



**21st District
Department of Texas**

**Minutes of District Convention Business Meeting 10 March 2024
Clarion Hotel, San Angelo TX**

1. Convention Business Meeting Opening: Commander Meurer opened the convention at 8:45 A.M. with the associated ceremonies. Roll Call was conducted with 15 Posts represented.

2. Introduction of Guests: The Following Guests were welcomed and introduced:

- a. Department Adjutant, Bill West
- b. Department Historian, Shirley Platt
- c. Department Vice Commander 4th Division, Lewis Field
- d. Past Department Vice Commander, Tom Marty

3. Host Post Welcome: Commander, Kristy Young, Post 572 Commander, welcomed the delegates and guests to San Angelo on behalf of the 139 members of the post.

4. Minutes: Adjutant Carl Frentz read the minutes of the March 18, 2023 convention in Kerrville, Texas. Motion to accept the minutes as read by Hank Rose, Post 572 and 2nd by Bee Rose, Post 572. District Vice Commander Don Gray requested a correction to list Boerne Post to 313 and not 303. Motion

carried.

5. District Commander: Commander Meurer briefly discussed the Mid-Winter Department meeting in Austin with the primary concern being the increase of the portion of dues paid to National to \$40. He stated it was urgent that the Post Data report be completed by all posts to ensure that their dues are reflected as at least \$40 or the remainder will be coming out of their own funding. At this time Commander Meurer granted time to candidates seeking Department positions to give a short presentation on why they should be elected.

6. Candidates for Office Campaign Addresses:

a. Lewis Field, Department Vice Commander 4th Division, introduced Tom Marty as a candidate for Department Commander

b. Don Gray, District Vice Commander, introduced Shirley Platt for re-election to Department Historian

7. District Vice Commander: Don Gray was asked to address the meeting and explain why everyone should be at the next District Convention. After emphasizing the importance of attending the meeting, he gave personal thanks to Commander Meurer for planning and setting up a great convention.

8. Delegates to National Convention. Commander Meurer advised that we needed to select delegates and alternates to the National Convention in New Orleans from Aug 23rd to 30th 2024. Commander Meurer stated he would like to attend. Motion by Justin Rogers Post 572, 2nd by Hank Rose Post 572 to send Meurer as the primary delegate. Motion Carried. Volunteers for alternate delegates were Veronica Garcia Post 208 and Bee Rose, Post 572. Motion to accept by Kyle Mantel Post 572, 2nd by Rufus Maxfield, Post 208. Motion Carried.

9. Committee Reports: Commander Meurer declared a 15 minute break to allow the resolution committee a chance to review resolutions that had been submitted. Meeting resumed at 9:30 and the committee reported on five Resolutions

1. Resolution to establish a program to recognize and honor all veterans that served in the War on Terror. Motion to approve by Jesse Hutchison Post 308, 2nd by Justin Rogers Post 572. Motion carried.

2. Resolution for Thomas Marty to run for Department Commander.

3. Resolution for Gary Sanders for Department Treasurer.

4. Resolution from Temple Post 133 for Shirley Plott as Department Historian.

Motion to accept the report by Kristie Young, Post 572, 2nd by Jessie Hutchison,

Post 308. Motion carried.

5. Resolution from Post 208 for George McHorse for Department Commander 4th Division.

Motion to accept the Resoultion Committee report by Kristie Young, Post 572, 2nd by Jessie Hutchison, Post 308. Motion carried.

10. Post Reports:

Post 8 still in recovery mode from almost folding. Now at 108% and looking to expand more. Will award 4 \$750 scholarships to local students.

Post 196 emerged from almost folding to a strong position with 117% membership. Provided office space to the local County Veterans rep to help serve the veteran community. Reached out to a care facility that has veterans and help with visitations and even held a post meeting at the facility. Will host a youth Claybird shoot, raffled off a M1 Garand rifle and hosted an area Suicide prevention event. They also have a monthly broadcast on a local radio station.

