



MINUTES FIRST DISTRICT CONVENTION, March 4, 2020, Post 488, New Boston, TX.

District Commander Glenn Willis called the District to Order.

Commander Willis, with the Colors in place, had the District salute the Colors.

Commander Willis called on the District Chaplain Bill Barton for the opening prayer.

Commander Willis led the District in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commander Willis then recognized POW/MIA's by having Andy Lowen, District Finance Officer post the POW/MIA Chair Cover on the empty chair.

Commander Willis then led the District in reciting the American Legion Preamble.

Commander Willis recognized Guests to the District: Department Vice-Commander Roger Folmer, Immediate Past Division Commander Gene Toohey, and Past District 10 & 3rd Division Commander Ted Weeks, and current 1st Division Commander Andy Lowen.

Commander Willis recognized all Past Division Commanders, Past District Commanders, and all current Post Commanders in attendance.

Commander Willis then called on the District Adjutant for the Reading of the District Convention Call.

Commander Willis then called on the District Adjutant for a Roll Call of District Officers and 1st District Posts.

The District Adjutant recorded all District Officers were present, except for the following: Judge Advocate and the Sergeant at Arms.

The District Adjutant recorded the following Posts Present: 25, 66, 92, 105, 161, 210, 243, 248, 258, 304, 351, 488, 878.

Commander Willis called on for the first reading of changes to the District Constitution & By-Laws.

Commander Willis called for a District Credential Report, which was read with the number of votes each Post present had as of March 11, 2020.

Commander Willis called for the reading of the Minutes from the District Convention. Andy Lowen, Post 66 made the motion to suspend reading of the minutes and David Allen, Post 243 seconded the motion. It must be noted the previous minutes had been sent to each Post prior to the Convention for review. The motion was approved.

Commander Willis called for the District Financial Report, and the District Finance Officer, Andy Lowen presented the current District Finances. (Report Attached).

Commander Willis called for the reading of Resolutions. Resolutions were read on Legionnaires seeking a position above District.

Commander Willis then allowed Gene Toohey and Ted Weeks both candidates for State Vice Commander to speak to the District.

Commander Willis then called for the Report of each District Officer. District Adjutant Bobby Baker gave his report (Report Attached).

District Vice Commander Tim Slinkard gave a membership report (Report Attached).

No other District Officers presented a Report.

Commander Willis called for District Committees Reports.

The Training Report was presented by Bobby Baker, Post 92. (Report Attached)

The Hubmaster Report was presented by Andy Lowen, Post 66. (Report Attached)

The Americanism Report was presented by David Allen, Post 243. (Report Attached)

The Oratorical Report was presented by Bobby Baker, Post 92. (Report Attached)

No Baseball Report.

The Scouting Report was presented by Ken Adams, Post 161. (Report Attached)

The Boy State Report was not presented, but each Post was asked to report on the number sponsored, to include Girl State.

Children and Youth Report was incorporated with Americanism.

No Report on Junior Shooting.

The Constitution & By-Laws Report was presented by Bobby Baker, Post 92. (Report Attached)

The Legislative Report was presented by Bobby Baker, Post 92. (Report Attached)

The Public Relations Report was presented by Andy Lowen, Post 66. (Report Attached)

The SAL Report was presented by Chad Roden, Post 243(No written Report)

The ALR Report was presented by Andy Lowen, Post 66. (Report Attached)

The National Security Report was presented by Andy Lowen Post 66. (Report Attached).

The Webmaster Report which was prepared by Keith Brown, Post 30, but was presented by the District Adjutant. (Report Attached)

Bobby Baker, Post 92 then made the motion to suspend having the Post Reports so as to expedite time. Dennis Koch, Post 351 seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Commander Willis then asked for a motion to approve all reports. John Cooper, Post 304 made the motion to approve the reports and Dennis Koch, Post 351 seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Commander Willis then presented the following District Awards:

The "Durrell Stevens" Americanism Award was presented to Mt. Vernon Post 243.

The District Traveling Membership Award to the Post with the Highest Membership at time of the Convention was presented to Morris County Post 92, with a goal of 116.28%.

The District Award for the Post with most members attending went to Marshall Post 878.

The District Award for the "Oldest Legionnaire" attending went to Stanford Brantley Post 304.

