MD 31 Council of Governors

September 30, 2026, 8 pm EDT

Called meeting via Zoom by Council Chair Kathy Poirier

Attending:

DG Richard Wilcox 31-L

DG Sandy Fraser-Thomas 31-I

DG Bob Gwyn 31-O

DG Eddie Chase 31-N

DG Jody Proctor 31-S

Acting Secretary Theresa Matthews for ID Gary Steele

CC Kathy Poirier recognized Carlton (Carlie) Metts, NC Lions Foundation Executive Director.

In reviewing LCIF grant request for equipment for the Duke Eye Center, everything is in place except official approval of current COG to submit the grant. Prior approval only covered Wake Forest Eye Center request.

NC Lions via NCLF have received the $25,000 for the Wake Forest grant and that equipment will be ordered and that grant closed as soon as possible.

That will leave open the Duke University grant for equipment to provide light treatment for age-related Macular Degeneration for intermediate and below cases. Insurance does not currently cover this treatment, but seven states are covering under Medicaid and Medicare. NC hopes is negotiating to do the same.

Duke hopes to treat 500 patients and later add additional machines to use in other facilities. NC Lions clinical eye research funds will provide $25,000; LCIF grant $25,000; and Duke will cover the remaining $22,000 for the project.

DG Eddie Chase made motion to move forward with the grant for the Duke Eye Center as presented. DG Jody Proctor seconded. Vote was unanimous in favor.

With the closing of the Wake Forest grant, a grant proposal due February 1, 2027, will be presented for clinical eye research at University of North Carolina at the November NC COG. Two of these Vision Grants can be open at one time.

Called portion of this meeting adjourned at 8:08 EDT.

Respectfully submitted,

PDG Theresa Matthews, Assistant NC COG Secretary