

5TH DISTRICT MEETING  
17 JANUARY 2016

- 1) The meeting was called to order by Commander Ronnie Jones at 1409
- 2) Sargent-at-Arms (Comrade Bill Craig) posted the colors
- 3) Comrade Bill Perkins lead us in prayer
- 4) Sargent-at-Arms draped the MIA flag
- 5) Membership recited the Pledge of Alliance
- 6) Membership recited the Preamble of the American Legion
- 7) District Sargent-at-Arms (Comrade Bill Craig) posted the colors
- 8) Comrade Bill Perkins lead us in prayer
- 9) Sargent-at-Arms draped the MIA flag
- 10) Membership recited the Pledge of Alliance
- 11) Membership recited the Preamble of the American Legion

12) Roll call of District Officer's revealed the following:

a. District Commander	Ronnie Jones	
b. 1 <sup>st</sup> Vice Commander	Position Vacant	
c. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander	Position Vacant	
d. Finance Officer	Pat Sansom	Present
e. Adjutant	Alan H. Caesar	Present
f. Chaplin	Edward Kownslar	Absent
g. Judge Advocate	Sam Underwood	Present
h. Service Officer	Zach Fresesquez	Present
i. Hub Master	?	Present
j. VA & R	D.C. Jones	Absent
k. Americanism	Position Vacant	
l. Baseball Chair	Position Vacant	
m. Boy Scout Chair	Positon Vacant	
n. Boys State Chair	Robert Kaminski	Present
o. Community Service	Positon Vacant	
p. Const. & By Laws	Gary Smith	Present

15) Roll call by Post revealed the following:

a. Post 23 – Present	b. Post 53 – Present	c. Post 81 – Present
d. Post 111 – Present	e. Post 124 – Absent	f. Post 184 – Absent
g. Post 218 – Present	h. Post 275 – Present	i. Post 292 – Present
j. Post 368 – Present	k. Post 424 – Present	l. Post 453 – Present
m. Post 504 – Present	n. Post 507 – Present	o. Post 511 – Absent
p. Post 581 – Absent	q. Post 597 – Present	r. Post 656 – Absent
s. Post 802 – Present	t. Post 855 – Absent	

16) Special Election/Appointments – Comrade Ronald Jones resigned as the 5<sup>th</sup> District Commander for personal reasons and thereby created a vacancy in that position/office. The 5<sup>th</sup> District Adjutant relieved him of the gavel and proceeded to conduct business. The floor was open for nominations to fill the position of 5<sup>th</sup> District Commander. Comrade Larry Taylor was nominated and no others. Comrade Alvin Brown motioned and Comrade Dennis Snow 2<sup>nd</sup> a motion to close the floor for any other nominations. The motion and appointment of Comrade Larry Taylor to the position of 5<sup>th</sup> District Commander carried by acclamation.

17) The floor was open for nominations to fill the position of 5<sup>th</sup> District Vice-Commander. Comrade Ronnie Jones was nominated and no others. Comrade Gary Smith motioned and Comrade Bill Geffrey 2<sup>nd</sup> a motion to close the floor for any other nominations. The motion and appointment of Comrade Ronnie Jones to the position of 5<sup>th</sup> District Vice-Commander carried by acclamation.

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- 18) The State Vice-Commander (John Hince) installed Comrades Taylor and Jones into their newly appointed positions.
- 19) Comrades Jerry Hines, Bob Elkins, Jeff Perkins and Gary Smith were recognized as dignitaries in attendance at the meeting.
- 20) Division Commander (Comrade John Brewer) commented on the importance and urgency of completing and submitting the "District Commander Consolidated Report Form".
- 21) Comrade Jeff Perkins motioned and Comrade Gary Smith 2<sup>nd</sup> a motion to forgo reading of the minutes from our last meeting since they were posted on the website and available for review. The motion carried by majority vote pending any necessary corrections.
- 22) Comrade Pat Sansom submitted a finance report covering 24 Oct. 2015 through 17 Jan. 2016 for review and acceptance. Comrade Jeff Perkins motioned and Comrade Bill Craig 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion to accept the finance report as presented with any necessary corrections. The motion carried by majority vote.
- 23) Vice-Commander Jones submitted a membership report (copy of report attached). Stressed that membership dues have increased from \$26.00 to \$31.00 for 2016. Advised membership to prepare for upcoming 345 Drive. Each Post Commander should be prepared to transition member from the Administrative Post (345) into their respective post.
- 24) Vice-Commander Jones reported that baseball is alive but not well. Currently we sponsor 5 teams but we need to increase that number to 10/12 teams. AL Harris (Special Guest) wants to expand American Legion Baseball into other cities within Dallas county (Richardson, Irving, Carrollton, etc.). He is asking our help supporting this effort and these new teams. His organization is hosting a 5 State Regional in Carrollton, TX. this year. This endeavor will not financially encumber us (the American Legion) at all. Mr. Harris stated he intends to approach his organization (the National Baseball League) for financial assistance to sponsor American Legion Baseball. His success with that endeavor would be a win-win situation for both organizations.
- 25) Comrade Robert Kaminski informed us that 453 Orientation will be the Sunday before Memorial Day. The cost per boy will be \$400.00 this year.
- 26) Comrade Bob Elkins informed us that the Oratorical Contest will be held 23 Jan. 2016.
- 27) Comrade Gary Smith shared the following information:
  - a. He informed us that 3 post have no members in their SAL post. Renewals are required to prevent jeopardizing the SAL charter at any Post with no SAL renewals.
  - b. Comrade Smith will also revise the District Constitution and ByLaws so that they are more in line with the Department's CBLs.
- 28) . Sick Call – Comrade Larry Taylor broke his back. The Post Commander at 511 had heart by-pass surgery.
- 29) Comrade Bobby Vandebush (ALR Advisor) reported the "Riders" were invited 28 & 29 Dec. 2015 to attend a VRC sponsored event. The event was hosted by "The Gunny" Lee Remy where he presented the American Legion Riders an award for generating \$350,000.00 in 2015. Post 81 in Duncanville will host an ALR Meet & Greet on 27 Feb. 2016. This is a 5<sup>th</sup> District level activity.

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30) Unfinished business – Correction to the 24 Oct. 2015 minutes' that reflected Post 424 as absent – they were present.

31) New business – None

32) NEF funding can be used to financially help and assist victims of last month's hurricane.

33) The meeting was properly adjourned after prayer at 1536.