

# **AMERICAN LEGION 5TH DISTRICT SPRING CONVENTION**

## **DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS**

**APRIL 12, 2014**

**HELD AT POST 424**

District Commander Gary Smith opened the meeting in the regular order with the posting of the Colors and placing of the POW/MIA flag at 1310. Don Cecil, 5th District Chaplain Emeritus gave the opening prayer. Commander Smith led the Pledge of Allegiance and the Preamble of the Constitution of the American Legion.

### **Roll Call**

Gary Smith, 5th District Commander - present & presiding

Larry Taylor, 5th District Vice Commander - present

Marico Jefferson, 5th District Adjutant - excused - (Cyndi Miller filling in as Adjutant for this meeting)

Pat Sansom, 5th District Finance Officer - present

Don Cecil, 5th District Chaplain Emeritus - present

5th District Service Officer - vacant

Gary Poplin, 5th District Judge Advocate - present

Cyndi Miller, 5th District Historian - present

5th District Sergeant at Arms - vacant

Bill Craig, 5th District Asst Sergeant at Arms - present

### **Post in attendance**

23, 111, 184, 292, 368, 424, 453, 504, 507, 511, 597, 802

### **Post not in attendance**

53, 81, 124, 218, 275, 581, 656, 855

### **A quorum was established**

Announcement of Post Voting Strength was reported by Gary Poplin

Guest were introduced by Commander Smith.

Jim Prendergast gave a report on NEC activities for Dept of TX.

Resolutions were read by Gary Poplin for Candidates for information only.

Jim Prendergast and Thomas Kelly spoke on their candidacy.

Resolution was read by Gary Poplin on Division Commander residency with motion made to accept by Gary Poplin and 2nd by SA LeJune. Motion carried. Motion was made by Gary Polin and 2nd by Jim Perry to forward to Division and then forward on to Dept DEC. Motion carried

### **Finance report**

Finance report was given by District Finance Officer Pat Sansom. A motion was made by Pat Sansom to accept report as read subject to audit and 2nd by SA LeJune. Motion carried.

### **Previous meeting minutes**

Motion was made to table till next meeting when District Adjutant Marico Jefferson is present by Gary Poplin and 2nd by SA LeJune. Motion carried.

### **Commander Report**

Commander gave a report of his activities since last District meeting.

### **Committee Reports**

#### **Membership Report**

Larry Taylor, Vice Commander 5th District gave report that 5th District is at 101.30% of goal which is first place in State of TX. We have 11 posts over 100%, 3 posts over 90%, 4 posts over 80% and 2 posts over 75%. 218 only need 2 members to reach 100%, 124 need 1, 504 needs 20, 424 needs 8, 81 needs 43, 507 needs 13, 184 needs 12, 656 needs 5. This means we are growing membership. My goal is to have all posts at 100% in the 5th District. Keep up the good work.

#### **Americanism Report**

No report due to unexcused absence of Dennis Snow

#### **Baseball Report**

Baseball report given by Larry Taylor states State Tournament will be held in Raymond, TX July 30 thru August 3rd, 2014. The National Tournament will be held in Shelby, NC August 14 thru August 19, 2014 with the semifinals being carried on ESPN3 and World Series game will be carried on ESPNU. They expect to reach 80 million viewers. There will be 30 second ads sold to benefit the American Legion Baseball. This year the rules have changed from Double Elimination to Pool Play. This allows each team to know what time they play and are assured to play three games and each team will get a day off. These changes will cause a day to be added to the schedule. The 5th

District team from post 597 will be playing hard to get to the Nation World Series. Let's all wish them luck in this endeavor.

### **Boy Scouts Report**

No report due to unexcused absence of Bernard Aderholt

### **Boys State Report**

Commander Smith gave report on continuing to get the boys signed up for Boy's State and Bob Elkins gave report on the bus cost and made a motion for \$300.00 from District to help with bus cost if needed and was 2nd by Gary Poplin. There was discussion and Motion carried.

