



Sons of The American Legion
Detachment of Colorado
Meeting Minutes
Detachment Executive Committee
August 1, 2020

Salute: Commander Nick Arceo

Opening Prayer: Harry Ciruli

POW/MIA Ceremony: Commander Nick Arceo

Blue Star Banner: Commander Nick Arceo

Pledge of Allegiance: Commander Nick Arceo

Preamble: Pete Sierminski

Meeting called to order at: 10:10 AM

Roll Call of Officers:

NEC/Adjutant	Scott Garrett (23)	
Alt NEC	Ken Yanke (111)	Excused
Commander	Nick Arceo (103)	
Sr. Vice Commander	Robert Jones (28)	Absent
Jr. Vice Commander	Walter Weld (1)	
Jr. Vice Commander	Steve Kidd (1985)	Excused
Finance	Jim Gelwicks (54)	
Asst Finance	Rick Baldessari (21)	Excused
Chaplain	vacant	
Historian	vacant	
Sergeant-at-Arms	Teddy Kuntz (1985)	Absent
Sgt-at-Arms Emeritus	Ken Wederski (23)	Excused
Judge Advocate	Richard Humphrey (23)	
Detachment Advisor	Richard Humphrey (23)	
Voting PDC	Mike Moss (21)	Excused
Voting PDC	Mike Kirschner (2)	Absent

Roll Call - Past Detachment Commanders Present

Jim Gelwicks	Scott Garrett	Pete Sierminski
Jim Gaddis	J.R. Kent	

Roll Call – Squadrons Present

1 17 23 32 54 103 211 1992

Distinguished Guests: Past National Vice Commander Pete Sierminski (PNASAA), Past Dept. Commanders Richard Humphrey, Doug Wooddell

Reading of Minutes: Motion to accept April 4, 2020 Minutes as written. 1st Jim Gaddis, 2nd JR Kent, Passed.

Correspondence: Six thank-you letters from Child Welfare Foundation for \$500.00 total. One thank you from Rocky Mt Hyperbaric Association. Donation requests from Wounded Warrior Project (2x), World Wildlife Fund, Alzheimer's Association (2x), Volunteers of America, Rocky Mt Hyperbaric Association, and USO (6x). Thank you letter from NVC Chris Cook. Letter of introduction from Rudy Bustos, Commander, Squadron #151.

Vice Commander Reports: No reports

Committee Reports:

Membership: 2020 membership is currently at 2,794, 84.41% of National's goal. 2021 is at 244, with 65+ ready for transmittal.

Permanent Membership Jim Gelwicks:

For 2021, 200 Permanent Members dues were paid in July. November DEC authorized \$1,188 transfers from Detachment Permanent Member funds during 2020. (For the two additional Permanent Members after October 2019, their \$40 fees covered 2021 national dues totaling \$10.) Since the 2021 membership dues for Detachment's Permanent Members are paid, all future Permanent Membership Applications and payments must conform to the 2021 dues schedule.

\$50,059.45 in Permanent Membership Funds will be invested in the Vanguard Balanced Index Institutional Fund (roughly 60% stocks and 40% bonds). The value of the fund will go up and down. Expect a significantly greater return than CDs after a three to five period. At the DEC we plan to sign the paper work by Rick Baldessari, Scott Garrett, Jim Gelwicks, and one from Department. The latter is required to meet National standards

The Bellco Permanent Membership accounts are closed and deposited with Wells Fargo. The early withdrawal penalty was \$254.60. Detachment covered the charge as a banking expense. The Permanent Membership account was not charged.

QuickBooks, according to the internet, can not handle investment financial instruments, like stocks, bonds or mutual funds. I believe I figured a way to enter information that will allow an accountant to properly report our activity and for it to appear correctly in our Financial Statements. I will continue to work as Finance Officer until entering Permanent Membership information works or the internet is right. Detachment's Permanent Membership Policy was last updated in 2011, I will review and make recommendations before resigning as Finance Officer. Regardless, I hope to continue as a member of the PM committee after finishing my service as Detachment Finance Officer.

Finance Committee Jim Gelwicks:

The current 2020 budget revenue shortfall is <\$889>. \$400 of that amount is from no convention delegate fees. Not an issue given the non use of CWF Host (\$400) and National Convention (\$4,000) monies.

The financial summary for Department prepared by outside accountants is complete and no adjustments made by auditor. It was a “clean” review.

FYI Designated Funds include:

\$ 154.84	Jr Shooting
\$ 825.00	Bears for Children’s Hospital (DEC guidance requested)
\$1,186.31	VAR money (DEC guidance, Save or Donate portion)

\$1,432.72 is restricted by donors for various Legion charities. Donations are combined with Detachment budget and DEC voted donations. Normally done at Convention. Small donations typically rolled forward until a larger amount available. Example, currently there are \$3 and \$21 donor donations for different charities.

