

## **FALL DETACHMENT EXECUTIVE MEETING AUSTIN, TX---SEPTEMBER 25, 2021**

### **SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2021**

Meeting was called to order at 9:10 AM by Commander Arista. Colors being in place, a right-hand salute was given. Following the pledge to our flag, the prayer and the reading of the preamble, the meeting was called into session at 9:16. Roll call was then asked for. All officers were present except for 4<sup>th</sup> Division Commander(E), Historian(E), Alt. NEC and Judge Advocate (E). All Chairmen were present except for Public Relations (E, Internet (E and Boys State. Districts present were 1C, 2, 3C, 4, 5C, 6, 7C, 9C, 10C, 11C, 13, 14C, 15C, 16, 20C, 21C and 22. Squadrons present were 12, 36, 43, 120, 179, 208, 243, 245, 321, 388, 447, 453, 490, 511, 522, 554, 573, 593, 618, 654 and 817. A quorum was established. Following roll call, Commander Arista asked for the reading of the minutes. Motion was made by Ed Parnell, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Robert Sonnier to waive the reading of the minutes. Motion passed

Commander Arista then appointed David Blair as acting Judge Advocate for this meeting. Motion by Henry Creech, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jon Kingston to approve the appointment. Motion passed. Mr. Creech then made a motion to extend per diem to Mr. Blair, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Thom Skelley. Motion passed

**NEC**---Commander Arista then asked for NEC Kingston to come forward to give his report. At this time no report is available. However, he asked David Blair, past NEC, to come forward to report on the National Convention. NEC Kingston then made a motion to accept the report, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Henry Creech. Motion passed.

**DEPARTMENT LIAISON**---Henry Creech came forward to give the report. Stated that there will be a Blue Book produced by the SAL. Also, many ideas to be presented by the SAL in the upcoming future. Henry made a motion to accept the report, 2<sup>nd</sup> by George Alva. Motion passed

Department Commander Robert Watson came before the body to bring greetings and give his remarks to the body. He thanked the Detachment for their hard work and asked for their continued support of The American Legion Family and everything we do as a family.

American Legion NEC Butch Sparks came forward to bring greetings and introduce the leading candidate for American Legion National Commander, Vincent Troiola, from New York.

Department of Texas Internal Affairs Director Mike Simon came forward to bring greetings to the body. He brought many good ideas to the body. He also then presented a signed baseball to Detachment Commander Arista with a baseball from the Texas American Legion baseball tournament.

Department Finance Office Steve Cook came forward to bring greetings and inform the body of the SAL finances. He offered his services at any time.

Department Auxiliary President Teresa Hill attended our meeting for purpose of bringing greetings and speaking on behalf of what the Auxiliary can do for us and how we can work together.

**INTERNET**---No report, not present

**LEGISLATIVE**---Chairman Chatham came forward to give the report. He reported on various items from the past Texas Legislation sessions. Informed us of many different laws that came into effect. He presented some of those to the floor. After his report was read, he made a motion to accept the report, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Robert Sonnier. Motion passed.

**VE & E**---Thom Skelley gave the report. He stated various ideas and points of the VE & E Committee. Following his remarks, Thom made a motion to accept the report, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ed Parnell, Following some discussion from PDC Creech and PDC Pack, motion passed.

**AMERICANISM**---Chairman Parnell came forward to give the report. He asked PDC Seegers to come forward for a presentation. A National Award was presented to the 5<sup>th</sup> District and was accepted by Lewis Elam. After some brief discussion and notes to the body, John Jellison made a motion to accept the report, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Roy Fowler. There was some discussion, motion passed.

**VA & R**---Acting Chairman Shannon Boyce came forward to give the report. Read a report from Squadron 208. A complete report is attached to these minutes. Shannon made a motion to accept the report, 2<sup>nd</sup> by John Jellison. Motion passed

**BOYS STATE**--- Chairman Travis Arreaga not present. No report was given. However, 3<sup>rd</sup> Division Commander Huntley made a challenge to all Squadrons to support one boy to Boys State. Henry Creech added some comments to the notes. Henry made a motion to accept all items discussed, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Brad Pack. Motion passed

**CHILDREN & YOUTH/CWF**--- Acting Chairman Pack and CWF Chairman Boyce gave the reports. He reported on various items the committee is working on. A complete report from both Committees is attached to these minutes. There were some items that were brought to the floor by PDC Sonnier. Motion made by Brad to accept the report, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Henry Creech. Motion passed

**MARKETING**---Chairman Hartline came forward to give his report. He stated that all shirts are in and available for purchase. All officers have received their shirts. A complete report is attached to these minutes. Ray made a motion to accept the report, 2<sup>nd</sup> by George Alva. Motion passed

**PUBLIC RELATIONS**---Chairman Moore not present, therefore no report was given

**CONVENTION CITY**---Chairman Elam came forward to give his report. Stated that The American Legion will be putting on an open training class at the Mid-Winter Conference. A complete report is attached to these minutes. Motion made by Chairman Elam, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jay McCloud. Motion passed

**AWARDS**---Chairman Fowler came forward to give the report. He stated that there are forms available for use on the floor. A complete report is attached to these minutes. Kevin Baker made a motion to accept the report, 2<sup>nd</sup> by John Jellison. Motion passed

**PUFL**--- Chairman Winkelmann gave the report. A complete report is attached to these minutes. Kevin made a motion to accept the report, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ed Parnell Motion passed.

