



Department Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
October 4, 2020
Santiam Post 51, Lebanon, Oregon
8:00 a.m.

Call to order
Salute to Colors
Opening Prayer

Department Commander Steve Adams

POW/MIA Ceremony
Pledge of Allegiance
Preamble
Roll Call
Reading of the previous minutes
Introductions of Department Officers
Reports

Department Commanders Report	Commander Steve Adams
District Reports	
1 st Vice Commander	Don Weber
2 nd Vice Membership	Larry Wittmayer
Finance Committee Report	PDC Bob Huff
Permanent Finance Report	Kevin Owens
Foundation Report	Kevin Owens
Service Officer Report	Ed Van Dyke
Resolutions (2)	SAL Jon Marsh
NEC Report	Andy Millar

Department Standing Commission Reports

Americanism	Sid Carter
Children and Youth	
National Security	
Boys State	
VA&R Report	JIM Willis
VE& E Report	Bob Huff
POW/MIA Report	
Legion Riders Report	Jon Marsh
Legislative Committee Report	John Lee
Baseball Report	
SAL Report	PDC Jon Marsh
Convention Report	PDC Jon Marsh

New Business
Unfinished Business
Post Charter Actions
Good of the Legion

Roll Call of Officers 2020 – 2021

__ P __	Department Commander	Steve Adams
__ P __	1 st Vice Commander	Don Weber
__ P __	2 nd Vice Commander	Larry Wittmayer
__ A __	Immediate Past Department Commander	Tom Harris
__ P __	Department Adjutant	S. Flynn Phillips
__ P __	National Executive Committeeman	Andy Millar
__ P __	Department Finance Officer	Bob Huff
__ P __	Department Chaplain	Steve Shollenburg
__ P __	Department Historian	Judy Johnston
__ A __	Department Judge Advocate	Jerry Shorey
__ A __	District 1 Commander	Lou Neubecker
__ P __	District 2 Commander	Renee Ohler
__ P __	District 3 Commander	Jerry Patton
__ A __	District 4 Commander	David Applegate
__ P __	District 5 Commander	Lance Trowbridge
__ A __	District 6 Commander	Glenn Bradley
__ P __	District 7 Commander	Terry Brown
__ P __	District 8 Commander	Ed Mathews
__ P __	District 9 Commander	Kevin Owens
__ P __	District 10 Commander	Daniel Burks

Non-Voting Members

__ P __	Alt National Executive Committeeman	Jim Willis corrected
__ P __	Department Sergeant-at-Arms	Phyllis York
__ P __	Department Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms	Ward Allen
__ P __	Department Service Officer	Ed Van Dyke
__ P __	Department Service Officer Assistant	Jody Marsh
__ A __	Department Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms	Mike Morris
__ A __	Department Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms	Steven Mays
__ A __	Department Aide to Commander	William "Bud" Stutheit
__ A __	Department Aide to Commander	Larry Williams

Recorded by Department Adjutant __S. Flynn Phillips Date 10/04/2020

The Commander declared a quorum.

ROLL CALL OF LIVING PAST DEPARTMENT COMMANDERS (2020 - 2021)

	NAME	POST	YEAR
__ A __	Charles D. Bingham	8	1978-79
__ A __	Robert D. Scott	51	1982-83
__ A __	Patsy Nestor	158	1986-87
__ A __	Richard A. Schenfeld	5	1993-94
__ P __	Robert D. Liebenow	6	1996-97
__ A __	Donald M. Epperson	61	1997-98

__ A __	George “Toby” Potter	12	2002-03
__ P __	Charlie Schmidt	63	2004-05
__ A __	Sid Carter	29	2005-06
__ A __	Bernie Healy	158	2006-07
__ P __	Kevin Owens	34	2008-09
__ A __	Jacqueline Collison	34	2010-11
__ P __	Jon Marsh	43	2011-12
__ A __	Bob Huff	15	2012-13
__ A __	Mike Morris	21	2013-14
__ A __	Andy Millar	24	2014-15
__ A __	Mike Jones	67	2015-16
__ P __	Jim Willis	123	2016-17
__ P __	Eugene Hellickson	86	2017-18
__ A __	Tom Harris	158	2018-19

