



## Sons of The American Legion Detachment of South Dakota

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### **2008 Detachment Convention Minutes – Watertown, SD – June 14, 2008**

The meeting was called to order by Commander Greg Lemieux at 10:00 AM.

Colors were saluted as they were in place and the POW/MIA chair was recognized through ceremony.

Chaplain Mike Goetzinger led the prayer.

The Pledge of Allegiance and the Preamble were recited.

Roll Call was taken Iroquois – 3, Pierre – 2, Watertown – 3. Quorum was met. NEC Pee Wee Douthit and Alternate NEC Bobby Bender (PDC) was present. Wayne Vetter was present as The American Legion Liaison Advisor.

Amended minutes of the 2008 Mid-Winter Conference were read. Motion by Ron Frenz, 2<sup>nd</sup> by AJ Royal. Minutes were accepted as read.

Minutes of the Executive Committee meeting of April 19, 2008 were read. Motion by Pee Wee Douthit, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bob Bender. Minutes were accepted as read.

Heard the finance report from Pee Wee Douthit, he reported a balance of \$2869.45 with all bills paid. Motion by Mike Goetzinger to accept the finance report, Seconded by Ron Frenz, Finance report was approved. Upon completing the Finance report Kerwin Douthit resigned as Finance Officer and turned the records over to Adjutant Royal.

NEC Douthit presented a report for the NEC. One of the major concerns is that the membership is still way down this year, briefed on the Boys State Program, Also mentioned the Child Welfare Fund and that the Sons of The American Legion is the largest contributor to this program with over \$332,000 donated nation wide. Motion to accept the NEC report by Bob Bender, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Eric Vetter and carried.

Colin Royal presented the membership report and stated that membership is down and that several Squadrons have sent little or no memberships in. De Smet Post 138, Lemmon Post 66, and Redfield Post 92 have held meetings concerning new Squadrons, hopefully they will accomplish this soon. Lemmon Squadron Charter application is with Commander Lemieux and will be signed by the Department Commander and forwarded to National. Mike Goetzinger presented an additional 31 memberships to the Commander. As an additional note Conde, Gettysburg and Canistota were presented with a new Squadron Package. Motion to accept the membership report by John Dewel, 2<sup>nd</sup> by AJ Royal and carried.

Colin Royal presented the Americanism report with only information from Squadron 280 of Iroquois, Squadron 71 of Hot Springs and information from Squadron 170 of Herried. Also that



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that no other Squadrons had submitted reports. Also he has only received the Consolidated

Squadron Reports (CSR) from Iroquois and Hot Springs. All CSR's are now due to the detachment. Motion to accept the Americanism report by Pee Wee Douthit, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bob Bender and carried.

Mike Goetzinger presented the VA&R report for Steve Hicks, on the VA&R Challenge and reported that Iroquois met it with \$50, Rapid City 22 met it with \$50, and Martin met the challenge with \$100. Also Commander Lemieux stated that the Detachment would meet the challenge with \$50 with no objections from the membership present. Mike also presented a check for \$100 for the CWF from Martin Squadron 240. Motion to accept the VA&R report by Pee Wee Douthit, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Eric Vetter and carried.

John Dewel presented the Legislative report and said that this were not looking well for veterans and The American Legion in South Dakota due to reasons of personnel issues in Pierre. He also reported that the Department of South Dakota is looking at returning to a full time lobbyist in Pierre in the future. Motion to accept the legislative report by Bob Bender, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Pee Wee Douthit and carried.

Department Commander Gary Watts joined us briefly and expressed his appreciation for the hard work and support by the Detachment through the past year. He Presented the Boys State Governor Tyler Littau of Winner. Littau expressed his, and all of the boys that attended Boys State, appreciation for the opportunities that the American Legion Family provides for the youth of South Dakota.

Bob Bender Presented the public relations report and stated that we need to work with the media to get our activities published. Some news medias are a bit hard to work with but many are more than happy to post our work. Motion to accept the public relations report by Pee Wee Douthit, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mike Goetzinger and carried.

Department Children & Youth Chairperson Betty "Sam" Vaughn briefed the membership on the Used Sports and Recreation Equipment Program for the Rosebud Reservation. She cited some of the differences made in the lives of the Native American Youth in the communities already served.

Jim Huls, Candidate for Department Commander addressed the membership and asked for the Detachment's support and pledged his support for the Detachment as did Ron Kazmerszak, also a candidate for Department Commander.

### **Old Business:**

The final collection of the raffle tickets and money was done. The report of the final ticket sales was a total of \$1825 for the shotgun raffle. This is a profit of \$1425 after the cost of the



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shotgun and tickets. Commander Lemieux thanked the membership for their hard work and extended his congratulation for the hard work. Motion to accept report by Eric Vetter, 2<sup>nd</sup> by AJ Royal, and carried.

After Discussion and facts provided, motion to suspend any further action on Huron Squadron 7 Charter revocation due to progress being made by Bob Bender, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Pee Wee Douthit, and carried.

After much discussions and facts presented with no response from the Squadrons presented the following actions were taken.

Motion to recommend revocation of Wessington Springs Squadron 14 Charter by Bob Bender, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Pee Wee Douthit, and carried.

Motion recommend revocation of Claremont Squadron 262 Charter by Pee Wee Douthit, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Eric Vetter, and carried.

Motion recommend revocation of Kimball Squadron 130 Charter by Pee Wee Douthit, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Eric Vetter, and carried.

After Discussion and facts provided, motion to suspend any further action on Rapid City Squadron 22 Charter revocation due to progress being made by Pee Wee Douthit, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bob Bender, and carried.

