



Sons of The American Legion

Detachment of Iowa

720 Lyon St.
Des Moines, IA 50309



Detachment Executive Committee Meeting

Des Moines, Iowa

April 28th, 2024

Commander James Lastovka opened the meeting in proper fashion at 9:00 AM. Detachment Chaplain Levi Frost offered the opening prayer and Detachment Parliamentarian Michael Deacon stated the rules of the meeting.

Members in attendance were Commander James Lastovka; Vice-Commanders Doug Honse, Daniel Blazek, Steve Colcord; Adjutant Brian Kessler; Finance Officer Steve Malmquist; Sergeant-At-Arms James Dean; Chaplain Levi Frost; Parliamentarian Michael Deacon, Webmaster Bob Rosenboom; National Executive Committeeman Samuel Johnson; Alternate National Executive Committeeman Michael Monserud; Immediate Past Detachment Commander Michael Monserud. Historian Micheal Sypherd Sr.. District Representatives from 1st District, 4th District, and 7th District were present. Six Chairman were present; six Past Commanders; Advisor in attendance were Randy Freel, James Dean, and Gary Quinlan was excused. District Advisors Ken Rochholz, Jeffery Large, Richard Witt, and James Dean. There were 5 guests present, thirteen Squadrons, for a total attendance of twenty-five.

Motion by Samuel Johnson, **Washington**, seconded by Mike Monserud, **Eldora**, to approve minutes of February 3, 2024; motion carried.

Steve Malmquist gave the Detachment Finance report for the 1st quarter (January – March 2024) with a beginning balance of \$27,146.21, total expenses of \$10,817.16, total income of \$6,378.18, National Candidates Fund has \$2,600.00 leaving a balance of \$20,107.23. With no additions or corrections, the report was placed on file for audit.

Commander Lastovka introduced the guest attending the Conference.

Bob Allen with the Final Salute organization did a presentation on how they do the research for the Veterans before they are buried. Buring 19 Veterans and 3 spouses, on September 17, 2024.

American Legion Department of Iowa Commander Stanley Elliott expressed his appreciation for the SAL, was impressed by our growth.

Leading Candidate Brian Ring spoke about his goals if elected Commander next year, and how he looks forward to working with leading candidate Doug Honse and Auxiliary Leading Candidate President.

Alt. NEC. Bob Waugh brought greetings from the National American Legion.

Membership Clerk Ann Haack presented the news from Department Headquarters.

Liaison with the American Legion/Internal Affairs Randy Freel read his report he gave to the Department of Iowa Department Executive Committee and is on file.

Richard Witt Fourth District Advisor gave his report Oelwein: No new squadrons that he knows of; Quasqueton wants to set date for presentation; note that 34 are paid, but not on report

Randy Freel Sixth District Advisor reported calling Pleasantville and left a leaving voicemail; Dexter thought they sent in but will be following up with them.

Commander Lastovka and Adjutant Kessler discussed the membership.

Americanism Commission Chairman Daniel Blazek gave his report.

Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Commission Chairman Bobby Jackson gave his report and is on file.

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

Children and Youth Commission Representative Michael Sypherd Sr. had no report, due to nothing from National.

Legislative Commission Chairman Doug Honse gave his report and placed on file.

Public and Media Communications Chairman Samuel Johnson gave his report and placed on file.

National Executive Committeeman Samuel Johnson gave his report. Brought up there is a resolution from New York to change our name to Sons and Daughters of the American Legion and to allow women into the organization, the DEC instructed Samuel to vote no if the resolution came up.

Alt. NEC talked about getting in forms and membership.

Webmaster Bob said he would get back on the website, he thought he had it cleaned up and noticed that stuff is not coming off.

Sick Call: Past Detachment Commander Dale Hidlebaugh has cancer and cannot receive treatment.

Adjutant Kessler led the DEC through the Squadron Notes.

Motion by Mike Monserud, **Eldora**, seconded by Doug Honse, **Le Mars**, to instruct Adjutant to send a closure letter to the Urbandale Squadron, motion carried.