Opening remarks

Commander Steve Adams gave opening remarks. He discussed daylight savings time and didn't want to repeat even one hour. He said it was a terrible year for the Department dealing with COVID and that some areas are still in phase one. He commented on the wildfires hitting Detroit, Mill City, Gates, Lions, Stayton, and particularly District four down south being hit hard. He commented that he saw in print 2400 homes affected. He said we need to keep all those people in our thoughts and prayers, and we need to reach out and assist them. Some Posts have already done that.

Boff Huff read the **Standing Rules** of the DEC since Jerry Shorey. The Department Judge Advocate was not present. He asks that when giving your reports, please summarize, and we have a lot to cover today.

District Reports:

District 1: Lou Neubecker is not present. No Report

District 2: Renee Ohler states Commander, my report is filed in the Book of Reports and I have nothing to add to that.

District 3: Jerry Patton I have only two update reports since the Book of Reports. The first one is the finance officer John Lee wrote a \$500 check to our Oratorical winner where apparently go to the community college and I have an update on Post 133 it will not take very long. Commander Dale Jenkins said that Lord works in mysterious ways. It came down to a draw to keep the post. The draw was broken by the vote by first vice. The (inaudible) almost a minute from the vote by phone rings uses paper [inaudible] talking to me about fixing my post for no money is from the Legion. The only was an office space. In the back, not by trusting him (inaudible), and I met him at the post to talking about what he has to offer. After speaking with him, we decided to go ahead and see what went from there so far.

He has checked out the roof and the black mold problems aside from the leaky roof. He has the crew cleaning, and he stated he has been looking for [inaudible] for quite some time. They say they wanted to help a not-for-profit organization and chose the American Legion because that is what we do for our community. Continued good work and [inaudible] project. He says he would like to see the Sons of the Legion to come in. Well, he has a grip on the project. So, for the gentleman right here was asking, what do you think is already, apparently for grants to sit on says we first thought we're not going to now, we're going to try to have a fundraiser on November 11. time for places to be figured out. Thank you. So, Post 113, get some help, have been reviewing the building [inaudible]. That is all.

District 4: The Commander said **Bob Huff** will give the report for David Applegate. District four, on the book reports we have a lot of updates one, grow 60% on membership, we're still bringing membership. I'll talk about the fire in a minute. But the fire is actually brought some more membership numbers which is good. Jackson County where all the damage took place is in phase one. It was in phase one before the fires it went to phase two for one week and we had another epidemic down there which is continuous on people seeing wearing this thing all the time. Folks, we've only had one day probably in the last three or four weeks that you can even breathe with all the smoke and ash and everything that's coming down. Our meetings were containment the hold meeting, they're all Zoom meetings, they're not meeting in any buildings at all at this point.

We'll talk about the fire. I was actually in the VA I have an office in the VA. The American Legion [inaudible] out there [inaudible] White City. And I got a phone call from Tom Fitzgerald, which most of you know he's one of the district commanders. He's our vice district commander right now. He called me up, and he said, "Have you seen the smoke outside?" And I said, "What are you talking about?" We always say sometimes we're right above California, and we're very

wooded area. I went outside, and that's all you can see the whole sky was black in a matter of a couple hours it actually wiped out two cities. It started north of Ashland. And we had very severe winds that day blowing in one direction. The alarm system, the warning system, which is plugged in down there was nonfunctional because it was actually melting the wires off, the telephone calls, Wi-Fi and everything I know. Our department adjutant tried to call me for two days and couldn't get through because all the towers were down. So, it's an awkward thing the way it's set up. It actually took out 2600 residents of the Alameda fire, the Alameda fire basically started north of Ashland, and it's between the five and old 99. Old 99 wiped out everything. Business those residents by the way, they were seniors' homes there, there were apartment complexes. That's one residence and everybody just had to get in their vehicles and leave.

