6a), and Proposal Item 6 (Bylaws, Subpart B, Article IX, Section 2b-3) were **adopted** on the consent agenda.

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

Conference Agenda

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

Delegate Briefing

The chairman explained the order in which New Business Motions and Bylaw Amendments would be addressed. The items were considered according to the percentage of “yes” votes, with a minimum of 30 percent (new business motions) and 40 percent (bylaw amendment) of the number of service bodies completing and returning the ballots. Unless the chairman determined otherwise, New Business Motions were considered in the following order: A-a, E, F, G, A, D, B, and H. The Bylaw Amendments were considered in the following order: 1, 3, 9, 10, 11, 2, 12, and 13.

Remaining Business

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

Thursday, May 7, 2009 – Business Meeting II

Credentials Report

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

- 15 Trustees
- 174 Voting Delegates
- 0 Alternates

for a total of 189 eligible voters.

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

New Business

New Business Motion A-a as follows:

Move to grant the Conference Seal of Approval to the revised pamphlet, *Sponsoring Through the Twelve Steps – One Approach*.

Motion required 2/3 vote to adopt. Motion **defeated** by standing count vote, 105 yes, 71 no.

New Business Motion E as follows:

Move to rescind WSBC Continuing Effects Motion 2007:

It was adopted that:

~~Overeaters Anonymous, Inc. conduct a Public Awareness Campaign using the services of an outside agency. Expenses connected to this campaign will be supported by member contributions to a special public awareness campaign fund established by the Board of Trustees. The BOT may use up to \$20,000 of current reserves for “seed” money to initiate the campaign. Such funds are to be reimbursed from the special fund established for that purpose.~~

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

Remaining Business

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

Friday May 8, 2009 – Business Meeting III

Credentials Report

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

15 Trustees
174 Voting Delegates
0 Alternates

for a total of 189 eligible voters.

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

Region Trustee Elections

The results of the region trustee elections were as follows:

Region Three – Wanda S.
Region Six – Mary Rose D.
Region Nine – Esti O.

General Service Trustee Elections

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

Three-year term – Joe L.
Three-year term – Cheryle T.

New Business Motion C as follows:

Move to amend WSBC Continuing Effects Motion 2004 as follows:

It was adopted that:

Appeals Process for Intergroups/Service Boards Denied Delegates Credentials at WSBC:

Pursuant to OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article X, Section 3 – Delegates, the following appeals process will be utilized to provide affected intergroups/service boards a means by which their grievance may be heard in time to seat delegates at the WSBC in question, should they prevail upon appeal:

- 1) The Board of Trustees will notify the intergroup or service board of any challenges to delegate credentials within thirty days of receipt of delegate information by the WSO.
- 4) At the expense of the intergroup or service board, a telephone conference call may be scheduled to review the findings of the committee within two weeks of notification of the Appeals Review Committee's disposition.

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

New Business Motion F as follows:

Move that the World Service Office provide Web site templates for optional use by OA service bodies and groups in creating or revising their Web sites.

Motion required majority to adopt. New Business Motion F **adopted** as amended by standing count vote, 97 yes, 80 no.

Friday, May 8, 2009– Business Meeting IV

Credentials Report

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

- 15 Trustees
- 173 Voting Delegates
- 0 Alternates

for a total of 188 eligible voters.

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

Substitute New Business Motion G as follows:

Move that the World Service Office work with OA service bodies and groups to assist in implementing and maintaining OA Web sites.

Motion required majority to adopt. Substitute New Business Motion G **failed** as substituted.

New Business Motion A as follows:

Move that December 12 (12/12) each year be designated as OA's International Twelfth-Step-Within Day, the purpose of which will be to encourage OA service boards, meetings and individual members to reach out to those within the Fellowship who are still suffering from compulsive eating behaviors.

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

New Business Motion D as follows:

Move to amend WSBC Continuing Effects Motion 1982c (amended 1989) as follows:

A definition of open and closed groups was adopted:

Open group is a group which is open to anyone.

Closed group is a group that is open to anyone with the desire to stop eating compulsively, or anyone who thinks they may have a problem with compulsive overeating.

Groups shall determine their individual policy regarding open/closed status. The World Service Office shall refer all inquiries to the group. OA World Service meeting lists (printed or online) shall not reflect the status of meetings.

Motion required majority to adopt. New Business Motion D **defeated**.

