

**Sons Of The American Legion  
Detachment of Illinois**

**2016 WINTER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA  
Squadron 224, Carmi, Illinois  
December 10, 2016**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Detachment Commander Shipley called the meeting to order at 1300 Hours. The colors were in place, hand salute rendered. Detachment Chaplain Jeff Trout gave the prayer. 5<sup>th</sup> Division SAL Commander Jeff Trout led the Pledge of Allegiance. Commander Shipley led the POW/MIA Ceremony. Detachment Sgt-At-Arms Jeff Haddick placed the flag in the empty chair. Detachment Senior Vice Commander Paul Hayse led the Preamble.

**ROLL CALL**

Detachment Adjutant Jeff Van Horn called the roll.

Present were:

Detachment Officers – Commander Shipley; Sr Vice Hayse; NEC Gummersheimer; ANEC Hunter; Adjutant Van Horn; Asst Adj Ray; Finance Officer Tharp; Judge Advocate Stillwell; Parliamentarian Cisna; Chaplain Trout; Historian Garrett; Sgt-At-Arms Haddick; Sr Vice Sgt-At-Arms Passmore; Division Sgt-At-Arms Haddick (2<sup>nd</sup>) & I. Hayse (5<sup>th</sup>); Commander's Aide Phelps; Sr Vice Aide Trout; PUFL Stillwell; Immediate Past Detachment Commander Geary.  
Division Officers – 2<sup>nd</sup> Division Jr Vice; 3<sup>rd</sup> Division Commander; 4<sup>th</sup> Division Commander; 5<sup>th</sup> Division Commander.  
District Officers – 8<sup>th</sup> District Commander; 9<sup>th</sup> District Commander & Sr Vice; 10<sup>th</sup> District Commander; 18<sup>th</sup> District Commander; 19<sup>th</sup> District Sr Vice Commander; 21<sup>st</sup> District Jr Vice Commander; 24<sup>th</sup> District Commander & Sr Vice; 25<sup>th</sup> District Commander.  
Past National Commanders – Still & Cisna  
Past Detachment Commanders – Stillwell; Gummersheimer; Slevin, Sr.; Cisna; Tharp; Ray; Hunter; Cavanaugh.  
Advisor's – 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Division's  
Department Commander Stanton, Sr Vice Henderson

**JUDGE ADVOCATE COMMENTS**

Detachment Judge Advocate Stillwell discussed who is eligible to make motions, etc. during the DEC.

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**MINUTES OF FALL DEC**

8<sup>th</sup> District Commander Hunter motioned to accept the Fall DEC minutes, as printed, with the second, passed.

**INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS**

List the guests – see SIGN IN sheet  
Department Commander Stanton & Sr Vice Henderson both spoke and expressed their appreciation of the SAL.

**RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE**

Commander Shipley appointed Stillwell (4<sup>th</sup> Division) as Chairman of Resolution Committee with Nemanich (1<sup>st</sup> Division) and Dilday (5<sup>th</sup> Division) as Committee members.

**DIVISION COMMANDERS REPORT**

1<sup>st</sup> Division Past Commander Hunter, 2<sup>nd</sup> Division Jr Vice, 3<sup>rd</sup> Division Commander, 4<sup>th</sup> Division Commander & 5<sup>th</sup> Division Commander all spoke about current membership year.

**MEMBERSHIP REPORT & SQUADRON ACTIVITIES & #1 PINS**

Detachment Senior Vice Commander Hayse gave the membership report. He then awarded #1 Pins to the following:

Division Winner – 2<sup>nd</sup> Division (given to Division Jr Vice)

District Winners: 1<sup>st</sup> Division – 3<sup>rd</sup> District (given to ANEC)

2<sup>nd</sup> Division – 10<sup>th</sup> District (given to 10<sup>th</sup> District Sr)

3<sup>rd</sup> Division – 15<sup>th</sup> District (given to 3<sup>rd</sup> Division Commander)

4<sup>th</sup> Division – 19<sup>th</sup> District (given to 19<sup>th</sup> District Sr Vice)

5<sup>th</sup> Division – 23<sup>rd</sup> District (given to 5<sup>th</sup> Division Commander)

Sr Vice Commander Hayse motions to accept his report, with the second, passes.

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**AUDIT COMMITTEE**

Chairman Hayse and committee met with Finance Officer and reviewed the Audit conducted by Ginoli & Company, as in the past. Auditors found no issue with Detachment books or how we handle funds. As they always do, Ginoli & Company recommended to do quarterly audits. Unless we are directed to by Department, we will not be doing this. Hayse motioned to accept the report, with the second, passed.

**FINANCE REPORT**

Detachment Finance Officer Tharp asked if there were any questions regarding the printed finance report. He then discussed importance of filling out expense report form correctly. With none, IPDC Geary motioned to accept the report, with the second, passed.

**STANDING COMMISSION & COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Americanism Commission**

Vice Chairman Cisna reported there has been no change in Flag Alliance. Oratorical is coming up in March. Now is the time to recruit candidates for this, along with Boys State in June. Discussed the National Emergency Fund (NEF) and funds are available to every member of the American Legion Family and please consider donating to this. Motion by NEC Gummersheimer to accept report, with the second, passed.

**Children & Youth Commission**

Chairman Ray stated April is Children & Youth Month. Scholarship applications will be ready for February's bulk mailing. The Detachment is at 37% of our goal for CWF and reminded everyone about the Banner Program, found in the monthly bulk mailings. Motion by 9<sup>th</sup> District Commander to accept the report, with the second, passed.