I know Tom Fitzgerald was burned to the ground. The sheriffs just came through and the Oregon State Police with their speakers going and said get out of the area now. Well, that continued after that. It went all the way up to Medford. People didn't know if their homes were burned down or not. They were marshaling Jackson County Fairgrounds; they were marshaling the Josephine County Fairgrounds. Any place people that had a motor home or something were more for fortunate. People had their cloths on their backs, birth certificates, marriage licenses, driver's licenses, everything was burned up. So, we were part of it. They started merch centers, out of the fairgrounds and at Walmart. I'm president of Southern Oregon Stand Down we have a lot of equipment and that was set up in Walmart, parking lots.

All the people's cars were just melted. It's unbelievable. I moved to the state which green, a lot of water and snow. Where I live, my house is not touched. And I live right out in the woods of the mountains 3000 feet. I watched the fire for three days bunning on the next mountain the wind was [inaudible] the other way. So naturally, my job was to buy water ? property and houses for other families right now [inaudible] we have been Commander, we have Zoom GoToMeeting calls have put a disaster relief team together, which there are several others from around the Department. Terry has got the northern section,

All the people's cars were just melted. It's unbelievable. I moved to the state which green, a lot of water and snow. Where I live, my house is not touched. And I live right out in the woods of the mountains 3000 feet. I watched the fire for three days burning on the next mountain the wind was [inaudible] the other way. So naturally, my job was to buy water property and houses for other families right now [inaudible] we have been Commander, we have Zoom GoToMeeting calls have put a disaster relief team together, which there are several others from around the Department.

Terry has got the northern section; I've got the southern section and at the same time that fire is going on, there was another fire going on, which is out where I live down another 450 buildings, because it's so many ranches and farms out there. I got the call my son's father in-law owns a large ranch out on the highway. It melted the fences. I've never seen fences melted. All the power lines and everything are down. And of course, it's contaminated the water because ash going

through the air its [inaudible]. And lot of you are getting it up here to [inaudible]. The interesting part fire season goes on all through October. And right now, where I live in Jackson County right next to California.

So, we're locked down right now with all the smoke and stuff. So now really our team and I had one of my members working the fairgrounds and I was working to the high schools. In fact, when I leave here on both of ??{Bonanza}, the two families that got burned down, we're working on the NEF deal. At the same time the fires were going on we started having something called arson and they actually got people.

Everybody's denying arson. They got one guy like six fires, he's on a \$4 million bond right now. And in his background, he has arson. So and I know up hear same thing. So anyway, things are calming down. They shut down the fairgrounds got people in temporary areas, a lot of people moving out of state. **The interesting part is I was working with our members post 15 the Commander, the vice commander, both of them got totally burned to the ground.** Okay We have what's happening the insurance companies are down there paying people off. Commander that's my report.

District 5: Lance Trowbridge: It's honor to be here and Steve all this stuff in DEC. It's my first DEC and I really appreciate all the efforts going into putting all this together for the district commanders know a lot of hard work has been put into the documents, book reports and all that information. District five as you know, and 16 posts, and some of them don't even have a commander.

So, I get to work on establishing commanders for three post, Warm Springs, Wamic, Deer Ridge has a commander, but he has a very low percentage rate for membership. I will work on that. We have two Posts that are between 30 and 40% memberships Sherwood country and Mosher working and most people also I was at Mosher on Thursday evening for the meeting and we have posts four posts are between 40 and 50% of membership and they're really close to 50% Bend, The Dalles, Hood River and Maupin are very close to 50%.

Now, and I expect that month of October this will improve quite a bit significantly. There are six posts that are 55% or better in district five. So, if the entire district is that 55% Plus, and so we're continuing to improve our membership. And we'll be working this next three months on legion programs. That's my report.

