

FALL DETACHMENT EXECUTIVE MEETING AUSTIN, TX---SEPTEMBER 21-22, 2024

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2024

Meeting was called to order at 9:25 AM by Commander Alva. 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 9:30. Roll call was then asked for. All officers were present except Division 4 Commander Dorsett, Chaplain Parnell and Asst Adjutant Ventura. All Chairmen were present except for Finance Dorsett (E). PR Ventura (E, Convention City Owens and VE & E Parnell. Districts present were 1C, 2C, 3C, 4C, 5C, 6C, 7C, 9C, 10C, 11C, 12C, 13C, 14C, 15C, 16C, 17C, 20, 21C and 22C. Squadrons present were 36C, 43C, 50, 88C, 89C, 92, 95, 163C, 172, 179, 198C, 208C, 231, 245, 283, 291, 297, 319, 321C, 447, 453C, 522, 554, 573C, 593C, 618C, 654, 655 and 817. A quorum was established. Following roll call, Commander Alva asked for the reading of the minutes. Motion was made by Milton Chatham, 2nd by Eddy Seegers to waive the reading of the minutes. Motion passed.

Internal Affairs Director Mike Simon came forward to bring greetings and present a signed baseball from the Texas Baseball Champion League City to Commander Alva.

Jeff Perkins came forward to talk about his ride to New Orleans for PTSD. He also thanked the Detachment for their donation to this cause. He then said he was going to ride to Tampa, Florida for the same cause next year.

Commander Alva then read a brief report to the body. After his report, the meeting was recessed for Committee meetings. Meeting recessed at 10:05 AM

Meeting was called back into session at 10:30 AM by Commander Alva

Department Commander Tom Marty 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 Alva then asked for NEC Kingston to come forward to give his report. He reported on the Past National Convention held in New Orleans this past August. A complete report is attached to these minutes. Jon Kingston made a motion to accept the report, 2nd by Tom Arista. Motion passed.

Commander Alva then asked 2nd Division Commander Thomas to lead the meeting during his time away.

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 and to stay focused on membership every day. He also told the body that it is important to turn in minutes and financial reports to your Host Post. John Jellison made a motion to accept the report, 2nd by JT Thomas. Motion passed.

INTERNET---Chairman Winters came forward to give his report. He reported on the Legacy Project, started by Thom Skelley, and how we need to jump on this project for Them Skelley

during his candidacy for National Commander. Gary made a motion to accept the report, 2nd by Lewis Elam, Motion passed,

LEGISLATIVE---Chairman Chatham came forward to give the report. He reported on various Veterans benefits and what is available for their use. He spoke specifically on the Suicide Prevention Program and what is available for PTSD. A complete report is attached to these minutes. After the report was read, Milton made a motion to accept the report, 2nd by John Jellison. Motion passed.

VE & E---Chairman Parnell was not present due to covid.

AMERICANISM---Chairman Kevin Baker came forward to give the report. He gave a short briefing on various accomplishments from Squadrons. He also stated that the body needs to do more for the Americanism programs. He also spoke to body concerning American Legion Baseball and how important it is to the young men. He also spoke to the body concerning donations to Food Pantry in Harker Heights and Killeen. Kevin made a motion to accept the report, 2nd by Lewis Elam There was some various points of discussion. Motion passed. A complete report is attached to these minutes.

VA & R---Chairman Bret Kleespies came forward to give the report. Read a report of events that Squadron 208 has done since convention. He also asked the body for events that their individual squadron has participated in over the past few months including some of their programs which they do locally. He also spoke about some other Squadrons that are doing VA & R programs. A complete report is attached to these minutes. Brett made a motion to accept the report, 2nd by Gary Winters. Motion passed.

BOYS STATE--- Chairman Zach Jennings came forward to give the report. Zach gave some various points of interest and information concerning the upcoming 2025 Boys State program and the number of participants at the 2024 Boys State. Registration is being held at \$330.00 until further notice and the goal is for 1100 participants in 2025. JT Thomas made a motion to accept, 2nd by Hunter Fraley. There was some various discussion concerning the Boys State program. Also, a request for more volunteers. Motion passed.

CHILDREN & YOUTH/CWF--- Chairman Carriger and CWF Chairman Webb gave the reports. The Committee is working on various projects and will be having a zoom meeting in the near future. There will be more information later. He stated that a final report of CWF will be sent out to see where Texas was placed in the final tally. A complete report from both Committees is attached to these minutes. Motion made by Tim Webb to accept the report, 2nd by Rolf Austin. Motion passed.

MARKETING---Chairman Hartline came forward to give his report. He stated that all new shirts are not ready yet but should be soon and be available for purchase at the Mid-Winter Conference. All officers have received their shirts. He stated that there will be no cost increase starting next year. A complete report is attached to these minutes. Ray made a motion to accept the report, 2nd by John Jellison. Motion passed

PUBLIC RELATIONS---Acting Chairman Wolf Laughing came forward to give the report. He spoke to the body concerning press releases and what PR is going to help with this item. It is time to get the word out to the American Legion Family and to the public. Motion made by Wolf Laughing, 2nd by Jerry Renard to accept the report. Motion passed.

