

LIONS EYE BANK OF WISCONSIN

Cabinet Meeting Report

Your Lions Eye Bank of Wisconsin continues to serve the citizens and surgeons of Wisconsin with quality corneal tissue. In calendar year 2017 we recovered tissue from 1269 donors. This resulted in 781 WI corneal surgeries, and 509 outside the state of WI. An additional 421 tissues were used for research and education, with the remaining 140 tissues being discarded for health reasons. Our year to date numbers through June 30 show 539 donors, 396 surgeries in WI and 338 outside of the state. We greatly appreciate the financial support (\$162,000) shown by Lions across the state as well as the countless hours of transporters traveling across Wisconsin!

In June we had our annual surprise visit from the FDA and under the able leadership of Jack Ford in our quality department we passed with flying colors!

July has been a busy month for LEBW staff and volunteers. We had a booth at the Farm Tech Days in Marshfield and had a busy 3 days, talking with folks about Eye Donation. Our Annual Meeting was held July 19th with tours of our new building provided. Over 100 staff, board members and Lions and lioness attended. Several transporters and dispatchers were recognized for their service. We are still planning to be in the new location by mid October and our current building has been sold! More on this at the October Council meeting. We will also be co-sponsoring the Run/Walk July 28th with the national kidney Foundation for Organ, Eye, Tissue donor families and recipients.

After much discussion the LEBW Board of Directors have decided to make a leadership change. Executive Director Darice Langham has been placed on administrative leave and negotiations have begun for her separation from LEBW. Stacey Troha, a current employee, has accepted the board's request to lead LEBW as Interim Executive Director for the foreseeable future.

We continue to have competition in WI from Sight Life in the Milwaukee area, impacting about 18 hospitals where eye tissue now leaves WI. We are still supplying all WI surgeons with quality tissue, but of course would like to gain back those hospitals and that market share of eye tissue.

Rest assured that your Board is diligent and prudent as we move forward. PDG Rod Rommel is our incoming President, PDG Gary Brummeyer is our first vice-president and PDG Rick Daluge will be serving as second vice-president.

Respectfully submitted,

Ronald K. Blawusch, Treasurer