District 6: Glenn Bradley not present. No report

District 7: Terry Brown My record is in the Book of Reports. I just like to add a little bit to it. I currently have eight posts, although one of them, **which is Navy 101 one to one is still under consideration as back at national to be merged with post 74.** The other seven posts I have two, they're in distress. One because of the Commander is moving away. He's been a commander for more than 15 years and the other one is they just haven't had any meetings or membership. I

have one post, 134 which is F & J Ravin that's made significant improvements in the post. They have a new commander that's taking charge. They have a new finance officer. And so, things are moving for them. They're not out of the woods. They currently have about \$22,000 in outstanding debt. That's immediate debt made some employees the PGE things like that. 18,000 that is payments to the IRS for back taxes.

They filed their taxes for 2018. They have filed 2019, yes, so they're working on it. So, they're working things out. Their building is in under remodels that they need about \$113,000 to do that. Currently they have about \$3,000 in their bank accounts. So, they're significantly short. They were working with Home Depot to try and get them to support them but apparently not available to them. So, they're working for some other organizations that would like to say that Commander is doing an excellent job of getting things going. Our next district meeting is next Saturday, in Gresham at the VFW building which is in Gresham. So hopefully we'll be able to meet and change things around there this weekend.

District 8: Ed Mathews Well in Oregon City we're doing really pretty good for being on level three. Can't seem to get off of that for some reason. **Anyway, we have a flag sale here this weekend the ninth and the 10th in Oregon City at grocery outlet and that's provided us last year, almost \$5,000 money coming in on our program.** And we're looking forward to utilizing those dollars. And we get together for an executive meeting once a month, we can't I don't have a place to be because I close that. So, we need Shari's, make sure that everything is working, right, everybody's doing their job. And we also are putting together the buddy check. We're starting to check all of our members on specifically team five and we put that together and also, we're looking for reups. So, we're getting that done. And we're looking at 50% I hope thanks for the data both for everything and the attention. Thank you.

District 9: Kevin Owens District nine is doing a great job I've visited six out of nine posts in our district. And membership is coming in strong for Renee and I and District four are to the top. We know we have a bunch turned in. Please announce that all our posts on my legion.org which is a great thing It was mission of mine make sure that happened to get people to do the membership.

Got two posts that can't meet because the buildings they needed our government buildings they won't let them meet (?) open that there's some of the members a little older and they don't want to meet. So, we're doing good we have at Oratorical looks like we're going to have two from Canyonville one from Reedsport charter school with child. So, we're working on the programs. My goal this year and their goal is that they want to be 100% by December 31 and I got everybody excited about it. You see what their last step. Last Saturday, our district meeting and I think we got a lot of enthusiasm. So be aware district nine is coming for all you. That's my report.

District 10: Dan Burks We've been pretty busy over there in District 10. I've been running around a lot of different posts, my membership plan that we've been doing and meeting a lot of

new people. Some of you have been here for a while now I sat here and talked about somewhere close. I had no post commanders, I'm proud to say that we swore in two new post commanders for those posts. And in my travels and talking to people, I found a person that has brought an entire team to the Ontario post to train so that they can go back and take over the Vale Post. So, they're going to want to get some experience. So, that's three commanders in the year that we found in there.

We're excited for them and doing with the rest of this stuff going on, I did get ??{correctly} last night, we did take eight full pallets of water up to the firefighters because they are lacking supplies themselves. There's so much going on. Apparently, they just got forgotten. We were able to take one 16-foot cargo trailer full of non-perishable goods and we even had some blankets and some sleeping bags and stuff like that, and they donate too. Some of them didn't either. Beyond that, we had about two weeks to build some funds for the disaster relief, fire relief and we'll present that today [inaudible] as well. Commander that's all I have.

