



# *Sons of The American Legion*

## *Detachment of Iowa*

720 Lyon St.  
Des Moines, IA 50309



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### **Detachment Executive Committee Meeting**

#### **Des Moines, Iowa**

#### **April 30, 2023**

Commander James Lastovka opened the meeting in proper fashion at 9:05 AM. Detachment Chaplin Sean Veltkamp offered opening prayer.

Members in attendance were Commander James Lastovka; Vice-Commanders Doug Honse, Steve Colcord, and Cliff Barker; Adjutant Brian Kessler; Finance Officer Steve Malmquist; Sergeant-At-Arms James Dean, National Executive Committeeman Ken Rochholz, and Alternate National Executive Committeeman Bobby Jackson. District Representatives from 1<sup>st</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 7<sup>th</sup> District were present. Four Chairman were present with one excused; four Past Commanders; Advisors in attendance were Randy Freel, James Dean, and Gary Quinlan, District Advisors Ken Rochholz, Richard Witt, and Randy Freel. There were three guests, thirteen Squadrons, for a total attendance of twenty-one.

Motion by Doug Honse, **Rock Valley**, seconded by Steve Malmquist, **Ames**, to approve minutes of February 11, 2023, meeting as printed; motion carried.

Steve Malmquist gave the Detachment Finance report for the 1st quarter (January - March 2023) with a beginning balance of \$25,190.91, total expenses of \$5,193.65, total income of \$7,025.00, leaving a balance of \$20,402.26. With no additions or corrections, the report was placed on file for audit.

Commander Lastovka introduced the guest attending the Conference. Department of Iowa American Legion Commander Randy Johnson brought greetings from the Department and thanked the Sons for the support of the American Legion and talked about how we need to work on getting membership all in to make the 100% since we only need a few members.

Department Adjutant John Derner brought the Headquarters report. The Department of Iowa is being named a sponsor of Denim Fest in Forest City May 26-28, 2023 a country music festival, we will have stage time and booth to recruit and ask for donations.

Liaison Randy Freel presented his report to Legion DEC. Richard Witt gave his report on the 4<sup>th</sup> District.

Commander Lastovka and Adjutant Kessler discussed the membership.

Americanism Chairman Daniel Blazek read his report and is on file.

V.A.&R. Chairman Bobby Jackson read his report and is on file.

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

Veterans Employment and Education Chairman and American Legion Riders Liaison Cliff Barker gave his report.

Legislative Chairman Dennis Theobald report is on file.

National Executive Committeeman Ken Rochholz gave his report.

Adjutant Kessler led the DEC through the Squadron Notes, Missing Officers Reports and Missing Officers Verifications.

Detachment Commander Lastovka gave his report.

Motion by Doug Honse, **Rock Valley**, seconded by Ken Rochholz, **Durant**, to accept all reports as presented; motion carried.

Sick Call: PDC & Legislative Chairman Dennis and Connie Theobald of Muscatine; Paul Habben of Palmer on his passing. Randy Karring of Durant past member of Durant.

Unfinished business: Tabled discussion on Squadron Closure till Convention.

Motion by Sam Johnson, **Washington**, seconded by Mike Monserud, **Ames**, to set dues for Squadron #729 at \$25.00 a year, if Department Executive Committee approves the charter, motion carried.

Commander Randy talked about possibly giving the Legion Post at the Iowa Veterans Home some money as they prepare the space in the home for their Post.

New business: Motion by Sam Johnson, **Washington**, seconded by Mike Monserud, **Ames**, to renew the Legion Insurance Trust Officers Insurance coverage for another year and add the Detachment Representatives to the list of officers covered, motion carried.

Motion by Steve Malmquist, **Ames**, seconded by Ken Rochholz, **Durant**, to authorize the Commander to purchase three (3) watches for the 2022-2023 membership contest at Spring NEC if he can get them; motion carried.

Motion to Bobby Jackson, **Lorimor**, seconded by Cliff Barker, **Ames**, to donate \$400.00 for Wreaths Across America for the Keokuk National Veterans Cemetery, Iowa Veterans Home Cemetery, the Iowa Veterans Cemetery, and Ames Squadron, motion carried with three no votes.

Motion by Bob Rosenboom, **Palmer**, seconded by Ken Rochholz, **Durant**, to set reimbursement rate for national convention delegates specified in the Operating Structure at \$500.00, motion carried.

Motion by Ken Rochholz, **Durant**, seconded by Steve Colcord, **Durant**, to approve the updates and to set the 2023-2024 Operating Structure as amended; motion carried.

Finance Officer Steven Malmquist presented the 2023-2024 budget. It was decided to adjust the insurance budget line to \$150.00 in the 2023-2024 budget. Motion by Cliff Barker, **Ames**, seconded by Bobby Jackson, **Lorimor**, to present the 2023-2024 Detachment budget as amended to the Department Finance Committee and the Detachment of Iowa for their approval, motion carried.

Motion to Mike Monserud, **Ames**, seconded by Sam Johnson, **Washington**, to raise the registration fee at Convention to \$20.00, motion carried.

Motion to Sam Johnson, **Washington**, seconded by Mike Monserud, **Ames**, to adopt the 41<sup>st</sup> Convention rules as amended, motion carried.

Motion by Sam Johnson, **Washington**, seconded by Mike Monserud, **Ames**, to give a \$200.00 donation to Commander Johnson's project for the Department/Detachment Headquarters hosting the spring conference, motion carried.

Motion by Mike Monserud, **Ames**, seconded by Sam Johnson, **Washington**, to give \$95.00 registration fee to American Rescue League of Iowa on behalf of Melissa Kauzlarich (Department Service Office Claims Representative) due to her passing, motion carried.

Motion by Mike Monserud, **Ames**, seconded by Sam Johnson, **Washington**, to request National Commander J.R. Hall for Mid-Winter and/or Convention, motion carried.

Motion by Cliff Barker, **Ames**, seconded by Doug Honse, **Rock Valley**, to donate \$300.00 to the Iowa Veterans Home through Pennies for Hero's ride Bobby Jackson is hosting, motion carried.

Under the Good of the Sons, Commander Lastovka highlighted the notes listed on the agenda.

Commander Lastovka read a letter of thank you from the Iowa Submarine Commission.

Motion by Steve Malmquist, **Ames**, seconded by Mike Monserud, **Ames**, to move another \$1,000.00 to the National Commander Campaign fund; motion carried with one no vote.

Past Detachment Commander Mike Monserud, Doug Honse and Sam Johnson, volunteered to be on the Member of Year Committee for 2022-2023.

Motion by Ken Rochholz, **Durant**, seconded by Mike Monserud, **Ames**, to keep coming to Detachment Headquarters for Fall and Spring Conference on the same weekends as previous years, motion carried.

Leadership School attendees authorized by the Detachment: James Lastovka (Leading Candidate for Detachment Commander 2023-2024), Doug Honse, and Steve Malmquist.

Delegates to National Convention: Mike Deacon (At-Large), Michael Monserud, James Lastovka, Ken Rochholz, James Dean, Sam Johnson, Steve Colcord, Cliff Barker, Bobby Jackson, Mike Etzel, Brian Kessler, and Stan Elliott.

The next DEC meeting will be held on July 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023, at the Holiday Inn Des Moines Airport & Convention Center starting immediately following Detachment Convention.

Chaplain Sean Veltkamp offered the closing prayer, with Commander Lastovka closing the meeting in proper fashion at 12:10 PM.

*Brian Kessler*  
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Brian Kessler  
Detachment Adjutant  
Sons of the American Legion