



Sons of The American Legion

Detachment of Iowa



720 Lyon St.
Des Moines, IA 50309

Detachment Executive Committee Meeting

Des Moines, Iowa

February 15, 2020

Commander Michael Monserud opened the meeting in proper fashion at 8:30 AM. Detachment Chaplin Trevor Davidson offered opening prayer. Detachment Judge Advocate Mike Deacon stated the rules of the meeting.

Members in attendance were Commander Michael Monserud; Vice-Commanders James Lastovka, Gary Bonesteel, Steve Colcord and Mike Etzel; Adjutant Brian Kessler; Finance Officer Bob Rosenboom; Chaplin Trevor Davidson, Sergeant-At-Arms Doug Honse, Judge Advocate Mike Deacon; National Executive Committeeman Ken Rochholz; Alternate National Executive Committeeman Jim Valentine with one officer excused. District Representatives from 1st District and 4th District were present. Two Chairman were present and two were excused; Six Past Commanders with one excused; Advisors in attendance were Leonard Ernst and Randy Freel with James Dean being excused, District Advisors Ken Rochholz, Leonard Ernst, Richard Witt, and Randy Freel. There were twenty-three Squadrons, for a total attendance of forty-one.

Motion by Ken Rochholz, **Durant**, seconded by Bob Rosenboom, **Palmer**, to give District Representatives voice and vote for this meeting; motion carried.

Motion by Ken Rochholz, **Durant**, seconded by Gary Bonesteel, **Shellsburg**, to approve minutes of October 27, 2019 meeting as printed; motion carried.

Bob Rosenboom gave the Detachment Finance report for the 4th quarter (October - December 2019) with beginning balance of \$11,681.89, total expenses of \$8,511.09, total income of \$13,061.00, leaving a balance of \$13,032.04. With no additions or corrections, the report was placed on file for audit.

Commander Monserud introduced the guest attending the Conference. National Sons of the American Legion Commander Clint Bolt brought greetings, discussed his priorities for his year. Seth Rippe, National Public and Media Relations Chairman discussed how we need to promote ourselves, show off your one sheet accomplishments from the CSR. Department of Iowa American Legion Commander James Kessler brought greetings from the Department and thanked the Detachment for making the presents known and promoting the American Legion Family. Leading Candidate for National American Legion Commander Randall Fisher (KY) brought greetings and thanked the Sons for all we do.

Liaison with The American Legion/Internal Affairs Leonard Ernst presented his report, thanked the Detachment for we do.

Richard Witt 4th District asked about closing Charles City, why hasn't it been closed since it was asked for back in 2018, and Richard was told that the Legion DEC hadn't authorized it yet.

Alan Schenck talked about two of the new Squadrons that have started in Seventh District.

Sixth District Randy Freel is talking to Urbandale about getting things figured out what they're doing.

Americanism Chairman James Lastovka read his report and is on file.

Sioux Falls VAVS Representative Brian Kessler gave his report and is on file.

Legislative Chairman Dennis Theobald submitted his report that was read by Adjutant Kessler.

Public and Media Communications Chairman Timothy Zacharias gave his report and is on file.

Detachment Commander Monserud gave his report.

Motion by Gary Bonesteel, **Shellsburg**, seconded by Bob Rosenboom, **Palmer**, to nominate Dennis Theobald for the George B. Evens Award; motion carried.

Motion by Mike Deacon, **Ames**, seconded by Jim Zacharias, **Hampton**, to accept all reports as presented; motion carried.

Sick Call: There was no one at the time of the meeting.

Unfinished business: Adjutant Kessler led the DEC through the Squadron Notes as he knew at the time of the meeting. It was noted since the fall meeting Treynor and Deep River had been chartered and on Friday (2/14/2020) the Department Commander signed charter applications for Fairfax and Hedrick, for which gave the Detachment eight new Squadrons this year. Commander Monserud also discussed getting all the zero's off the membership roster and how we could claim our 4th Triple Nickel award this year. Commander said that he wanted someone to contact the zero's in their Districts and report to him March 15th what they had found out.

Adjutant Kessler reported the Christmas Gifts were a success and the Detachment had received thank you's from Iowa City, Des Moines and Marshalltown Veterans Home for the gifts.

At the time of the meeting no one had any question or comments about there being no Children's Activity Center for the Mid-Winter Conference. Bob Rosenboom said he hadn't had a chance to talk to Mikayla Wicker, Iowa American Legion Auxiliary Junior Activities Chairwomen to see if the Junior's would be interested in running the room and we would just provide the funds.