NEC Report: Andy Millar: Since the spring NEC was canceled because of the COVID pandemic. There've been, like no other time in Legion history as the national headquarters travel for all national offices and staff has been at a standstill until this month. **Resolutions have been passed to allow for electronic meetings for the NEC, and the National Commission and committee meetings for the first time in our 101-year history.** We'll have a Zoom virtual National Executive Committee meeting in October. Practice NEC session went well on Zoom last Saturday so we're expecting no problems or hitches. **Virtual meetings, going to be saving the national budget hundreds of thousands of dollars and the while still getting the job of NEC done.**

The national marketing commission of which I'm a member, conducted a virtual mission meeting on Saturday, September 19. This was very informative, very successful meeting. No glitches, nationals have made sure that they covered all the blind spots and done a really good job, **but the marketing commission meeting revealed that the DMS solicitations and membership are up over 5% from this time last year. They've also got some new developments in the non-member donations as a result of new donor development campaign.**

You'll also be hearing more on the new public service announcements and ads on Fox Sports, Fox Business, Fox News Channel and Court TV and it's pretty much ... A pandemic response has been a good positive for membership and non-donor or nonmember donations. That's my report.

First Vice Commander Report: Don Weber, I neglected to put in my report that national conducted some **fantastic membership of recruiting training sessions online. Those sessions are available to view now at any other point in time,** so really encourage you to talk to your post about utilizing that information. I'd like to absolutely recognize the district ten for the way they have gone about revitalizing their posts, finding the new people to take the leadership

positions and get those posts back on track is absolutely the right thing to do. I congratulate you all for doing that. Also like to encourage you to really start working on the programs. We're in a time right now where we need to do the recruiting for most of our programs that are going to occur next year. The programs, we have every faith that they will occur next spring and next summer. But the recruiting that you need to be doing, you need to be doing now when the schools are closed. So, you're going to have to find some alternate ways to find those. So, we work with your post. We want to have some successful programs this year. I know district nine has already been on that. If you have questions, he's got some great ideas on how you can do that. But you really need to start working those programs now and it's going to be different this year. So be thinking about it. So, thank you.

Second Vice Commander Report: Larry Wittmayer, In addition to my Book of Reports, it's been filed. Every person here that's made a report just about use the word membership. It should tell you how important it is our Department. I'm encouraged to hear that DMS is up 5%. I'll be really encouraged to hear that this Department is starting to look through those DMS list and call people.

We did as an update to this fall report, we made the 50% target goal. And we are at 54.614% of making the 55 one in about nine days or less. Rob, you got anything. Have you looked at your TAL this morning? NO. I haven't either. But that's where we're at it looks like. I visited district nine. Really great district meeting. I'm not trying to blow smoke here Kevin, it was a good meeting.

I plan to visit District four via Zoom. Bob: Saturday? Yep, this Saturday. And we did as you ... Well, most of you were here pass out some early incentives that were already achieved for this year's campaign. In fact, I had to come up with **some more incentives to carry us through to the end of the year. And those are district commander incentives guys and they're a white polo shirt for reaching the top district get certain point.** So, at any rate, that's my report commander.

Department Finance Officer Report: Bob Huff, Commander, my record is in the book of reports, but just for information, all here sitting at the table and any of the commission chairs here. This is the DEC budget list, just be for information purposes. This is the year that we have a full budget that went through July 30 and we had a two-month budget which was these two months August and September, **and effective October 1 starts the new budget.** So, as you come to these meetings, we will hand you a sheet each time and that's what we're on a schedule.

Permanent Finance report: Kevin Owens For Permanent finance commission that met on Friday, October 2 at 7:30 before the Boulder Falls Best Western in Lebanon, Oregon. We talked about the code of procedures, we set those Department with **No change.** The **Commission recommends approval and Commander at this time I would like to have my code of**

procedures approved. Bob Huff, **Commander Department Finance Officer second the Motion.**

Commander Steve Adams says, There's been a **motion to approve the code of procedures** for the Permanent Finance Committee. Do I have a second? **Don Weber** department first vice **second the Motion.** We have a motion to approve the code of procedures for the permanent of Finance Committee. Seconded, any discussion? All in favor say aye. Steve Adams: **Motion carries.**

Kevin Owens; We talked about the short tax year, which is over. No big deal, we switched our tax year to make it better for the Department. And **now we're in the new budget year.** So, from now on, we're **October through September 30.** We talked about the budget income expense over (?) for discussing that this time, we had no issues. We need to add a change, our constitution bylaws, as you know, the pandemic we didn't have the department convention, and only a budget could be to be passed at a department convention. So, we **write a resolution** to provide, which I hope we never have to again, way to pass a budget without a convention. So, that'll be worked on. Betty Fish-Ferguson's going to take that task on, and we'll have a report the next DEC.

