

MID-WINTER CONFERENCE AUSTIN, TX---JANUARY 21, 2023

SATURDAY, JANUARY 21, 2023

Meeting was called to order at 9:01 AM by Commander Guillory. 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 9:12. Roll call was then asked for. All officers were present except for Department Advisor Creech. All Chairmen were present except for Public Relations(E), CWF, VE & E (E), Internet (E and Boys State. Districts present were 2, 4, 5C, 6, 7C, 8C, 9C, 10C, 11C, 12C, 13, 14C, 15C, 16C, 19C, 20C, 21C and 22. Squadrons present were 17, 36, 43, 120, 143, 179, 208, 245, 283, 297, 309, 321, 430, 447, 453, 516, 522, 554, 560, 573, 593, 618, 624, 654 and 817. A quorum was established. Following roll call, Milton Chatham made a motion to dedicate this Mid-Winter Conference in honor of Robert Sonnier who passed away the past week, second by George Alva. Motion passed. Steve Slaughter made a motion to purchase a Texas flag from the State of Texas that flew over the Texas Capitol and present it to Jan Sonnier, second by Ed Parnell. Motion passed. Motion made by Jon Kingston, second by Tom Arista to pay the per diem that Robert would have received and present that check to Jan Sonnier. Motion passed. Motion made by Rich Huntley, second by Ray Hartline to pay the call-in for the new 7th District Commander to this Mid-Winter Conference. Motion passed. Commander Guillory then asked NEC Kingston to come forward for the Purpose of introduction. Jon then introduced Candidate for National Commander J R Hall, from the Detachment of Maryland, to come forward. J R Hall then spoke to the body and extending greetings to all from the National Organization. His comments were well received, and the body appreciated his comments. Commander Guillory then asked for the reading of the minutes. Motion was made by Milton Chatham, 2nd by Tom Arista to waive the reading of the minutes. Motion passed

Prior to any committee reports, 3rd Division Commander Alva put on a presentation concerning duties and responsibilities of Squadron Officers and the members.

NEC---Commander Guillory then asked for NEC Kingston to come forward to give his report. He reported on the Fall NEC. A full report is attached these minutes. Motion by Jon, 2nd by Rich Huntley to accept the report. Motion passed.

DEPARTMENT LIAISON---Henry Creech was not present due to personal injury so no report was given

Department Commander Gerry Hines came before the body to bring greetings and give her remarks to the body. She 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.

INTERNET---Chairman Winters was not present, so no report was given

JUDGE ADVOCATE---Rolf Austin gave the report. This concluded his report. Motion made by Rich Huntley, 2nd by Daniel Stanford. Motion passed

LEGISLATIVE---Chairman Chatham came forward to give the report. He reported on various items from the Texas Legislation sessions and other National Programs and upcoming Legislative items. He presented some of those to the floor. After his report was read, he made a

motion to accept the report including cost reimbursement to Kevin Johnson, serving as a member of the Legislative Committee, 2nd by Ed Parnell. Motion passed.

Mike Simon, Director of Internal Affairs, came forward to bring greetings and offer condolences to the family of Robert Sonnier. He thanked the body for their continued hard work and dedication to The American Legion Family

VE & E---Chairman Skelly not present due to weather related issues. Adjutant Winkelmann gave the report. Kevin read the report from the VE & E Committee. Following his remarks, Rich Huntley made a motion to accept the report, 2nd by Daniel Stanford. Following some discussion from various Squadrons, motion passed. Report is attached to these minutes

AMERICANISM---Chairman Parnell came forward to give the report. He reported on various items brought forward to them. Ed made a motion, 2nd by Tom Arista, Motion passed.

VA & R---Chairman Kleespies came forward to give the report. Read a report from Squadron 208 and 179. There were some more reports from various Squadrons and their work they are doing at the local VA Hospitals. A complete report is attached to these minutes. Eddy Seegers made a motion to accept the report, 2nd by Kevin Baker. Motion passed

CHILDREN & YOUTH/CWF--- Chairman Woods and member Brad Pack came forward to do the report. Brad reported on various items the committee is working on including the annual CWF raffle. The Pigs were brought up to see what District Commanders had brought to the floor. A complete report from both Committees is attached to these minutes. Motion made by Brad to accept the report, 2nd by Ed Parnell. Motion passed

