

DEPARTMENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
THE AMERICAN LEGION OF IOWA
February 3, 2024 – 1:00 PM, Airport Holiday Inn

1. Call to Order

Department Commander Stanley Elliott called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. A hand salute was rendered to the colors followed by an invocation given by Department Chaplain Whitney Smith McIntosh. The POW/MIA flag was recognized. After a moment of silence to honor our departed comrades, all recited the Pledge of Allegiance and the Preamble.

2. Roll Call

Department Adjutant John Derner read the roll call:

Department Commander	Stanley Elliott
NEC	Dennis Soppe
Alt. NEC	Bob Waugh
Department Vice Commanders	Steve Colcord
	Jeff Large
	Fritz Kies
	Sam Blumer
	Amy Muse (Absent)
Department Adjutant	John Derner
Department Finance Officer	Candice Lanning (Excused)
Department Judge Advocate	Dwight Dinkla
Department Historian	Jay Sisco
Department Chaplain	Whitney Smith McIntosh
Department Service Officer	Shane Pankonen
Department Sgt-at-Arms	Kandice Miller (Excused)
Past Department Commanders	James Kessler (Excused)
	Bob Waugh
	Randy Johnson
1 st District Commander	Jerry Bennet
2 nd District Commander	Dick Bries
3 rd District Commander	Dixie Kapayou
4 th District Commander	Cindy Yslas
5 th District Commander	Gary Quinlan
6 th District Commander	Don De Kock
7 th District Commander	Terry Joynes
8 th District Commander	Ken Fields
9 th District Commander	Jim Rolfes

Guest(s) in attendance: Candidates for Department Commander Brian Ring and Darrin Alderson, staff member Ann Haack, various Commission/Committee Chairs

3. Reading of Minutes of Previous Meeting

Bob Waugh motioned to suspend the reading of the minutes and approve as published. Jim Rolfes seconded. Motion carried.

4. Finance Commission Report

Bob Waugh presented the Finance Commission Report and recommendations (see attachment). Ken Fields motioned to accept the finance report. Jeff Large seconded. Motion carried.

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5. Department Officer Reports

- a. Department Service Officer – Presented by Shane Pankonen.
- b. Department Adjutant – Presented by John Derner.
- c. National Executive Committee Member – Presented by Dennis Soppe. He discussed a new resolution from National designed to combine two other resolutions regarding predatory claims. Part of it allows lawyers to take a 3hr course and receive accreditation to assist veterans with the claims process. It was mentioned that, in Iowa specifically, there are laws against predatory practices by people in relation to VA claims.

Terry Joynes motioned to receive and file the Department Office Reports. Steve Colcord seconded. Motion carried.

6. Reports to the DEC

- a. Convention Commission – Presented by Randy Johnson.
- b. Legislative Commission – Presented by Randy Johnson.
Ken Fields motioned to receive and file the Legislative and Convention Commission reports. Cindy Yslas seconded. Motion carried.
- c. Internal Affairs Commission – Jennifer Rehbein presented the committee chairs to present reports.
 - i. Membership Committee - Presented by Brian Ring.
 - ii. Sons of the American Legion Committee – Presented by Randy Freel.
 - iii. Strategic Planning – Presented by Dennis Soppe. He mentioned they are researching gaming opportunities, professionals to help run committees, and repairs to the building.
Dennis Soppe moved to receive and file the report. Bob Waugh seconded. Motion carried.
 - iv. American Legion Riders Committee – Presented by Cliff Barker.
 - v. Training Committee – Presented by Vice Chair Don Craig.Sam Blumer motioned to receive and file the Internal Affairs reports. Jeff Large seconded. Motion carried.
- d. Americanism Commission – George Farrell presented reports for the following committees.
 - i. Community Service Committee
 - ii. Children & Youth
 - iii. Baseball
 - iv. Oratorical Contest Committee
 - v. Junior Shooting Sports CommitteeBob Waugh motioned to receive and file the Americanism reports. Jim Rolfes seconded. Motion carried.
- e. National Affairs – Presented by Vice Chair Brad Powell.
Steve Colcord motioned to receive and file the National Affairs report. Dixie Kapayou seconded. Motion carried.
- f. Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation – Tim McLaughlin presented the Health Admin report.
 - i. Veterans Benefits Committee – Presented by Jerry Hansen.
 - ii. Health Administration CommitteeDennis Soppe motioned to receive and file the VA&R reports. Jeff Large seconded. Motion carried.
- g. Marketing Commission (Darrin Alderson) – Darrin Alderson presented the reports for marketing and the following committees.
 - i. Promotions & Revenue Enhancement Committee
 - ii. Media & Communications CommitteeCindy Yslas motioned to receive and file the Marketing reports. Ken Fields seconded. Motion carried.
- h. American Legion of Iowa Foundation – Presented by Vice President Leonard Ernst.
Fritz Kies motioned to receive and file the Foundation report. Dixie Kapayou seconded. Motion carried.

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- i. American Legion of Iowa Boys State – Presented by Brian Ring. He advised that delegate registration is open, and volunteers are needed.
Bob Waugh motioned to receive and file the Boys State report. Steve Colcord seconded. Motioned carried.

7. Unfinished Business

No unfinished business was presented.

8. New Business

- a. Post & Squadron Cancellations/Requests
 - i. Post Cancellation – Post 28 (Grand Junction, Dist. 8)
Ken Fields motioned to cancel the charter. Bob Waugh seconded. Motion carried.
 - ii. Post Cancellation – Post 482 (Davenport, Dist. 2)
Dick Bries motioned to cancel the charter. Steve Colcord seconded. Motion carried.
 - iii. Squadron Cancellation – Squadron 70 (Creston, Dist. 5)
Gary Quinlan motioned to cancel the charter. Steve Colcord seconded. Motion carried.
- b. Appointments to fill vacancies.
 - i. Larry Hitz was appointed as Vice Chair for the Riders Committee, as Kevin Huseboe had stepped down. Jim Rolfes motioned to ratify the appointment. Jeff Large seconded. Motion carried.
- c. Department Adjutant Derner made announcements.
 - i. RSVP to National Commander Visit locations.
 - ii. Comm/Comm Chairs were reminded to promote their programs at the programs fair, and to encourage people to go, especially as there is a poker run.
 - iii. Take advantage of the MW class offerings, and try to attend ones where we have outside guests coming to speak.

9. Adjournment

With no further business, Department Chaplain Whitney Smith McIntosh gave the benediction and the meeting adjourned at 2:48 p.m.