We talked about the **parking lot.** This was an issue that's been going on for a year about repainting it. This is really not our problem, other than we provide the money, we're going to deal with the A&A commission. That's their responsibility. So, Andy, is the vice chairman, please get on that this is the year that we could do it. With the pandemic, our budget is going to be full. And we want to get some of the stuff we need it done while we have the opportunity, because as you know, membership is the lifeblood of this organization and we want to defend you grow up and we're showing that, but trends say a lot so let's keep that membership coming.

We also received the spreadsheet from the department adjutant with the deductions for the policy that says, "If you don't do articles or certain things, you're going to get reduced." We'll be reviewing those deductions. If you feel that you've been wrong, please let us know. Our intent is not to cheat you out of your money and your budget, but the intent is for you to do your job. So if you're supposed to write an article, you have a commission or committee, and you're the chairman, you have to write an article or you're going to lose money out of your budget. So, you know the policy for some make this an issue. Do what you're supposed to do. You took the job, you took an obligation, please do your job. Because we will take the money because it's department money just remember just because you have a budget the money all still belongs to the Department. So, let's not talk about this anymore really. Let's make that a mute conversation.

We had a request to the IT chair **Gene Hellickson** past department commander who **presented a proposal for a new mic system.** As you can see, we got cords running everywhere. The stuff's heavy, it gets dirty, your hands get dirty. You got it. This mic is stupid. You got to hold it. You turn, your head you can hear the Commander. So, we presented costs for **1900 dollars to buy a**

new mic system is wireless. So, we're going to have mics for everybody up here all voting members and the Commander will have a mic on his lapel he could turn his head around 360 you'll hear. So, we're going to take **that money out of the computer maintenance program support fund**, so there's no resolution needed. So, Flynn and get with your IT Chairman to get that done.

The next topic was a **budget request** by **District commander Terry Brown**. His district commander in the previous year did not submit a budget. Therefore, he was a zero budget. He requested \$1,000 **we're asking the DEC for a vote to approve his expenditures**. We didn't really have time to write a resolution and we will have a resolution and as soon as it is written we will send it to DEC or send an adjutant he'll send it out to DEC. **So, it's done but we request approval of his budget of \$1,000**. I'm not going to make a motion because I'm on the Finance Committee.

Steve: I will entertain a **motion to** approve the budget for district seven, the requesting for \$1,000 do I hear the Motion?

Don Weber: Commander, Department first vice commander **I moved to approve \$1,000 budget for the district seven Commander. Jerry Patton seconds it.**

Steve: I have a **motion to approve the request for budget for district seven** and \$1,000. Any discussion? If none. All in favor say Aye. **Group Aye. Steve: Those opposed? Motion carries.**

Kevin Owens: I can tell you there's going to be another resolution coming from district six again the district sixth matter fails to submit a budget. So, what a waste of time because people fail to do their job. So, that's a hint. We gave it out in January. We'll do it again next year. Commander. So that's the end of the finance.

Foundation Report: Kevin Owens Foundation met at 8:43 PM at the Boulder Falls Best Western [inaudible] people president Kevin Owens president Steve Adams, our department commander Don Weber first vice Charlie Schmidt, past national commander Rob Liebenow pass department commander, [inaudible] national Commander [inaudible] Bob Huff finance officer pass department commander, Andy Millar NEC pass department commander and our secretary adjutant Flynn Phillips.