Restricted Asset designated as “Release July 1” is surplus from 2019. Requires a Convention vote and will be distributed during next Detachment Convention. If the DEC wishes to reassign 2020 Unrestricted Budget expense lines, it can be done by majority vote. Note: recommendation is to only reallocate up to \$4,500 currently budgeted for National Convention and Washington Conference. Or wait for 2020 surplus allocation to be combined with 2019 for next convention.

Detachment Capital Expenditures subject to depreciation: Camera, Range, Trailer
All Detachment owned equipment will be fully depreciated by September 2020. The lines will disappear until new capital expenditures are made (\$350 and up).

Detachment per diem for attending Fall NEC, if held, is \$645.

I am requesting that Rick Baldessari and I review Detachment’s Financial Policy during the transition for possible recommendations for changes. In particular: updating the dual signatures requirement, eliminating the DEC stipend, update VAR fund procedures, updating travel budgeting, reviewing restricted account categories, and other items arising during the transition.

COVID interfered with the transition to a new Finance Officer, I will continue until there is a good transition. Face to Face time is required to pass everything on.

I hope to continue as a member of the Finance committee after finishing my service as Detachment Finance Officer.

VA&R: Commander Nick reported that the Aurora VA hospital is still not allowing volunteers access due to COVID-19.

Americanism:

JR Shooting:

Oratorical: The National Oratorical contest was cancelled. Award money was given to those who would have competed.

Boys State: No information on 2021 event available.

Baseball: 2020 season cancelled.

Children & Youth Pete Sierminski: CWF is currently at \$12,062.00 nationally. Colorado has not donated yet this year. No information at this time on Colorado Veterans Kids Fund,.

Legislative: vacant

Public Relations Ken Yanke: No report

Detachment Advisor Richard Humphrey: No report.

NEC Scott Garrett: National is considering Fall NEC to be limited in attendance, with those not wishing to travel to attend electronically. This is in the earliest of planning. After much confusion, 2020 membership dues submitted in paper form remains at \$2.00 per capita. 2021 dues are \$5.00 regardless of form of submittal.

Motion to accept reports. 1st Doug Woodell. 2nd Scott Hastie. Passed.

Unfinished Business:

- 1) Motion regarding Vanguard signatories: The Sons of The American Legion Detachment of Colorado authorizes Finance Officer James M. Gelwicks, Finance Committee Member Louis R. Baldessari and Adjutant Jay Scott Garrett to serve as authorized signatories to conduct transactions on the Detachment's Vanguard accounts. 1st, Jim Gelwicks. 2nd JR Kent. No discussion. Passed.
- 2) Discussion of using electronic transfer of funds from Vanguard Fund to Wells Fargo checking account. No objections.
- 3) As 2020 CWF Banquet and June Convention were cancelled, and no vote taken on 2021 CWF Banquet location, motion was made to offer the 2021 location to Squadron #209, who would have hosted the 2020 event. 1st JR Kent. 2nd Jim Gaddis. Passed. Squadron has until the September 10, 2020 conference call to respond.

New Business:

- 1) Disposition of inactive squadron charters. Much discussion. Commander Nick and Adjutant Scott will determine which squadrons need to be contacted regarding revitalization or other assistance. Squadrons not wishing to revitalize may be asked to return their charters to Department.
- 2) Commander Nick's Mission statement for 2020-21 is "Carry on for God and Country. His project will remain CWF. Mission statement will be sent to the adjutant for posting to the website.
- 3) November Awards Banquet. It is likely that the event will be cancelled. Certificates are easily mailed. Motion to eliminate any plaques for this year due to cost of mailing. 1st Pete Sierminski. 2nd Jim Gelwicks. Passed.
- 4) Jim Gaddis brought up that there might be a membership issue at Post/Squadron #119 Estes Park regarding membership in another organization. More data needed.
- 5) Commander Nick appointed Harry Ciruli as Detachment Chaplain. Motion to approve appointment. 1st Jim Gelwicks. 2nd Pete Sierminski. Passed.
- 6) Jim Gelwicks motioned to reallocate \$4,000.00 from 2020 National Convention budget line with \$2,000.00 going to CWF, and \$2,000.00 going to Colorado Veterans Kids Fund.

Special Presentations: None

Good of the Sons:

- 1) Steve Kidd needs to be contacted regarding the viability of holding the November DEC meeting in Firestone. Jim Gelwicks said that the meeting is when the 2021 Budget is approved. Pete

Sierminski offered Post #32 Longmont as an alternative. Department HQ or conference call are also alternative options.

- 2) Doug Wooddell advised that a reception would be held at 1:00 PM to honor Nora Humphrey, wife of Richard.
- 3) JR Kent thanked those who had sent get well cards to his wife, Wendy, following her surgery.

Tentatively, the next meeting will be Saturday, November 21, 20, time TBD, Post #1985, 870 1st St., Firestone, CO 80520

Closing Prayer: Chaplain Harry Ciruli

Closing – Commander Nick Arceo

Retirement of the POW/MIA apron

Salute

Meeting adjourned at 11:45 AM.