Candidate for Department Commander Rich Huntley came forward to bring greetings to the body. He thanked the Detachment for everything we do and spoke proudly of being a member of the Detachment as a Sons of The American legion

CONVENTION CITY—Chairman Owens came forward to give his report. He spoke to the body concerning upcoming meetings and conventions, David made a motion to approve the report. 2nd by Tom Arista. Motion passed

AWARDS—Chairman Elam came forward to give the report. He stated that there are forms available for use on the website. All award forms must be turned in by May 31st, no exceptions. A complete report is attached to these minutes. He stated that the Awards Banquet are ready, and all awards are ready to be handed out. Lewis made a motion to accept the report, 2nd by Gary Winters. There was various discussion concerning the awards and how they are handled, disbursed and voted on. Motion passed.

The meeting was recessed at 11:50 AM for lunch.
The meeting was called back to order at 1:15 PM

American Legion Auxiliary President Sharon Phelps came forward to bring greetings. She spoke highly of the SAL and what we do for The American Legion Family. She spoke about the challenge between the Auxiliary and the SAL for raising donations to separate goals.

Past Department President Christine Trahan came forward to bring greetings. She thanked the SAL for everything we do for the Auxiliary and The American Legion Family. She spoke about her upcoming Americanism projects and said the Auxiliary and Sons will work together on these projects.

PUFL— Chairman Winkelmann gave the report. A complete report is attached to these minutes. Kevin made a motion to accept the report, 2nd by Jerry Renard. Motion passed.

INTERNAL AFFAIRS/MEMBERSHIP— Chairman Roy Fowler came forward to give the report. He reported to the body concerning the status of membership in the Detachment. He also stated that new goals have been established and will be coming out at the same time. Roy informed the body that the 100% ribbons for Membership are here and everyone needs to pick up their ribbon. Roy Fowler made a motion to accept the report, 2nd by Lewis Elam, Motion passed.

FINANCE—Finance Officer Slaughter gave the report. He talked about various items concerning the Finance Committee. A complete report is attached to these minutes. The budget for the 2024-2025 working year is also attached and has been approved by The American Legion. Motion was made by Steve Slaughter to accept the report as read, 2nd by JT Thomas. 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. \$27,000.00 in the account. Motion by Ray Hartline , 2nd by Rolf Austin to accept the report. Motion passed.

CHAPLAIN---Adjutant Winkelmann spoke to the body concerning Ken Dorsett, Ed Parnell, Juan Torres and Jerry Ventura. It was also brought up by Gary Winters that Past Advisor Mike

Griffith is not doing good at all. It was asked to keep all these members in your prayers.

RESOLUTIONS—Parliamentarian Austin came forward to say he has put a committee together to discuss changes to the By-Laws and will have a report at the Mid-Winter Conference.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS—There was discussion on the fine and charge from the Detachment Convention for the coffee. It was decided that this topic/issue will be brought up at the Mid-Winter Conference for final discussion and resolution.

NEW BUSINESS—Gary Randall made a motion to purchase a Detachment Scrap Book for National Competition, not to exceed \$200.00, 2nd by Lewis Elam. After numerous amounts of discussion, Detachment Commander Alva told the body there are 2 resignations of Committee chairman. There was a motion by Gary Winters, 2nd by Lewis Elam to accept the names of Dustin Fowler as Awards Chairman and Jean Maxwell as the new chairmen. Motion passed. Motion by Milton Chatham, 2nd by Gary Randall to accept Michael Johnson as a new member of the Legislative Committee to replace Clifton Guillory. Motion passed

GOOD OF THE SAL—Lewis Elam made an announcement concerning the OCW Convention in Texas this year. CWF donations for the weekend total \$4,833.00. Challenge was made by Division Commanders from 1st, 2nd and 3rd. Numerous announcements from various Squadrons. Adjutant Winkelmann then made his announcements.

Commander Alva then recessed this Fall DEC meeting at 2:30 PM and will reconvene Sunday morning at 9:30 AM

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2024

Commander Alva called the meeting back into session at 9:30 AM. Following hand salute to the colors, prayer, pledge and the preamble, Commander Alva called the meeting to order. The roll call was then asked for. All the officers were present except for 4th Division Commander Dorsett (E)10, Chaplain Parnell (E) and Asst. Adjutant Ventura (E). All chairmen were present except for VE &E (E), Finance (E) and PR (E). Districts present were 1C, 2C, 3C, 4C, 5C, 6C, 7C, 9C, 10C, 11C, 12C, 13C, 14C, 15C, 16C, 17C, 20, 21C and 22C. Squadrons present were 36C, 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.

The Finance Report and the Campaign Fund Report were completed at this time even though the comments are listed under Saturday's agenda

Unfinished business, New business and Good of the SAL were completed at this time even though the comments were put under Saturday's agenda.

Adjutant Winkelmann gave the body his notes and well wishes for this Fall meeting. There were various announcements presented to the floor.

Being no further business, Commander Alva asked Acting Chaplain Laughing for the benediction. Following the benediction, Commander Alva called for the hand salute to the colors and retirement of the colors. The meeting was then adjourned at 10:30 AM