New business: Alyssa Flood from Bombshell Patriots discussed what her organization is trying to do for women Veterans and her new organization of Bombshell Brothers. The Brothers is a group of men who help husbands and families of female service members who are deployed to help them during the deployment. She is really asking for help getting name and mission out to help to other veterans.

Motion by Richard Witt, **Oelwein**, seconded by Mike Deacon, **Ames**, to appoint Timothy Zacharias as Public and Media Relations Commission Chairman; motion carried.

Motion by Bob Rosenboom, **Palmer**, seconded by Mike Etzel, **Marion**, to drop the online calendar, motion carried.

Motion by Gary Bonesteel, **Shellsburg**, seconded by Mike Deacon, **Ames**, to donate \$1,500 to the Child Welfare Foundation to be given at Spring NEC, motion carried. This will be added to the \$500 donation that Finance Officer Rosenboom forgot to get the check cut in time for the Fall NEC.

Motion by Richard Witt, **Oelwein**, seconded by Ken Rochholz, **Durant**, to donate \$500 to the National Emergency Fund to be delivered at Spring NEC, motion carried. This will be added to the \$500 donation that Finance Officer Rosenboom forgot to get the check cut in time for the Fall NEC.

Motion by Mike Deacon, **Ames**, seconded by Ken Rochholz, **Durant**, to give \$1,000 to Veterans and Children's Foundation, motion carried.

Motion by Richard Witt, **Oelwein**, seconded by Ken Rochholz, **Durant**, to approve Mike Monserud to be the representative for the Detachment of Iowa at the Washington Conference, motion carried. Due to Mr. Monserud serving on the National Legislative Commission, he received a call for the Conference, so no money was allocated from the Detachment budget.

Discussed National Committee and Commission appointments with everyone being reminded the deadline for submission is March 31, 2020.

Commander Monserud lead a discussion of the Federal and State Gambling Laws and the Fox Hunt scratch tickets he was sent to solicit a donation to raise money for Leading Candidate Michael Fox (CA). The person donated money would receive a one of the scratch tickets and have a chance to win a prize. This is considered gambling, and unless the Fox campaign had gambling licenses in each state where the tickets were distributed, it is illegal. Commander Monserud said if we were going to do something like this for a candidate, it would only be done in Iowa and nowhere else.

Spring District Conference Assignments

- 1st – April 4th at Muscatine – James Lastovka or Ken Rochholz
- 2nd – April 25th at Bellevue – Mike Etzel
- 3rd – May 2nd at Tama – Gary Bonesteel
- 4th – April 18th at Manchester – Gary Bonesteel
- 5th – April 18th at Ellston – Brian Kessler
- 6th – April 25th at Van Meter – Randy Freel
- 7th – March 21st at Shenandoah – Mike Monserud
- 8th – March 29th at Arcadia – Mike Monserud
- 9th – March 21st at Lake Park – Brian Kessler or Doug Honse

Under the Good of the Sons: Update on parking lot, finalizing the plans, will be letting bids soon.

Past Detachment Commander Mike Deacon, Jim Valentine and Michael Sypherd, Jr. volunteered to be the committee to determine the SAL Member of the Year.

The next DEC meeting will be held on April 26th, 2020 at the Department Headquarters in Des Moines, Iowa starting at 8:30 AM.

Chaplain Trevor Davidson offered the closing prayer, with Commander Monserud closing the

meeting in proper fashion at 11:20 A M.

Brian Kessler
Brian Kessler
Detachment Adjutant
Sons of the American Legion

**Detachment Executive Committee Meeting
Des Moines, Iowa
February 15, 2020**

Commander Michael Monserud opened the special meeting at 7:45 PM for the purpose of discussing giving a donation to the Bombshell Patriots. Members in attendance were Commander Michael Monserud; Vice-Commander Gary Bonesteel; Adjutant Brian Kessler; Finance Officer Bob Rosenboom; Judge Advocate Mike Deacon; Chaplain Trevor Davidson; Sergeant-At-Arms Doug Honse and National Executive Committeeman Ken Rochholz.

Trevor Davidson and Doug Honse came to the DEC with the idea of giving the \$500 that was to go to Commander Monserud for going to Washington Conference to Bombshell Patriots. Finance Officer Bob Rosenboom stated this money was not a line item in the budget or money that was already approved for people going to Washington Conference this would be a standard donation of funds from the general fund, for which was taking quite a hit. Bob noted there was money in the account if we wished to give the donation.

Motion by Gary Bonesteel, **Shellsburg**, seconded by Mike Deacon, **Ames**, to give \$500.00 to the Bombshell Patriots, motion carried.

With no other business to be discussed Commander Monserud adjourned the meeting at 8:00 PM.

Brian Kessler
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Detachment Adjutant
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