

**DEPARTMENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**THE AMERICAN LEGION OF IOWA**  
**JUNE 29, 2024 – 10:00 AM, Department Headquarters**

**1. Call to Order**

2. 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 placed by Vice Commander Steve Colcord. After a moment of silence to honor our departed comrades, all recited the Pledge of Allegiance and the Preamble.

**3. 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 (Excused, arrived late)
	Amy Muse
Department Adjutant	John Derner
Department Finance Officer	Candice Lanning
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, arrived late)
Past Department Commanders	James Kessler (Excused, arrived late)
	Bob Waugh
	Randy Johnson
1 <sup>st</sup> District Commander	Jerry Bennet (Excused, arrived late)
2 <sup>nd</sup> District Commander	Dick Bries
3 <sup>rd</sup> District Commander	Dixie Kapayou
4 <sup>th</sup> District Commander	Cindy Yslas (Excused – Represented by Dan Boberg, arrived late)
5 <sup>th</sup> District Commander	Gary Quinlan
6 <sup>th</sup> District Commander	Don De Kock
7 <sup>th</sup> District Commander	Terry Joynes (Excused)
8 <sup>th</sup> District Commander	Ken Fields
9 <sup>th</sup> District Commander	Jim Rolfes

Guest(s) in attendance: Candidate for Department Commander Brian Ring, Sr; Foundation Vice President Steve Dixon; incoming District Commanders; staff member Ann Haack; various Commission/Committee Chairs

**4. Reading of Minutes of Previous Meeting**

Bob Waugh motioned to suspend the reading of the minutes and approve as printed. Ken Fields seconded. Minutes were corrected for a name change. Motion carried.

**5. Finance Commission Report**

Bob Waugh presented the Finance Commission Report, including the recommendations to the DEC (see attachment). Discussion over recommendations and the budget were raised. Bob Waugh motioned to adopt the

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finance report. Randy Johnson seconded. Discussion of the report, such as the lower LIT allocation, followed. Motion carried.

Finance Officer Candice Lanning spoke about the budget, explaining how the Department needs to raise money, as the budget is already lean and the Department is running at a deficit. Discussion ensued, such as the coming ideas on raising money through events or grants, pursuing corporate sponsors, and more.

**6. Department Operating Structure and Personnel Policy**

Adjutant John Derner said that no changes were made since December. The candidate for Department Commander has been asked to create an ad hoc committee to make updates, specifically in regards to restructuring the Finance Commission.

The Finance Commission made no changes to the Personnel Policy.

**7. Department Officer Reports**

- a. Department Service Officer – Presented by Shane Pankonen.
- b. Department Adjutant – Presented by John Derner. John challenged the Districts to increase their membership by 5% next year, emphasizing the need to grow their organization.
- c. National Executive Committee Member – Presented by Dennis Soppe.

Ken Fields motioned to receive and file the reports. Jim Kessler seconded. Motion carried.

**8. Consent Agenda**

Bob Waugh motioned to approve the consent agenda (see attached). Jeff Large seconded. Motion carried.

**9. Reports to the DEC**

- a. American Legion of Iowa Foundation – Presented by Steve Dixon.
- b. American Legion of Iowa Boys State – Presented by Brian Ring.
- c. Strategic Planning Committee - Presented by Dennis Soppe.
- d. Membership Committee - Presented by Brian Ring.
- e. American Legion Riders Committee – Presented by Cliff Barker.
- f. Americanism Commission – Presented by Jim Kessler.
  - i. Community Service – Presented by Roger Hopwood.
  - ii. Oratorical Contest Committee - Presented by Bob Waugh.
- g. Marketing Commission – Presented by Sam Johnson.
  - i. Promotions & Revenue Enhancement Committee
  - ii. Media & Communications Committee – Presented by Jim Kearney.

Jim Rolfes motioned to receive and file the reports to the DEC. Jeff Large seconded. Motion carried.

During his time, Sam Johnson took a moment of personal privilege to let members know that the Detachment has reached over 105% in membership, chartered 10 new Squadrons, and will receive a Triple Nickel. Squadrons must also submit paperwork to receive their membership.

**10. Resolutions**

Dennis Soppe presented Resolutions Subcommittee Report. He then presented Resolution 1 (see attachment): Resolution 1

Subject: Archery Relationship with Iowa Department of Natural Resource

Submitted by: American Legion Post #494, Douds, Iowa

The Committee recommended the adoption of the Resolution. Jim Kessler motioned to adopt Resolution 1. Ken Fields seconded. Motion carried.

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**11. Unfinished Business**

a. Department Service Office Fund

Randy Johnson informed the committee that work is still being done on how best to handle the money, such as putting it into a money market fund.