Detachment Commander Lastovka gave his report.

Motion by Doug Honse, **Rock Valley**, seconded by Steve Malmquist, **Ames**, to accept all reports as presented; motion carried.

Unfinished business: None.

New business: Motion by Rich Witt, **Oelwien**, seconded by Steve Malmquist, **Ames**, to renew

Legion Insurance Trust for Detachment Officers for the 2024-2025 membership year, motion carried.

Motion by Samuel Johnson, **Washington**, seconded by Mike Monserud, **Eldora**, to approve membership plaques, motion carried.

Motion by Mike Monserud, **Eldora**, seconded by Samuel Johnson, **Washington**, to donate \$100 each to Keokuk National Cemetery, Iowa Veterans Cemetery, Iowa Veterans Home Cemetery in Marshalltown, Ames Squadron for Ames Cemeteries, motion carried.

The Final Salute operating structure: Motion by Mike Monserud, **Eldora**, seconded by Samuel Johnson, **Washington**, The Final Salute must submit a report by the Fall DEC and Spring DEC requesting funds, back up by receipts, up to \$2,000.00 a year; motion carried.

Motion by Mike Monserud, **Eldora**, seconded by Samuel Johnson, **Washington**, to set the National Convention reimbursement at \$500.00, motion carried.

Motion by Steve Malmquist, **Ames**, seconded by Daniel Blazek, **Nevinville**, to change desk sets to outdoor SAL flag and drop portfolios from section eight of the operating structure, motion carried.

Motion by Steve Malmquist, **Ames**, seconded by Samuel Johnson, **Washington**, to move \$1,000.00 from General Fund to the National Candidates Fund, motion carried.

Motion by Mike Monserud, **Eldora**, seconded by Samuel Johnson, **Washington**, not to raise our dues for the 2024-2025 membership year, motion carried.

Motion by Richard Witt, **Oelwien**, seconded by Samuel Johnson, **Washington**, to recommend to Department Finance Commission and the Detachment the approval of the 2024-2025 budget, motion carried.

Motion by Mike Monserud, **Eldora**, seconded by Samuel Johnson, **Washington**, to approve the 42nd Annual Convention rules, motion carried.

Motion by Mike Monserud, **Eldora**, seconded by Daniel Blazek, **Nevinville**, to table the donation to the Department of Iowa for hosting Spring Conference to the Fall Conference, motion carried.

Motion by Mike Monserud, **Eldora**, seconded by Samuel Johnson, **Washington**, give the registration fee for Spring Conference of \$75.00 to the Iowa American Legion Department Headquarters, motion carried.

For national guests next year the DEC recommended inviting the National Commander for Detachment Convention, National Vice-Commander for Mid-Winter Conference.

It was noted that the Facebook Administrators are Bob Rosenboom, Michael Sypherd Sr., Samuel Johnson.

Motion by Mike Monserud, **Eldora**, seconded by Samuel Johnson, **Washington**, to give

\$1,500.00 from General Fund to the Iowa Veterans Emergency Fund, motion carried.

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

Member of the Year Committee volunteers are Samuel Johnson, Mike Monserud and Mike Deacon.

Motion by Michael Monserud, **Eldora**, seconded by Samuel Johnson, **Washington**, to donate \$500.00 to the Iowa Veterans Home for dementia system through Pennies for Hero's ride Bobby Jackson is hosting, motion carried.

Motion by Bob Rosenboom, **Palmer**, seconded by Doug Honse, **Rock Valley**, to keep spring and fall conferences at Detachment Headquarters the last weekends of October and April; motion carried.

Detachment attendees for the Department of Iowa Leadership School were Dong Honse, Doug Harms (Did not attend), James Lastovka, Tanner Large (Did not attend) and Glen Johnson IV.

The next DEC meeting will be held on July 20, 2024, at the Holiday Inn Des Moines Airport & Conference Center.

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

Brian Kessler

Brian Kessler
Detachment Adjutant
Sons of the American Legion