**Contest Commission**

No report.

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**Finance Commission**

Chairman Koop stated there was no requests for funds or no report. There will be a budget meeting at Department Headquarters on February 25<sup>th</sup>. Any budget requests should be submitted by February 1<sup>st</sup>. 2<sup>nd</sup> Division Jr Vice Koop motioned to accept the report, with the second, passed.

**National Security & Poppy's**

Chairman Phelps discussed Police School in June. National Security is the same but curious to see where country heads with new President coming in office in January. Department is gearing up for Poppy's and asked for help. Motion by IPDC Geary to accept report, with the second, passed.

**Legislative Commission**

Chairman Garrett reported President Elect Trump has outlined a 10-point plan to reform the Veterans Affairs Department.

1. Establish a White House hotline, to be answered not by a computer but by a human being, to field complaints about the department. Any issue left unaddressed would be brought directly to the President.
2. He would appoint a new secretary who would make it their "personal mission to clean up the VA" and this will be a person of great competence.
3. He would remove federal authorities who fail veterans or breach the public trust.
4. He would ask Congress to pass legislation that would allow the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to fire or discipline any employee who puts at risk the "health, safety or well-being of any veteran".
5. He pledged to protect the "honest and dedicated" people in the department and put them in line for promotions.

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6. He would institute a system in which a percentage of any money saved, as a result of an employee suggestion, would be paid out as a one-time bonus to encourage streamlining the department.
7. He will reform the visa process to move veterans to the "front of the line".
8. Increase the number of mental health facilities and professionals offering care to veterans.
9. Allow veterans to seek out private care at government's expense if they so desire.
10. Create a commission to investigate the Department of Veterans Affairs.

The following legislation was discussed:

HR 3286 – Honoring Investments in Recruiting and Employing American Military Veterans Act of 2016.

HR 5600 – No Hero Left Untreated Act.

HR 4757 – Requires VA to supply a headstone, marker or medallion for Medal of Honor recipients buried at private cemeteries.

S. Con. Res. 51 – A concurrent resolution recognizing those who served in Vietnam regarding exposure to Agent Orange.

Megavote.com is a website where you can sign up to see a weekly recap on what your representatives voted on.

4<sup>th</sup> Division SAL Commander Garrett motioned to accept the report, with the second, passed.

**SAL Leadership Training Commission**

No report.

**Veteran's Affairs & Rehabilitation Commission**

No report.

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**Commander's Advisory Committee**

Chairman Ray stated nothing has been submitted to the Committee and there are no issues. Motion by ANEC to accept report, with the second, passed.

**Detachment Convention Committee**

Asst Adjutant Ray stated the Convention will be held in DeLand at Post 102. The Best Western in Monticello will be Convention Hotel. Details will following in the upcoming bulk mailings. Motion by IPDC Geary to accept report, with the second, passed.

**Public Relations Commission**

Chairman Cisna discussed PR Toolkit CD available from National. Encouraged as much PR as possible. Boys State candidate? PR it. Consolidated Report? PR it. Snapshots of Service, send in pictures wearing your SAL cap (forms on website). Motion by Sr Vice Commander Hayse to accept the report, with the second, passed.

***COMMISSION/COMMITTEE DONATIONS***

Squadron 911 donated \$100 to Scholarship  
Squadron 911 donated \$350 to CWF  
Squadron 690 donated \$150 to GTTY  
Squadron 979 donated a piggy bank to CWF  
Legion Family 703 donated \$1,500 to CWF  
Advisor Flanagan donated \$30 to Legacy Scholarship Fund

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Legion National Vice Commander Paul Martel sent thank you note to Detachment Commander for his participation on Caravan.

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**RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE REPORT**

Chairman Stillwell stated there was a candidate Resolution for National Vice Commander and sent to Convention. The only other resolutions were the hospitality resolutions. All were accepted. Motion by 2<sup>nd</sup> Division Jr Vice Koop to accept the report, with the second, passed. Commander Shipley presented Certificate of Appreciation to the Legion Family Members.

**NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEEMAN'S REPORT**

NEC Gummersheimer reported that the National Commander is currently in Hawaii, along with National Legion Family members. There is a restructuring of Committee's/Commission's coming on National level. Anyone interested in a National Committee/Commission appointment needs to submit desires and bio to NEC by January 15<sup>th</sup>. NEC Motioned to accept his report, with the second, passed.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Commander Shipley appointed 2<sup>nd</sup> Division member Michael Westerhausen to the PR Commission. Advisor Flanagan stated Department approves this. 2<sup>nd</sup> Division Jr Vice Koop motions to accept the appointment, with the second, passed.

**FOR THE GOOD OF THE SAL**

Reminder of upcoming Caravan in January.

**ADVISOR'S REMARKS**

Mr. Flanagan stated Department would like clarification on Squadron 46. Adjutant Van Horn stated he will contact people he knows from there to find out what's going on. Flanagan also stated he will be running for Legion National Vice Commander.

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**50 – 50 DRAWING**

Sgt-At-Arms Haddick conducted the 50-50. Total was \$161 with \$80 going to Advisor Flanagan, who donated \$30 to Legacy Scholarship.

**Closing & Benediction**

Chaplain Trout said a prayer.

Sgt-At-Arms Haddick retrieved the POW/MIA flag on chair.

The Colors were in place, a hand salute was rendered.

Commander Shipley adjourned the meeting at 1453.

Minutes completed by:

Jeffrey Van Horn  
Detachment Adjutant