Post 208 is at 105% membership and recently added to the Post home with new doors and added 14 sweepstakes machines to the canteen. Project was completed without any additional financing. Also sponsored 8 Boys State candidates.

Post 308 is working reviving the post and is currently at 86% of membership.

Post 370 Revitalized past members and currently at 134%. Building was flooded with water and mud several years ago but they have recovered and they are continuing on.

Post 437 using their building that was donated in 1962 but they are using it for many events including the upcoming Eclipse event with parking and viewing opportunities. Hosts Chili cookoffs and other events. Does a hamburger and Hot Dog nights that is bringing in some additional funds.

Post 479 currently at 96% membership and have recently increased their female veteran participation. Hosts a Cinco de Mayo event each year to earn funds and enabled them to give out 4 \$1500 scholarships to local students. Works closely with their Auxiliary and has great community support. Hosted their first Boys State candidate in several years.

Post 489 currently at 95% with 21 members. Participated in the Wreaths across America by posting wreaths on Veterans graves in 7 different cemeteries across the county.

Post 572 currently at 96% membership and participated in a city-wide Flag Day celebration with the local Elks Lodge, performed a flag retirement for the Fire Academy on Goodfellow AFB, conducted a 9-11 car show for Patriots Day, participated in the Veterans Day Parade in San Angelo and later in the day in the initial Veterans Parade in Christoval. We also raised over \$1200 for the

Salvation Army by ringing the bell on a Saturday in December. Served as Host Post for this convention. Will have our 4th annual Memorial Golf Tournament in May and are beginning to look for a post home building.

Post 583 recovering from being closed. Previous leadership had locked their building, shut off utilities, forced the auxiliary to leave the building and were actively seeking to dispose of property and closing of the post. Concerned member Brent Beadle sought assistance from the district leadership and got the post reestablished. The building is a historic building (1890) and was used as the voting spot for the city. The post is reestablished, the building refurbished and the auxiliary invited back. Upon completion of the report the audience gave a standing ovation.

At his time the Commander declared a 10-minute recess.

11. Finance Report: In the absence of the Finance Officer the District Adjutant read the Finance report. The finance report was read with a balance of \$9271.12 with no transaction. Discussion noted that the minutes read earlier showed a balance the previous convention of \$9815.00. which showed there should have been transactions. With the absence of the Finance Officer, there was no explanation of the difference in balances. Motion of no confidence and removal of the current Finance Officer was made by Kyle Mantel, Post 572 and 2nd by Justin Rogers, Post 572. Motion was put to a roll call vote from each post present with result being a total of 49 votes for a unanimous approval of the motion.

Motion then made to appoint Bill Yeager of Post 196 as the new Finance officer, by Jose Saucedo, Post 479, 2nd by Kyle Mantel, Post 572 and motion carried.

State of the District: Membership is good, and all posts are encouraged to hit the 100% membership goal. Currently the district is 78 short to meet the 100% goal.

12. Good of the Order: Thomas McCarty, Post 308 mentioned that the VA Home Aide program allows aides to come to the residence for up to 40 hours a week.

Post 308 also issued a challenge to all post to donate up to \$100 to the Tunnel to Towers. Commander Meurer reported that Post 572 had already met the challenge. Post 208 announced that they are dedicating \$1000 to the program.

13. Host post for 2025: Commander Meurer asked for a volunteer post to host the 2025 District Convention. Post 208 volunteered to be the host and was

accepted by the group.

14. Closing. Commander Meurer made closing comments by thanking Post 572 for their efforts in providing an outstanding convention. Post 572 Commander Kristy Young thanked everyone for coming and wished them safe travels back home.

Convention was adjourned at 1115.

Attachments:

1. Convention Agenda
2. Finance Report
3. Resolutions



Jeff Meurer

Commander, 21st District



Carl Frenz

Adjutant, 21st District