After Discussion and facts provided, motion to suspend any further action on Wagner Squadron 11 Charter revocation due to progress being made by Pee Wee Douthit, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Eric Vetter, and carried.

Motion recommend revocation of Three Rivers, (N. Sioux City, Dakota Dunes) Squadron 319 Charter by Eric Vetter, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Russ Eagleman, and carried.

Meeting was recessed at 11:40pm for convenience.

Meeting was reconvened at 11:55pm.

### **New Business:**

Awards were presented:

Detachment 2008 Son of the Year Certificate and plaque were presented to Brent Matter of Iroquois Squadron 280. Congratulations!

2008 Americanism was presented to Herried Squadron 170. Congratulations!



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2008 100% membership Certificates and ribbons were awarded to Herried Squadron 170, Watertown Squadron 17, and Iroquois squadron 280. Congratulations!

Watertown Squadron 17 was awarded a Certificate of Merit for signing up 26 new members and having surpassed their membership goal with a 276.92%. Great job people. Congratulations!

Motion by Bob Bender to offer a 32" or larger HDTV for the next raffle and Adjutant Royal make the tickets. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Eric Vetter, and carried.

After facts presented and the lack of documentation due to lost records of the detachment Pee Wee Douthit motioned that the change to the Constitution, Article VIII Finances, Section 5, updating the amount of Detachment Dues to \$4.00 be approved, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bob Bender, and carried.

Commander Lemieux set forth an invitation to host the next Executive Committee meeting for the Detachment. Watertown Squadron volunteered to host the April 2009 meeting at 12:00 noon on April 25, 2009. No further Squadron volunteered to host a meeting and the discussion was left open. Adjutant Royal will ask Department Adjutant Boyd to put an invitation in the upcoming South Dakota Legion News Papers and the Up To Now's.

Commander Lemieux ask for nominations from the floor for delegates to the National Convention in Phoenix, AZ. Bob Bender Nominated Commander Lemieux and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Eric Vetter, and carried. Eric Vetter was nominated by Ron Frenz and carried. Pee Wee Douthit was nominated by Mike Goetzinger, 2<sup>nd</sup> by AJ Royal and carried. Alternate Delegates: John Dewell nominated by Mike Goetzinger, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Eric Vetter, and carried. Russ Eagleman nominated by John Dewell, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Pee Wee Douthit. Colin Royal nominated by Eric Vetter, 2<sup>nd</sup> by AJ Royal, and carried.

Adjutant Royal motioned that the Detachment of South Dakota adopt the "Used Sports and Recreation Equipment Project" as one of its own and provide support to the Department Children and Youth and the Rosebud Activities Program (RAP). John Dewell 2<sup>nd</sup>, and carried. Adjutant Royal was appointed as Liaison for the Detachment.

Commander Lemieux called for the election of officers and turned the meeting over to Adjutant Royal who then chaired the election.

Greg Lemieux was nominated for Detachment Commander, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mike Goetzinger. Ron Frenz motioned that nominations cease and a unanimous vote be cast, 2<sup>nd</sup> by AJ Royal, and carried.

Eric Vetter was nominated by Bob Bender and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mike Goetzinger for Detachment Vice Commander. John Dewell motioned that nominations cease and a unanimous vote be cast, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mike Goetzinger, and carried.





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Bob Bender was nominated as National Executive Committeeman by Pee Wee Douthit, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ron Frenz. Ron Frenz motioned that nominations cease and a unanimous vote be cast, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Russ Eagleman, and carried.

Kerwin "Pee Wee" Douthit was nominated as Alternate National Executive Committeeman by Mike Goetzinger, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bob Bender. Ron Frenz motioned that nominations cease and a unanimous vote be cast, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Russ Eagleman, and carried.

Bob Bender nominated Mike Goetzinger as Detachment Chaplain, 2<sup>nd</sup> Pee Wee Douthit. Eric Vetter motioned that nominations cease and a unanimous vote be cast, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Brent Matter, and carried.

Colin Royal nominated Ron Frenz as Detachment Historian, 2<sup>nd</sup> Bob Bender. Eric Vetter motioned that nominations cease and a unanimous vote be cast, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Russ Eagleman, and carried.

Bob Bender nominated Arthur "AJ" Royal as Detachment Sergeant-at-Arms, 2<sup>nd</sup> Pee Wee Douthit. Ron Frenz motioned that nominations cease and a unanimous vote be cast, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Brent Matter, and carried.

Past Detachment Commander John Dewell swore in the newly elected officers.

With the elections completed, Adjutant Royal returned control of the meeting to Commander Lemieux.

Commander Lemieux thanked the Detachment for another year as Commander and proceeded with his appointments for the 2008-2009 year.

Colin Royal was appointed as Adjutant with no objections from the membership.

Mike Goetzinger was appointed as the Finance Officer with no objections from the membership.

Steve Hicks was appointed as VA&R Chairman with no objections from the membership.

Kenneth "Lance" Vander Vorst was appointed as Public Relations Chairman with no objections from the membership.

Brent Matter was appointed as the Children and Youth Chairman with no objections from the membership.

Colin Royal was appointed as Americanism Chairman with no objections from the membership.



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Russ Eagleman was appointed as Judge Advocate with no objections from the membership.

Ron Frentz was appointed as Community Service Chairman with no objections from the membership.

John Dewell was appointed as Legislative Chairman with no objections from the membership.

The drawing for the shotgun was done by Brent Matter and the lucky winner was Wayne "Red" Vetter of Cresbard. Congratulations and Happy Hunting!!

With no further business to come before the Detachment, Chaplain Goetzingler led in the closing prayer.

Commander Lemieux closed the meeting with the appropriate ceremony at 13:29 PM.

Colin Royal  
Detachment Adjutant