**12. New Business**

a. Post & Squadron Cancellations/Requests

i. Post Cancellation – Post 197 (Montour, Dist. 3)

Dixie Kapayou motioned to cancel the charter. Ken Fields seconded. Motion carried.

ii. Post Cancellation – Post 642 (Hazelton, Dist. 4)

Fritz Kies motioned to cancel the charter. Jeff Large seconded. Motion carried.

iii. Post Cancellation – Post 308 (Russell, Dist. 5)

Gary Quinlan motioned to cancel the charter. Ken Fields seconded. Motion carried.

iv. Post Cancellation – Post 368 (Lohrville, Dist. 8)

Ken Fields motioned to cancel the charter. Jim Rolfes seconded. Motion carried.

v. Post Cancellation – Post 341 (Madrid, Dist. 8)

Ken Fields motioned to cancel the charter. Jim Kessler seconded. Motion carried.

vi. Post Cancellation – Post 570 (Clare, Dist. 8)

Ken Fields motioned to cancel the charter. Jim Kessler seconded. Motion carried.

vii. Squadron Cancellation – Squadron 321 (Rock Valley, Dist. 9)

Jim Rolfes motioned to cancel the charter. Jim Kessler seconded. Motion carried.

b. Be the One Ad Hoc Committee

Whitney Smith McIntosh presented on the training possibilities and a plan for Districts to be more involved with suicide prevention.

Commander Elliott proposed the appointments to the Be the One Ad Hoc Committee:

-Larry Haitz

-Whitney Smith McIntosh

-Cliff Barker

The committee would explore options and work look at plans. Bob Waugh motioned to approve the appointments. Dennis Soppe seconded. Motion carried.

c. NEF Applications

Department Adjutant provided applications and information on applying for the NEF, considering the recent floods and disasters in the state.

**13. Adjournment**

With no further business, Department Chaplain Whitney Smith McIntosh gave the benediction and the meeting adjourned at 2:10 p.m.

**DEPARTMENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**THE AMERICAN LEGION OF IOWA**  
**JULY 21, 2024 – DEPARTMENT CONVENTION, IOWA B & C**

**1. Call to Order**

Department Commander Brian Ring called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. A hand salute was rendered to the colors followed by an invocation given by Department Chaplain Cindy Yslas. The Pledge of Allegiance and the Preamble were recited by all.

**2. Roll Call**

Department Adjutant John Derner read the roll call:

Department Commander	Brian Ring, Sr
NEC	Dennis Soppe
Alt. NEC	Bob Waugh
Department Vice Commanders	Jerry Bennet
	Jeff Large
	Ed Fontes
	Sam Blumer
	Bob Colin
Department Adjutant	
Department Service Officer	Shane Pankonen (Excused)
Past Department Commanders	Bob Waugh
	Randy Johnson
	Stanley Elliott
1 <sup>st</sup> District Commander	Curtis Goudy
2 <sup>nd</sup> District Commander	Dick Bries
3 <sup>rd</sup> District Commander	Del Shepard
4 <sup>th</sup> District Commander	Cindy Yslas
5 <sup>th</sup> District Commander	Gary Quinlan
6 <sup>th</sup> District Commander	Don De Kock
7 <sup>th</sup> District Commander	Terry Joynes (Excused)
8 <sup>th</sup> District Commander	Tony Lile
9 <sup>th</sup> District Commander	George Farrell

Guest(s) in attendance: Staff member Ann Haack, various Commission/Committee Chairs appointees

**3. Adoption of Operating Structure**

Cindy Yslas motioned to adopt the Operating Structure as it was presented at the DEC meeting in June. Sam Blumer seconded. Motion carried.

**4. Appointments by Department Commander**

The Commander announced Commission/Committee Appointments. Bob Waugh moved to ratify the appointments. Dick Bries seconded. Motioned carried.

The commander announced appointments of Department officers (see attachments):

Sergeant-at-Arms – Tom Ryan  
Historian –  
Judge Advocate – Dwight Dinkla  
Chaplain – Cindy Yslas  
Finance Officer – Candice Lanning  
Department Adjutant — John Derner (exp. 2024)

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Service Officer – Shane Pankonen (exp. 2026)

DEC Representative on Finance Commission – Dwight Dinkla

Legionnaires Insurance Trust Director – John Derner

Ad-hoc Committee Appointments

Operating Structure: John Derner, Dwight Dinkla, Candice Lanning, Randy Johnson, Gina Lile

Be the One: Whitney Smith McIntosh, Larry Haitz, Cliff Barker

Service Office Fund: Ed Rohner, Randy Johnson, Candice Lanning

Vice Commander District Assignments as follows:

Jerry Bennett     Districts 1 & 2

Jeff Large         Districts 3 & 8

Ed Fontes         District 4

Sam Blumer       Districts 5 & 7

Bob Colin         Districts 6 & 9

Cindy Yslas motioned to ratify the appointments and approve the assignments. Ed Fontes seconded. Motion carried.

**5. National Membership Workshop**

Adjutant Derner presented information regarding the upcoming membership workshop.

**6. New Business**

Department Membership meeting is scheduled for August 3<sup>rd</sup> at 10 a.m.

**7. Adjournment**

With no further business, Department Chaplain Cindy Yslas gave the benediction and the meeting adjourned at 11:27 a.m.