MARKETING---Chairman Hartline came forward to give his report. He stated that all shirts are in and available for purchase. He is looking for a new vendor and spoke about some upcoming sales. A complete report is attached to these minutes. Jeff Perkins made a motion to accept the report, 2nd by Tom Arista. Motion passed

PUBLIC RELATIONS---Chairman Ventura not present to give the report due to illness

Commander Guillory then recessed the meeting at 11:45 AM for lunch. Meeting was called back to order following lunch at 1:16 PM by Commander Guillory

Gene Touhey, candidate for Department Commander, came forward to bring greetings to the Detachment. He spoke about The American Legion Family and what it means to the Department and the Detachment

CONVENTION CITY---Chairman Elam came forward to give his report. Chairman Elam spoke to the body about the upcoming Department Convention. Reservations should be able to start in March. A complete report is attached to these minutes. Motion made by Chairman Elam, 2nd by Ken Dorsett. Motion passed.

BOYS STATE---Chairman Arreaga not present to give the report

AWARDS---Chairman Alva came forward to give the report. He stated that there are forms available for use on the website. All forms must be submitted prior to May 31st. A complete

report is attached to these minutes. Kevin Baker made a motion to accept the report, 2nd by Ed Parnell. Motion passed.

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

INTERNAL AFFAIRS/MEMBERSHIP— Chairman Tom Arista came forward to give the report. He reported to the body concerning the status of membership in the Detachment. We are doing very well hitting our goals and just made the 60% goal. Eddy then presented some awards (caps and pins) to various Squadrons from 2022. There was various discussion concerning certification of officers and membership submitted on-line. He also asked everyone to keep him informed about any issues you are having with membership, either at National or at the Department level. Tom then spoke about the SDR forms which need to be submitted. then made a motion to accept the report as read, 2nd by Catfish Elam. Motion passed.

FINANCE—Chairman Roy Fowler came forward to give his report. He talked about various items concerning the Finance Committee. A complete report is attached to these minutes. Motion was made by Roy Fowler to accept the report as read, 2nd by Bill Kuehner. Motion passed. It was also stated that the report be put aside for audit.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 22, 2023

Commander Guillory called the meeting back into session at 9:05 AM. Following hand salute to the colors, prayer, pledge and preamble, Commander Guillory called the meeting to order. The roll call was then asked for. All officers were present except for Dept. Liaison Creech (E) Chairman not attending were CWF, Public Relations (E), VE&E(E) and Boys State. Districts present were 2, 4, 5C, 6, 7C, 8C, 9C, 10C, 11C, 12C, 13, 14C, 15C, 16C, 19C, 20C, 21C and 22. Squadrons present were 17, 36, 43C, 120C, 143, 179C, 208, 245C, 283, 297, 309, 321C, 430, 447, 453C, 516, 522, 554C, 560, 573C, 593, 618C, 624, 654 and 817. A quorum was established.

NATIONAL COMMANDER'S CAMPAIGN FUND—Report given by Campaign Chairman Ray Hartline. He stated about available funds as of today, \$16,140.00. He asked that all donations be sent to himself so he can make the deposit. Ray made a motion to accept his report, 2nd by Roy Fowler. Motion passed

UNFINISHED BUSINESS—Adjutant Winkelmann brought the answers to the question concerning Squadrons not certified but have cards on file and if that squadron has a PUFL member. There was some discussion concerning the salary for the Adjutant. Judge Advocate Austin came forward to inform the body of the changes to our By-Laws that have been approved.

NEW BUSINESS—Judge Advocate Austin read resolution of endorsement. Adjutant Winkelmann gave the body information on a 9th District Grant Writing Training class.

GOOD OF THE SAL—Various Squadrons reported on upcoming events. 1st Division Commander Perkins told the body about a bicycle trip from Brownsville to Oklahoma. Route and date will be published at a later date. Commander Guillory provided some encouraging notes to the body. Adjutant Winkelmann then discussed many Adjutant notes, upcoming events and future dates for meetings.

American Legion Auxiliary President Myra Cooper came to our meeting to bring greetings to the body, Also, along with her, American Legion Auxiliary National President Vickie came forward to bring greetings and thanked us for everything the SAL does for The American Legion Family.

Being no further business, Commander Guillory asked Chaplain Parnell for the benediction. Following the benediction, Commander Guillory called for the hand salute to the colors and retirement of the colors. The meeting was then adjourned at 9:58 AM