The District Award for the “Longest Tenure” Legionnaire attending went to Stanford Brantley, Post 304.

The District Award for the “Youngest Legionnaire” attending went to Cody Cummings, Post 161.

Commander Willis then presented Certificates of Appreciation to the following Posts for achieving goal or higher, Post 66, 92, 161. Posts 30 and 199 were also mentioned but not in attendance.

Commander Willis then presented to Dan Odom, Commander Post 488, the Host Post Resolution and Certificate of Appreciation.

OLD BUSINESS:

Commander Willis stated the District Constitution & By-Laws approved at the Fall Convention were approved by State.

NEW BUSINESS:

Commander Willis then presented a request for the approval to have an additional name on the District Chase Bank Account. This request was made in a motion by John Cooper, Post 304 and seconded by Jerry Porter, Post 258. Discussion was currently only one District member is on the Chase account, Andy Lowen the District Finance Officer and discussions with Department are on going to include a second name. It was determined a second name from the District is needed, because of the length of time it took to establish Andy on the account after last election. Also, currently Department would only allow one name, but the District wants to be prepared if a second will be able to be added. The motion was approved.

Bobby Baker, Post 92 made the motion to change the eligibility to the District Awards on the District Awards SOP, to limit the number of times in succession a member could receive each award. David Allen, Post 243 seconded he motion. Discussion was lengthy and after several comments against the motion. Bobby Baker withdrew the motion and David Allen agreed too.

The Reading of the District Constitution and By-Laws change was presented as a motion by Bobby Baker, Post 92 and seconded by Andy Lowen, Post 66. Discussion was this would clarify current language as to how funds after expenses at a District Convention would be distributed.

The motion was approved.

Bill Barton, Post 488 then brought up a motion to allow all World War II and Korean War Members be excused from paying Registration for a District Convention. Rodney Fuller, Post 488 seconded the motion. It was stated this would have to be added as a change to the District Constitution and By-Laws. Also, it will make paying all bills for a District Convention a little more difficult. The consensus was to do it anyway. A vote was taken and it was favorably approved.

Commander Willis asked for nominations to represent the District as a Delegate to the National Convention. There were no nominations.

Commander Willis asked for volunteers to fill the Department Convention Committee Meetings as a District Representative.

The following agreed to be listed –

Americanism – David Allen Post 243

Constitution & By-Laws – Bobby Baker Post 92

Credentials & Rules – Chad Roden Post 243

Legislative – Bobby Baker Post 92

MOPAC – David Allen Post 243

National Security – Andy Lowen Post 66

P/R & Pubs – Andy Lowen Post 66

VA & R – Glenn Willis Post 243

Commander Willis then spoke of a plan to have a District Fund set-up separate from the regular account, for the purpose of having funds available to assist Veterans not eligible for any other current Legion Assistance. Discussion was lengthy as to how and where it was to be handled. A motion was made to table so more information could be provided in a specific report by Ken Adams Post 161, and John Cooper seconded the motion. This Plan was tabled for the next District Meeting so more information could be provided.

Commander Willis asked for Posts to volunteer to be a host for the District Membership Tour/Mini-DEC's for 2020.

Group 1 – 351

Group 3 - 161

Group 2 – 66

Group 4 - 878

Commander Willis called on for the Convention City Report. Bobby Baker, Post 92 presented the following Posts will host the District Conventions:

Fall, 2020 – Hooks Post 248 date 10/3

Spring, 2021 – New Boston Post 488 date 3/13/21

Mike Steward, Post 258 made the motion to accept and Andy Lowen Post 66 seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Good of the Legion:

Commander Willis stated several items of interest to the membership. Membership Teams, Training.

Community Resource Fair at the Region 8 Education Center April 1

Division Convention May 16 Post 243

District Training May 30, info will be sent out

Department Convention in Austin July 8-12

District Mini-DEC's

District Fall Convention Oct 3

Commander Willis called on the District Chaplain for the Benediction.

Commander Willis called on Andy Lowen to retire the POW/MIA cover.

Commander Willis called for the retirement of the Colors.

Commander Willis then adjourned the Convention.

FOR GOD AND COUNTRY

BOBBY BAKER
FIRST DISTRICT ADJUTANT

GLENN WILLIS
DISTRICT COMMANDER