We discussed the in last meeting we approved those. We had an update from Cory Brockmann about our fundraiser that we had last year the foundation we raised 1590 dollars. Cory did a great job, great job, put a lot of effort into that. He reported the two districts turning their tickets I would be ashamed. I would be ashamed if I was a district that didn't sell a ticket. This is your foundation. This doesn't belong to us. Its yours. We're raising money for your programs not

ours. To take note we asked you to do something 100 tickets in a district that isn't a lot of tickets. That isn't maybe in his district. In my district that's a lot of money but I'm not going to tell you district one in their views, they still they sold on it. It's no big deal.

So, when we asked you to do a raffle stop because we want to pick on anybody we want you to raise money for our foundation now, your post programs we got over \$20,000 unrestricted funds. When you have a program and your posts, you want your short some money that's what we're here for. So please, please be cognizant that this foundation to support your posts. So, let's do a little better next year we're not going to do a raffle we are going to do some different stuff so I'm taking money right now for the foundation I'm five bucks.

There we discuss a very important issue and that's these wildfires **the Commander** got on the stick right away and decided we need to do something to help the folks in our organization. And we so **he wanted to create a fund that was called the Wildfire Disaster Support Fund** I guess it was the end. And so, we started raising money. And the more I thought about it after we got to going and did one thing it strapped the funds to be for wildfires.

That means it can't be used for anything else. So, we talked about it. And we took the vote to **change the fund to the disaster relief fund** within the foundation which is a separate earmark fund like Boys State. So we're going to write a letter to anybody that's been in duration to make sure that there's no hard feeling or they know that money is going to be used for what it's intended to be used. So, we don't have a lot of donations so it's pretty simple. So, we're going to change the name to **Disaster Relief Fund**. So, **if you're going to give a check, and you want to earmark it. Please mark it for Disaster Relief Fund. Made out to the Oregon American Legion Foundation.**

So please continue to do your thing or to donate. Bob Huff gave a [inaudible] report on the relief in southern Oregon, have you heard the report? I'm saddened by what happened to his town [inaudible] I've been down there. I just can't believe they're gone. Just like that. When the World Trade Center [inaudible] New York right across Governors Island. I seen those towers every day and I'm like, oh shit they fell down. I couldn't believe it. So, think about those falls even if they're not veterans, they are fellow Americans, so please keep them in your prayers. I'm trying to go through [inaudible] Flynn.

Kevin Owens, Okay, so we had a **motion, make the fund**. And then there was another issue. The issue was the Auxiliary has been donating to our program. Well, the Auxiliary is not a Legion program. Auxiliary is on their own (inaudible) Even though support organization, they're their own entity. That the question came about SAL but SAL is a program of us. So, they're us. So, we canvas a way, figure out how we're going to get them involved. So, **Motion** was made and seconded to allow the Auxiliary to be part of the Oregon family and that takes approval of DEC to become a part. So, Commander I would like a motion see. **That Motion should have the disaster relief fund be a program of the American Legion** foundation accessible to the

American Legion family. That would be the **Motion**. I'm not going to make the Motion. I'm excluding myself.

Andy Millar I also **moved**. Steve Adams I also **move** to **make the disaster relief fund a family fund open to Auxiliary and Sons American legion**. Dan Burks, **I Seconded**.

Steve Adams, We have a **motion** to **the disaster relief is opened to the family, which is Legion, Auxiliary and the Sons and relief funds for disaster relief**. I have a **motion any second**. Any discussion? If none, all in favor, say aye. **Group says Aye**, Those opposed ? **Motion carries**.

Kevin Owens , on behalf of District nine. At our district meeting, we gave a check. There's a check for **\$500 the disaster relief fund** and I can't convince you guys we'll put that in the minutes by the way. I can't complain to all of you about the foundation. If I don't give you here by check **my annual check for 100 bucks**. I challenged all the members on the board for 100 bucks. I challenge all of you put it wherever you think you can give. It's an important fund someday that you might need that money. So just remember that's my report.

Andy Millar says he will I will donate the American Legion post 24. My post **\$500 for** general funds so they can use it for anything. To the American Oregon American Legion foundation. Bob Huff says Just as a caveat, if you give me money or check, make sure you have a receipt when you leave here.

