

American Legion Family



American Legion 21st District

Mailing: Adjutant 2019-2020

P.O. Box 422

Bandera, Texas 78003

210-788-9160

<http://www.amlegdistrict.us>

amltxdistrict21@gmail.com

Department of Texas American Legion 21st District, 4th Division Minutes – Fall 21st District Executive Committee Meeting October 19, 2019 – Bandera, TX

Opening: A proper opening ceremony was completed and Commander Bess convened the meeting at 9:05 a.m. *Attachment 1* is the agenda for the District Executive Committee (DEC) meeting. Per *Attachment 2*, the participant roster, a quorum was present with 13 of 30 Posts in attendance.

Minutes: Adjutant Junker read the Minutes from the 21st District Convention held on March 23-24, 2019 (*Attachment 3*): reading was prefaced with the fact of completion and signature on July 12, 2019. George McHorse, Post 208, ^{moved to} approved the minutes and Art Nichols, Post 410, provided the second, followed by unanimous approval.

Finance: Finance Officer Downing read the 21st District checking account balance as \$10,823.58. BJ Seider, Post 487, moved to accept the finance report as read subject to audit and Will Evans, Post 410, provided the second; motion carried unanimous.

Membership: Commander Bess provided current statistics on the 21st District and Vice Commander, Jose Saucedo, will present additional recommendations and ideas to increase and retain membership during his subsequent presentation.

Commander's Remarks: Commander Bess provided the results of the Department Executive Committee held in Austin September 27-29, 2019.

OLD BUSINESS

Llano Disaster Relief Funding: Although not recorded in any prior 21st District meeting minutes, discussion ensued regarding a 21st District commitment made to Llano Post 370 to provide financial assistance to speed their recovery from flood damage. Vinny Mifsud, Post 410, moved that the 21st District send \$350 to Llano Post 370, for recovery from flood damage. Kirstin Stee, Post 410, provided the second and the motion carried unanimous.

Oratorical Contest: Commander Bess asked that all present assist in identifying an Oratorical Contest Chairperson. No one were immediately identified.

NEW BUSINESS

21st District Constitution & By-Laws (C & BL): The 21st District C & BL require an update due to National, Department and Auxiliary changes and correction of several passages (e.g. Board of Trustees). Tom Kral, Staff Judge Advocate, will distribute his recommendations for change and solicit additional corrections and input from each post. Tom Kral moved that a DRAFT 21st District C & BL be distributed for review to all 21st District posts NLT November 1, 2019, and that electronic routing and executive committee voting be used to obtain approval/disapproval NLT January 1, 2019. Kristin Stee provided that second and the motion carried unanimous.

21st District Officer Covers: John Quigley, Post 26, moved that the 21st District pay half the cost of 21st District covers: George McHorse, Post 208, provided the second and the motion carried unanimous.

Future District Meetings: James LaFosse, Post 237, moved that the Bert Fleming Post 237, Junction, Texas, host the 2020 Fall DEC and the 2021 21st District Convention. Will Evans, Post 410, provide the second and the motion carried unanimous.

Resolutions: "Resolution of Endorsement Bill J. Seider for the Office of Division Commander, 4th Division, Department of Texas", at *Attachment 4* was read. John Quigley moved to endorse the resolution and Sandra Van Zant provided the second. The motion carried.

Service Officer Issue: The issues of "cross accreditation" and "limited access to veteran information" were raised. A Service Officer cannot access the VA records for veterans who have designated a specific Service Organization as the "Power of Attorney". Dennis Birchall, Post 157, will write a resolution for the 21st District Convention to recommend a solution.

Presentations: Per the attached agenda, training was provided as shown with significant feedback, ideas and discussion from the attendees.

Discussion Results:

- 1) Question arose about where to find additional information on American Legion Travel Insurance. Several websites and information were provided.
- 2) Retention vs. Closure: A future agenda item will be the "consolidation of posts" vs. the example of Uvalde to Brackettville solution.
- 3) MyLegion.org does not allow a "Recruiter" to be entered when using the on-line application
- 4) Additional information should be distributed regarding the opportunity for "expired" members to "buy back years",
- 5) Input was provided on guest speakers and topics for the March Convention.
- 6) Fundraising ideas were exchanged: e.g. Mexican potluck, American Legion volunteers host beer booth for community celebrations, music fest, and TVC grant opportunities.
- 7) A cost avoidance recommendation was mentioned: to establish post websites within the sponsorship of the District to save individual website expense

Commander's Remarks: Commander Bess provided the "PREAMBLE" presentation from the September Department Executive Committee meeting by Former Commander, John Brennan. He urged attendees to continue their work toward 100% by the end of the year to qualify for monetary awards and congratulated the work to date as the 21st District is near 62% of goal. He expressed appreciation to the host post and urged posts to identify meetings and events they would like him to attend or participate. The 21st District Convention will be held at Bandera Post 157 March 21-22, 2020.

Closing: There being no additional business, proper closing honors were rendered and the meeting closed at 3:07 p.m.

ATTACHMENTS:

- 1 - AGENDA
- 2 - ATTENDEES
- 3 - MINUTES, 21ST DISTRICT CONVENTION, MARCH 23-24, 2019
- 4 - RESOLUTION FOR ENDORSEMENT



WILLIAM J. BESS
COMMANDER
21ST DISTRICT



SUSAN L. JUNKER
ADJUTANT
21ST DISTRICT