New Business Motion B as follows:

Motion required majority to adopt. New Business Motion B **withdrawn** with no objection.

New Business Motion H as follows:

Move to amend WSBC Policy 1988b (amended 2002) to read:

WSBC Policy 1988b

The following policy statement was adopted:

Statement on Abstinence and Recovery

Abstinence in Overeaters Anonymous is the action of eating in a manner which satisfies our individual nutritional needs, while refraining from overeating.

Abstinence and living the Overeaters Anonymous Twelve-Step program arrests actions that damage us, and support our spiritual, emotional and physical recovery.

After three amendments, New Business Motion H was **referred** to the Reference Subcommittee.

Proposed Bylaw Amendments

Proposal Item 14

Move to amend OA, Inc Bylaws, Subpart B, Article VII – Regions, Section 1 – Composition, Part b as follows:

Article VII – Regions

Section 1 – Composition

b) The regions shall be as follows:

6) Region No. 6 shall be the Northeast Region composed of Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island, Vermont, New Brunswick, Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, Ontario, Prince Edward Island, Quebec and Bermuda.

8) Region No. 8 shall be the Southeast Region composed of Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Puerto Rico, South Carolina, Tennessee, the Virgin Islands, Central America, and South America.

Proposal Item 14 **adopted** on the consent agenda.

Proposal Item 1

Move to amend OA, Inc., Bylaws Subpart B, Article IX – Board of Trustees, Section 4 – Qualifications, Part b, Subpart 1 to read:

Article IX – Board of Trustees
Section 4 – Qualifications

b) Qualifications for trustees must be met at the time the application for trustee is submitted to the WSO. Specifically, such trustee nominees must also have:

1) Worked through all Twelve Steps;

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

Proposal Item 3

Motion required 2/3 to adopt. Motion **withdrawn** with no objection.

Proposal Item 8

Move to amend OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article IX – Board of Trustees, Section 7 – Vacancies, Part c as follows:

Article IX – Board of Trustees
Section 7 – Vacancies

c) A vacancy created by action of the Conference delegates shall be filled as stated in Section 7 a) 1).

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

Proposal Item 4

Move to amend OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article IX – Board of Trustees, Section 5 – Nomination of Trustees, Part b as follows:

Article IX – Board of Trustees
Section 5 – Nomination of Trustees

b) Regional Trustees for Newly Appointed Regions Outside Regions One – Ten

2) Elections

(ii) Applicants for the first elected regional trustee who live within the new region shall submit their resume to the Board of Trustees ninety days prior to the annual Conference.

(iii) If there are at least three (3) qualified nominees from the new region, nominees from other regions shall not be accepted. One nominee for the elected regional trustee position may also be submitted from each other region in accordance with the provisions of Section 5 a) and b) except as otherwise provided in Section 5 b) 2) (ii).

3) Copies of resumes must be sent to all Conference delegates at least forty-five days prior to the annual Conference.

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

Proposal Item 9

Move to amend OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article VI – Intergroups, Section 2 – Registrations, Part b to read:

Article VI – Intergroups
Section 2 – Registration

b) Each intergroup shall submit a copy of its bylaws to the WSO whenever its bylaws are significantly updated or revised.

Motion required 2/3 to adopt. Proposal Item 9 **adopted**.

Proposal Item 10

Move to amend OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article VII – Regions, Section 3 – Registration, Part b to read:

Article VII – Regions
Section 3 – Registration

- b) Each region shall submit a copy of its bylaws to the WSO whenever its bylaws are significantly updated or revised.

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

Proposal Item 11

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

Article VIII – Service Boards
Section 3 – Registration

- b) Each service board shall submit a copy of its bylaws to the WSO whenever its bylaws are significantly updated or revised.

Motion required 2/3 to adopt. Proposal Item 11 **adopted**.

Proposal Item 7

Move to amend OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article IX – Board of Trustees, Section 5 – Nomination of Trustees, Part c as follows:

Article IX – Board of Trustees
Section 5 – Nomination of Trustees

- c) General Service Trustees
 - 1) All applicants for open position(s) of general service trustee must submit their resume to the Board of Trustees ninety days prior to the annual Conference. Such resumes must be affirmed by a majority vote of the nominee’s intergroup or the region in which the nominee has recently served, or a majority vote of the Board of Trustees if the nominee is an incumbent.
 - 2) The Board of Trustees, acting as a nominating committee, shall submit a list of nominees for the open position(s), with copies of the applicants’ resumes, to all Conference delegates at least forty-five days prior to the Conference.