**INTERNAL AFFAIRS/MEMBERSHIP**--- Chairman Eddy Seegers came forward to give the report. He reported to the body concerning the status of membership in the Detachment. We are way behind our goals from 2020 and we need to do everything possible to push our membership

forward. One of the big topics was members who have not paid their dues for years past and if they can catch up. He brought past Membership Chairman Kingston to the podium for purpose of membership awards. He also brought forward National Membership Chairman Skelley to the podium for purpose of National announcements and requirements. John Jellison made a motion to accept the report as read, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Henry Creech. Motion passed. A second motion was made by Rich Huntley, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ed Parnell to accept the Membership Awards report as read. Motion passed. On Sunday, 9/26/21, there was some discussion concerning Membership Awards and presentation of caps and pins.

**FINANCE**—Chairman Clifton Guillory came forward to give his report. Finance Officer Slaughter also came forward. He talked about various items concerning the Finance Committee. A complete report is attached to these minutes. The budget for the 2021-2022 working year is also attached. Motion was made by John Jellison to accept the report as read, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ed Parnell. Motion passed. It was also stated that the report be put aside for audit.

**CHAPLAIN**---Chaplain Parnell gave the report. A complete report is attached to these minutes. Ed made a motion to accept his report, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Henry Creech to accept the report. Motion passed.

#### **SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2021**

Commander Arista called the meeting back into session at 9:00 AM. Following hand salute to the colors, prayer, pledge and preamble, Commander Arista called the meeting to order.

**NATIONAL COMMANDER'S CAMPAIGN FUND**—Report given by Campaign Chairman Ray Hartline. He stated about available funds as of today, \$15,040.00. He asked that all donations be sent to himself so he can make the deposit.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**—None

**NEW BUSINESS**—There was a motion made by Rich Huntley, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Milton Chatham to have the Judge Advocate form a committee to over see the existing By-Laws for review. After discussion, motion passed. There was some discussion concerning changes already made at the Detachment Convention and the issuing of bonds for individuals hat handle the funds. 3<sup>rd</sup> Division Commander Huntley made a motion, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Milton Chatham to allow the 3<sup>rd</sup> Division Commander to handle all new business concerning the forming and/or separation of the 9<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> Districts. Motion passed. There was some more discussion concerning the American Legion maintain the names on the Most Outstanding Player Award for the American Legion Baseball Tournament, second by Henry Creech. Motion passed. Brad presented letter from Department Auxiliary concerning requesting donations to help offset cost for meeting rooms at the Department Convention. Motion by Rich Huntley to support a program to advertise to local Squadrons for purpose of soliciting donations to help offset debt occurred by the Department Convention and further match up to \$1,000.00 of all donations, 2<sup>nd</sup> Jack Evans. Motion passed. After further information was presented concerning the Auxiliary soliciting funds, Milton Chatham made a motion to resend the motion of donation to the Auxiliary for misc. expenses, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ed Parnell. Motion passed. Kevin Winkelmann made a motion to unanimously support Thom Skelley as a candidate for National Commander, year not stated, 2<sup>nd</sup> by George Alva. Motion passed.

Past Department Auxiliary Kim Palasota came to the floor concerning the Emergency Fund and presented a challenge for raising the most dimes in a 2-liter bottle for a dive in the pool. Commander Arista accepted the challenge.

Commander Arista then handed over the gavel to 2<sup>nd</sup> Division Commander Clifton Guillory due to leaving the meeting for personal appearances at The American Legion and American Legion Auxiliary meetings

**GOOD OF THE SAL**—Squadron 179 made an announcement concerning the hand carved dog, from wood, that represents all areas of The American legion and First Responders, that will be presented at their Post home and will be dedicated on November 11, 2021. George Alva and John Jellison came forward to make an announcement concerning allowing nephews into the SAL as members. There was discussion on the floor and a recommendation to start at the Squadron level with a resolution. There were more fundraisers such as cutting of the hair, 3 SAL members cut their hair, total of 3,022.00 raised with other misc. donations and passing of the hat. Various Squadrons told everyone of their upcoming activities. Notes are attached. Adjutant Winkelmann then made his announcements.

Being no further business, Commander Arista asked Chaplain Parnell for the benediction. Following the benediction, Commander Arista called for the hand salute to the colors and retirement of the colors. The meeting was then adjourned at 10:00 AM