

**American Legion 5<sup>th</sup> District Dept of TX Meeting  
Sunday, July 17, 2011**

**1. Call to Order:**

Commander Jeff Perkins called to meeting to order at 1403hrs. Commander Perkins expressed appreciation to American Legion Post 597 for hosting the District meeting.

**2. Posting of Colors:**

Sgt At Arms Jim McClendon posted the colors.

**3. Invocation:**

Don Cecil gave the invocation.

**4. Pledge:**

Commander Perkins led the membership in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

**5. Preamble:**

Commander Perkins led the membership in reciting the Preamble.

**6. Presentation:**

Past Commander Aderholt presented Commander Perkins with the 5<sup>th</sup> district Gavel. Commander Perkins presented Past Commander Aderholt with his new Past Commander cap. Past Commander Aderholt thanked the officers of the 5<sup>th</sup> district for all their hard work over the last 2 years. He also thanked the posts of the 5<sup>th</sup> district for all their hard work and support over the last 2 years.

**7. Roll call of Officers and Posts:**

All officers were present with the exception of the finance officer and service officer. The 5<sup>th</sup> District Posts represented were: 23, 81,111,424, 453, 504, 507, 511, 597, and 802.

**8. Reading of minutes of previous session:**

Motion made to accept the Minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as posted on the district web page. The motion was seconded and passed.

**9. Finance Report:**

Finance report was read. A motion was made by Bill Godfrey to accept the finance report as read. The motion was seconded by Rick Hunter and the motion was carried.

#### **10. Introductions:**

Past District Commanders Bob Elkins and Bernard Aderholt were introduced.

#### **11. General Discussion:**

Commander Perkins introduced Vice Commander Gary Smith.

Vice Commander Smith discussed the Temporary Financial Assistance (TFA) program.

TFA is a program thru the American Legions to provide financial assistance to the minor children of Veterans. Information was provided on

- How to qualify.

- What TFA will provide assistance for.

- What it won't provide assistance for.

Questions were asked to clarify the program.

5<sup>th</sup> District Auxiliary President Holly Heatly was introduced to the assemblage. President Heatly wished the Commander and his officers well in the coming 2 years. And that she was looking forward to working with the 5<sup>th</sup> District over the next 2 years.

Vice Commander Smith reported on the District's Consolidated Post Report (CPR) status. It was explained that the CPR can be found on the web @ [mylegion.org](http://mylegion.org). It was also explained that [mylegion.org](http://mylegion.org) had a wealth of information to assist members as well as individual posts. Members can pay their annual dues and update their personal information. Posts are able to update the information of members and search for members in their area. Information pertaining to individual members of a post is only accessible by the Post Commander and Adjutant.

Vice Commander Smith reported on an upcoming recruiting event at the VA hospital of Dallas on August 1, 2011. Volunteers are needed for this event.

This event, as well as other events are in the planning stages to increase visibility of the Legion. The Vice Commander is working with various media outputs to increase awareness amongst the Veterans of the area. The Vice Commander is working on setting up a recruiting table at a Dallas Stars game.

A motion was made by Past District Commander Elkins to set aside \$1,000.00 for discretionary spending for future recruiting events within the 5<sup>th</sup> District. Seconded by Commander Barrera. Motion carried.

Vice Commander Smith made a presentation to Post 597 Commander Joseph Senones with a Certificate of Achievement for reaching a 100% of membership goal for 2011.

Commander Perkins stressed the need for each post to maintain their Post Update form. Commander Perkins introduced the District Judge Advocate Gary Poplin to elaborate on the post Update Form and Officer Certification Form.

Judge Advocate Poplin discussed Post Constitutions and By Laws. It was stated that any Post whose Constitution and By Laws were more than a year old are out dated and need revised because of recent changes to the National and Department Constitution and By Laws.

Clarification was given for the email sent out earlier this week about the need for “not for profit organizations”. It was stated that renewal of their incorporation is required at least every 4 years. Renewal can only be requested once every four years. To this end Department of Texas would like every Post to renew their incorporation forms if needed. The forms can be found @ txsosdirect.com. Download an 802 Form.

Further information was provided on the need to keep incorporation info up to date.

Commander Perkins discussed the SAL. A Post’s SAL Squadron can not exceed 25% of the overall membership of a Post excluding dual members.

## **12. Good of the Legion:**

One person in attendance was unable to produce a membership application and was fined \$1.00.

The 5<sup>th</sup> District web page was discussed as well as some of the information available.

A motion was made by Commander Senones (597) for the 5<sup>th</sup> District to purchase 5 Gold Star and 5 Blue Star banners. Seconded by Rick Hunter. Motion carried.

Vice Commander Smith suggested the 5<sup>th</sup> District appoint a Public Relations Officer.

Meeting closed in regular order with Closing prayer and Sgt at Arms retiring the colors.

It was announced the next meeting of the 5<sup>th</sup> District will be on September 18, 2011 and be held at American Legion Post 111 in Cedar Hill.

Bill Craig  
Adjutant, 5<sup>th</sup> District  
Department of Texas.