

**American Legion 5th District,
Department of Texas
Meeting**

29 October 2011

5th District Convention Business Meeting Called to Order at 1402L.

Opening ceremonies were held. Chaplain Don Cecil gave the opening prayer and Commander Perkins led the Pledge of Allegiance and Preamble.

Guest Introductions: Dan Corbin, candidate for Department Commander; Lynn Sparks, candidate for Department Vice Commander; Bryan Coleman, candidate for Department Judge Advocate; Butch Sparks, Past Department Commander; Debra Brooks, Department Chairman for Public Relations and Publications Commission & 12th District Vice Commander; Gary Towers, Lake Granbury Post 491; Bernard Aderholt, Past 5th District Commander

Motion to deviate from the normal course of business was made by Bernard Aderholt and seconded by Matt Graska. Motion carried.

Each candidate introduced themselves and asked for endorsement by the 5th District.

Motion to have the 5th District endorse Bryan Coleman for Department Judge Advocate was made by Bernard Aderholt and seconded by Matt Graska. Motion carried.

Motion to have the 5th District endorse Lynn Sparks for Department Vice Commander was made by Bernard Aderholt and seconded by Matt Graska. Motion carried.

Motion to have the 5th District endorse Dan Corbin for Department Commander was made by Bernard Aderholt and seconded by Matt Graska. Motion carried.

Debra Brooks made a presentation on the importance of public relations in the Posts and how it can impact membership.

A 5 minute break was taken so guests could leave if so desired.

Roll Call of Officers:

Jeff Perkins, 5th District Commander – Present & Presiding

Gary Smith, 5th District Vice Commander – Present

Bill Craig, 5th District Adjutant – Excused

Pat Sansom, 5th District Finance Officer – Present

Don Cecil, 5th District Chaplain – Present

Gary Poplin, 5th District Judge Advocate – Excused

Bill Freauff, 5th District Historian – Present

Jim McClendon, 5th District Sergeant at Arms – Excused

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Jim Swafford, 5th District Asst. Sergeant at Arms – Excused

Officers Present: 5

Roll Call of Posts:

Posts Present: Post 23, 81, 111, 184, 368, 424, 453, 504, 511, 802

Posts Not Present: Post 53, 124, 218, 275, 292, 507, 581, 597, 656, 855

Posts Present: 10

Roll call was taken by the Vice Commander and a quorum of members was present.

Bernard Aderholt made a motion to waive the reading of the September meeting minutes since they were previously posted on the District's website. Matt Graska seconded the motion and the motion carried.

The Commander called for the Committee reports.

Finance Report: Finance Officer, Pat Sansom, read the Finance Report. The Commander stated that the report now contains financial information about Boys State and the SAL since the entries are required by Department. Bill Freauff made a motion to accept the Finance Report as read subject to audit. Gary Smith seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Membership Report: The Vice Commander, Gary Smith, gave the Membership Report. It was noted that the 5th District was currently in 1st place within the 1st Division at 60.11% of goal. Five Posts had made October's goal of 65%: Posts 656, 511, 111, 597 and 53. The goal for November is 75%. It was also noted that SAL membership transmittals were very slow and unacceptable. Three Squadrons had not turned in any 2012 membership transmittals so far this year. As a program of The American Legion, Post Commanders should provide better oversight of their Squadrons.

Oratorical Report: C. Jim Rey provided the Oratorical Report. He stated that the 5th District contest was tentatively scheduled for Sunday, January 8 with a back-up date of January 15. However, he is trying to set the date up for January 7, which is on a Saturday and asked everyone to plan on the 7th.

Unfinished Business:

- The Commander stated that the Blue and Gold banners had been purchased: three 1-Star Blue Banners, one 2-Star Blue Banner, one 3-Star Blue Banner, four 1-Star Gold Banners, and one 2-Star Gold Banner. They will be available to the Posts for \$15 each.
- The District purchased 2 folding 4-foot tables for recruiting purposes.

New Business:

- A motion was made by Joe Barrera to have a 5th District Christmas Party to be held on December 17 at 2:00 PM at Post 424. The cost will be \$5 per person. The motion was seconded by Bob Elkins and the motion carried.

The closing prayer was given by Chaplain Don Cecil.

The colors were retired.

The Commander adjourned the meeting at 1552L.

The meeting minutes were recorded and transcribed by Gary Smith, 5th District Vice Commander, and approved by Jeff Perkins, 5th District Commander.

_____ Date: _____

Minutes approved as read by Membership: _____