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

Proposal Item 5

Move to amend OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article IX – Board of Trustees, Section 6 – Election of Trustees, Part a as follows:

Article IX – Board of Trustees
Section 6 – Election of Trustees

- a) To be eligible for election, each nominee must appear before the delegates at the World Service Business Conference and address the assembled delegates from three to five minutes and answer questions from the floor. No new nominations will be accepted from the floor.

Proposal Item 5 **adopted** on the consent agenda.

Proposal Item 6

Move to amend OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article IX – Board of Trustees, Section 2 – Duties and Responsibilities, Part b, Subpart 3) as follows:

Article IX – Board of Trustees
Section 2 – Duties and Responsibilities

- b) Subject to the limitations of these bylaws, and to the action of the delegates at the Conference, all powers shall be exercised by or under the authority of, and the business affairs of the corporation shall be controlled by the Board of Trustees. Without prejudice to such general powers by subject to the same limitations, it is hereby expressly declared that the trustees shall have the following powers:

- 3) To conduct, manage and control the affairs and business of the corporation and any charitable foundation organized in conjunction with or allied with Overeaters Anonymous as they may deem best, and to make such rules and regulations consistent with law, the Articles of Incorporation, or with these bylaws or the action of the Conference taken through the delegates at the Conference.

Proposal Item 6 **adopted** on the consent agenda.

Proposal Item 2

Move to amend OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article X – Meetings of Delegates, Section 8 – Business Agenda, Part c to read:

Article X – Meetings of Delegates
Section 8 – Business Agenda

- c) New business to be placed on the agenda prior to Conference shall follow the same procedure for submission as for bylaw amendments

and shall be approved by 50 percent of all intergroups responding to an agenda questionnaire by sixty days prior to the Conference. Other new business of an urgent nature must receive a majority vote of the Reference Subcommittee in order to be brought to the Conference floor.

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

Proposal Item 12

Motion required 2/3 to adopt. Motion **withdrawn** with no objection.

Proposal Item 13

Motion required 2/3 to adopt. Motion **withdrawn** with no objection.

Remaining Business

The remainder of business consisted of answers to Ask-It Basket questions and committee summaries.

Saturday, May 9, 2009 – Business Meeting V

Credentials Report

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

- 15 Trustees
- 173 Voting Delegates
- 0 Alternates

for a total of 188 eligible voters.

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

Substitute New Business Item H

The reference subcommittee moved to substitute Proposal Item H with the following:

Abstinence in Overeaters Anonymous is the action of refraining from compulsive eating and compulsive food behaviors.

Spiritual, emotional and physical recovery is the result of living the Overeaters Anonymous Twelve-Step program.

Motion required majority to adopt. Substitute New Business Item H **adopted**.

Emergency New Business

Emergency New Business Motion 1

Move to establish a special fund to assist in the translating of OA literature, forms, correspondence, website and other materials to languages other than English. Money in this fund is in addition to the translation committee's budget. The Board of Trustees will establish guidelines to allocate the funds.

Motion required 2/3 to adopt. Emergency New Business Motion 1 **adopted**.

Emergency New Business Motion 2

Move to create a Web/Technology Conference Committee starting at WSBC 2010.

Motion required 2/3 to adopt. Emergency New Business Motion 2 **adopted**.

Remaining Business

The remaining business consisted of the green dot ceremony and acknowledgements.

Three day total for Seventh Tradition - \$2,826.97

Additional Seventh Tradition taken for the translation fund. \$1,475.80 collected.

World Service Business Conference 2009

Service Body 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 (5/9/09) of WSBC 2009.

Region	Total # of Service Bodies (as of 5/1/09)	Total # of Service Bodies Represented at WSBC 2009	Percentage of Service Bodies Represented at WSBC 2009
Region 1	26	10	38%
Region 2	34	16	47%
Region 3	25	13	52%
Region 4	20	5	25%
Region 5	30	14	47%
Region 6	43	18	42%
Region 7	25	15	60%
Region 8	59	12	20%
Region 9	56	10	18%
Region 10	13	2	15%

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 One, Four, Eight, Nine and Ten are eligible to send five additional delegates to WSBC 2010.