### **Constitution and Bylaws Report**

Report was given by Bill Freauff that a couple were in a holding pattern waiting for department to complete process, one post for a long time and Gary Smith will check on that progress.

### **National Security Report**

No report Jeff Perkins had to leave

### **JROTC Report**

No report due to unexcused absence of Matt Graska. Bob Elkins did report he has a couple extra medals if someone wishes to purchase them.

### **SAL Advisor Report**

Report given by Larry Taylor, 5th District Vice Commander, The 5th District SAL Commander sent letters out to all SAL squadrons informing them of this meeting April 12, 2014 and encouraged them to participate in District functions. He also encouraged them to turn in membership. Our District is now in 5th place in the State of TX at 87.79%. They need 47 renewels to reach 100%. Anyone who can be a dual member but is currently is encouraged to join. The 5th District SAL is raffling a gallon of Crown Royal engraved with the SAL logo plus 4 cocktail glasses with logo of all entities and to date have raised over \$450.00. The drawing will held at Division convention May 31st, 2014. They are also active with Josh Dogs program.

### **ALR Advisor Report**

No report by Robbie Burns who was present and had to leave before given.

**Sick call, relief and employment** -none

**Unfinished business**

The following Officer positions are available, Service Officer, Chaplain.

The following Committee Chair positions are available, Boy's State, Oratorical and VA&R.

### **New business**

Named to the Convention Committee for 5th District Larry Taylor, Gary Poplin and Bill Freauff. As Chairman, Larry Taylor will coordinate discussion and recommendation with 5<sup>th</sup> District AUX and SAL.

Elect National Delegates - Motion made for District to pay for registration for appointed delegates by Gary Poplin and 2nd by SA LeJune. Motion carried.

Elect Principal and alternate members for Dept Convention Committees. Gary Smith, Cyndi Miller, Jim Perez, Pat Sansom elected with motion to accept and registration to be paid for the delegates for 5th District made by Gary Poplin and 2nd by Sal Mancuso. Motion carries.

CPRs - importance of getting them turned in discussed

Motion made to discuss previous meeting minutes again. Motion was made to dispense of the reading of the minutes for both previous District convention and previous District meeting by Jim Perez and 2nd by Gary Poplin. Motion carried.

Election of Bill Craig as Sgt at Arms with motion made by Joe Carter and 2nd by Sal Mancuso to elect by acclamation. Motion carried. Bill Craig was sworn in by Commander Smith.

Appointed Sal Mancuso as Asst Sgt at Arms with motion to endorse by Gary Poplin and 2nd by Bill Craig. Motion carried. Sal Mancuso was sworn in by Commander Smith.

### **Good of the Legion**

SA LeJune spoke about VRC and upcoming events. Post 453 has 50 & 60s prom night May 3rd ( no jeans or sneakers). Bill Freauff spoke about JROTC sand the help we gave Pinkston and how Pinkston helped with Girsl Scout cookie sales. Post 597 Charity Dart tournament upcoming. Post 292 lost a member and going to give a case for the flag. Remember you can look up these and all events on the 5thDistrict website for further details.

**Announcements**

Next District meeting - June 22 Carrollton Post 597

1st Division convention - May 31st at Elegante Hotel on Northwest Highway starting at 9am.

DFW National Cemetery will give a presentation today after this meeting.

Motion was made by Pat Sansom to pay expense for this convention and 2nd by Gary Poplin. Motion carried.

Closing Prayer was given by Don Cecil, 5th District Chaplain Emeritus.

POW/MIA flag retired by Bill Craig, 5th District Sgt at Arms

Colors retired by Bill Craig, 5th District Sgt at Arms

Meeting adjourned by Commander Gary Smith at 1407

Recorded by Cyndi Miller acting 5th District Adjutant

Approved and submitted by

\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Gary Smith, 5th District Commander

Department of Texas

