

## **FALL DETACHMENT EXECUTIVE MEETING AUSTIN, TX---SEPTEMBER 23, 2023**

### **SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2023**

Meeting was called to order at 9:16 AM by Commander Fowler. 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 9:20. Roll call was then asked for. All officers were present. All Chairmen were present except for Internet (E). Districts present were 3, 4, 5C, 6C, 7C, 9C, 10C, 11C, 12C, 13C, 14, 15C, 16C, 19C, 20C, 21C and 22C. Squadrons present were 12, 36, 43, 50C, 88C, 120C, 127, 143C, 179C, 198C, 208C, 245, 283, 291, 297, 319, 321C, 430C, 447C, 453C, 522C, 554, 573C, 597C, 618C, 624, 654 and 817. A quorum was established. Following roll call, Commander Fowler asked for the reading of the minutes. Motion was made by Tim Webb, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jon Kingston to waive the reading of the minutes. Motion passed.

Department Commander Toohey came forward to bring greetings from the Department of Texas. He expressed his gratitude to the body for the work the SAL does for the Department.

**NEC**—Commander Fowler then asked for NEC Kingston to come forward to give his report. He reported on the Past National Convention held in Charlotte this past August. A complete report is attached to these minutes. Ken Dorsett made a motion to accept the report, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ed Parnell. Motion passed.

**DEPARTMENT LIAISON**—Henry Creech came forward to give the report. He stated that The American Legion is very impressed with the SAL and the Detachment. He told the body that the budget has been approved and that The American Legion is on board with everything we are doing. He spoke to the body concerning how important it is to get the Squadrons certified as quick as possible. He also spoke to the body about the Blue Book and The American Legion is doing away with the Blue Book. He stated The American Legion will start charging a registration fee for the Fall DEC and the Mid-Winter Conference plus the convention. Rich Huntley made a motion to accept the report, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Tom Arista. Motion passed.

Department of Texas Internal Affairs Director Mike Simon came forward to bring greetings to the body. He brought many good ideas to the body and thanked the body for everything we are doing. He also then presented a signed baseball to Detachment Commander Fowler with a baseball from the Texas American Legion baseball tournament.

**INTERNET**—No report, not present

**LEGISLATIVE**—Chairman Chatham is not present. Clifton Guillory came forward to give the report. He reported on Suicide Prevention program, the crisis hotline and the information network concerning this suicide prevention program. He spoke specifically on a couple of programs that are now in existence designed for Veterans. A complete report is attached to these minutes. After his report was read, Clifton made a motion to accept the report, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ed Parnell. There was some discussion concerning the items stated above. Motion passed.

**VE & E**—Chairman Perkins came forward to give the report. He spoke to the body concerning various items concerning Veterans unemployment, disabilities and other issues. Following the reading of the report, Jeff Perkins made a motion to accept the report, 2<sup>nd</sup> by John Jellison. Following some discussion from various members, motion passed.

Meeting was called back to order at 1:36 PM

**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 George Alva. Motion passed.

**INTERNAL AFFAIRS/MEMBERSHIP**— Chairman Clifton Guillory came forward to give the report. He reported to the body concerning the status of membership in the Detachment. He also stated that the new goals have been established and will be coming out at the same time. A question was brought up concerning Constitution and By-Laws, who has them and where are they located? The committee will try to locate these documents and place a note on the membership report. Clifton Guillory made a motion to accept the report, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Austin, . Motion passed.

**FINANCE**—Chairman George Alva came forward to give his report. He talked about various items concerning the Finance Committee. A complete report is attached to these minutes. The budget for the 2023-2024 working year is also attached and has been approved by The American Legion. There were various donations voted on from the surplus. Motion was made by George Alva to accept the report as read, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Tom Arista. Motion passed. It was also stated that the report be put aside for audit.

**NATIONAL COMMANDER'S CAMPAIGN FUND**—Ray Hartline came forward to bring an update concerning the campaign fund for Tom Skelley. He reported that there is approx. \$16,000.00 in the account. Motion by Joey Bess, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ed Parnell to accept the report. Motion passed.

**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 Joey Bess to accept the report. Motion passed.

**RESOLUTIONS**—Judge Advocate Austin came forward to read a resolution of endorsement for candidate of Detachment Commander. This is for information only.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**—Question was brought up concerning distribution of 100% Squadron ribbons. Answer was given that the ribbons would be sent either in the mail or presented at Mid-Winter Conference.

**NEW BUSINESS**—Liaison Creech spoke to the body about Boys State and volunteering for the week. Bill Kuehner made a motion to purchase flag spreaders not to exceed \$100.00 for 3 spreaders, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ed Parnell. Some discussion. Motion passed. Discussion concerning 2 new programs for The American Legion (Jr Law Program, Disaster Preparedness) being offered by Division/Districts. Cost involved. Age for Jr Law is Junior/Senior in high school.

**GOOD OF THE SAL**—Bill Kuehner spoke to the body about changing the dinner format for the Awards Banquet to surf and turf dinner as fund raiser for Candidate Thom Skelley for National Commander. PDC Pack spoke about the YMCA at Harker Heights and the food bank designed for military families. It was presented that any Squadrons that can help, it would be appreciated. Commander Fowler announced that his homecoming dinner will be on February 24, 2024. Adjutant Winkelmann then made his announcements.

Commander Fowler then recessed this Fall DEC meeting at 2:45 PM and will reconvene Sunday morning at 9:00 AM

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2023**

Commander Fowler called the meeting back into session at 9:00 AM. Following hand salute to the colors, prayer, pledge and the preamble, Commander Fowler called the meeting to order. The roll call was then asked for. All the officers were present. All chairmen were present except for Internet (E), Americanism (E), Legislative (E) and VE &E (E). Districts present were 2, 3, 4, 5C, 6C, 7C, 9C, 10, 11C, 12C, 13C, 14, 15C, 16C, 19C, 20C, 21C and 22C. Squadrons present were 12, 36, 43C, 50, 88, 89C, 120C, 127C, 143C, 179C, 198C, 208C, 245, 283, 291, 297, 319, 321C, 430C, 447C, 453C, 472, 522C, 554, 573C, 593, 597C, 618C, 624, 654 and 817. A quorum was established.

American Legion Auxiliary Department President Holly Hailey came forward to bring greetings. She thanked us for everything we continue to do for The American Legion Family. Once she completed her talk, Shelley Creech approached the podium for the purpose of a challenge to the Detachment.

Adjutant Winkelmann gave the body his notes and well wishes for this Fall meeting. There were various announcements presented to the floor. It was also stated that some of the proceeds from the Awards Banquet goes to the YMCA, a total of \$1,000.00, from various donations.

Being no further business, Commander Fowler asked Chaplain Parnell for the benediction. Following the benediction, Commander Fowler called for the hand salute to the colors and retirement of the colors. The meeting was then adjourned at 9:47 AM