



Sons of The American Legion Detachment of South Dakota

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2009 Mid-Winter Conference Minutes – Oacoma, SD – February 14, 2009

The meeting was called to order by Commander Greg Lemieux at 10:45 AM.

Colors were saluted as they were in place.

Roll Call was taken with Iroquois – 1, and Pierre – 2, Watertown – 1, Sioux Falls 1. Quorum was met. Chaplain Mike Goetzinger, Sergeant-at-Arms AJ Royal, Vice Commander Eric Vetter, NEC Pee Wee Douthit and Alternate NEW Bobby Bender was present. Wayne Vetter was present as The American Legion Liaison Advisor. Also present was Midwest Region National Vice Commander Ed Magers of Texas.

Chaplain Mike Goetzinger led the prayer.

Minutes of the 2008 Fall Executive Committee Meeting were read and accepted.

Heard the finance report from Mike Goetzinger, he reported a balance of \$5010.87 with all bills paid. Motion by Mike Goetzinger to accept the finance report, Seconded by AJ Royal, Motion carried.

NEC Bender presented a prepared report for the NEC. One of the major concerns is that the membership is down this year and that each member should try to sign at least one new member.

Colin Royal presented the membership report and stated that membership is slightly down and that several Squadrons have sent little or no memberships in. Also it was identified that the Redfield Squadron had received its charter and have begun holding meetings and electing interim officers.

Colin Royal presented the Americanism report with only information from Squadron 280 of Iroquois and that no other Squadrons had submitted reports. Also the Consolidated Squadron Reports (CSR) will be here soon and will be sending them out in the near future.

Mike Goetzinger presented the VA&R report for Steve Hicks, and presented a check for \$100 for the CWF.

John Dewel presented the Legislative report and said that this were not looking well for veterans again this year.

National Vice Commander Ed Magers addressed the conference and express his appreciation for all the hard work that the Detachment of South Dakota has been putting into the membership and congratulated the detachment on the 102 new members. He also stated that the suggested CWF donation was at \$1.25 per member that we should try to obtain that level



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of donations. He explained the process on making sure that the Detachment and Squadron get the proper credit appreciation for the donation. He also explained about the Josh dogs for the Children's Miracle Network and possible ways of funding the program locally throughout that state.

Department of South Dakota American Legion NEC Paul Evenson addressed the conference and introduced the leading candidate for American Legion National Commander Clarence Hill of the department of Florida.

Old Business:

Status of the TV Raffle was discussed and the TV was now paid for and that all ticket sales were doing well and were into profit. Also Commander Lemieux saved the Detachment \$100 by purchasing the TV through Wal-Mart rather than Sears.

Old school American Legion members have issues with the Sons of The American Legion and ways of working to overcome these issues and to become a necessary part of their Posts.

New Business:

Watertown Squadron 17 offered to host the next Executive Meeting.

Bob Bender addressed the issue of VA representative for the Detachment Todd Kuck was coming due for renewal, this will be addressed and completed at the Spring ECM in April.

Commander Lemieux discussed the preliminary plans for a veterans appreciation to be held in Pierre in June. More Information to follow.

Commander Lemieux set the next Executive Committee meeting for April 25, 2009 at Post 17 in Watertown at 13:00hrs.

Chaplain Goetzinger led in the closing prayer.

Commander Lemieux closed the meeting with the appropriate ceremony at 11:56AM.

Colin Royal
Detachment Adjutant