2nd Vice Commander Larry Wittmayer Post 65 Donated \$1000.00 towards the Disaster relief.

District 10 Commander Dan Burks presents a check for \$1000.00 for the Foundation.

PNC Charlie Schmidt states the largest post in the largest county in Oregon Donates \$250.00

PDC John Marsh on behalf of Post 99, Lou Neubecker from Post 99 has donated \$1000.00.

PNC Charlie Schmidt asks for the floor one more time. On behalf of the largest posted the largest county in Oregon, we would like to donate \$250 to the Oregon American Legion foundation or Legion programs.

Rob Liebenow National Vice Commander I have been stating all weekend. I have a few of my national vice commander coins left from 2019, 2020 and I'm using them as a fundraiser for the foundation. I'm asking \$20 donation for each coin. So far this weekend, I have raised \$220 and I have some more at home, so I'll be turning that into departments later on this week. I still have a few coins left if you're interested.

Cory Brockmann chairman of the Oratorical committee and I donate \$100 to the foundation.

Dept Adjutant Flynn Phillips on behalf of Post 74 commander and the rest of our posts and donate \$100.

Commander Steve Adams; We need Bob to leave here today with a backpack full checks. So, we're going to need more.

Andy Millar I will donate \$100 and challenge every buddy else up there on the DEC to do \$100.

Commander Steve Adams announces to take a short 10-minute break.

Reconvene:

Flynn Phillips [?? Motion] is **carried to accept the report of the Finance Commission.**
Seconded by Gerry Patton.

Steve Adams, I have a **motion** and second to **accept the foundation report.** Any discussion?
All in favor say Aye. Group says Aye. Motion Carried.

Ed Mathews District 8 Commander, Oregon City Post Five would like to **donate** a check for \$500.00 to the fund. Bob Huff remarks I can't log it until I receive the check.

Flynn Phillips asks Steve to announce that Mary Laudon donated \$60.00.

Service Officer Report, Ed Van Dyke, My report is the Book of Reports, but I'd like to give an update on our status here at the Portland Regional office and what we've been doing to stay consistent in helping our vets throughout the state and I can constantly say throughout the world now because Jody and I have been helping veterans from Hawaii, Florida, and Europe because of the Covid-19 shutdowns.

As matter of fact, when we answer the phone, the individuals are sort of shocked and say, wow, I finally met somebody, or somebody finally answered the phone. So we started helping our vets out not only in Oregon but throughout the world. Since March, the Portland regional office has been closed for business. They've been all working at home, and because of that, I requested permission to go in once a month or once a week to be able to go in, check my faxes, so on and so forth, federal emails, because, at the time, **I didn't have a computer** that I could communicate with the federal system at home.

So I was authorized to do that. We were able to keep submitting our claims. On that Thursday and July and then people protests started and those protests were actually very near, well, they were the same block of our office there at the Portland Regional office so I made a command decision that myself and Jody were no longer going to go into Portland until the protests settled down and it's more safe for us to do that. And at that time, I requested from our adjutant here a laptop computer that I could actually get the access to communicate with the Federal VA and that request was approved. Flynn Phillips said it had **previously been approved.**

Had previously was approved and I got it. I'm up and running and it couldn't come at a better time because we just got word **that the federal VA is closing their evidence intake center and**

that all claims are going to be electronic. So, if you want to submit a claim, it's going to be pretty, there's just a new process of things going on. So, since it's all going to be electronic, we have a client management system which is called fedrospec and fedrospec is how we do our claims work.

They have a program that is called Direct Claims that they already Oregon department part in the veteran's affairs has actually been utilizing for the last three and a half years. So, submitting claims back and forth through the VA via electronics through the direct submit program. So, once I got online, I got a few things fine-tuned in my computer and I'm up and running and I've been doing direct submit from home. Actually, I can do a direct submit from on the moon if I'm on the moon. So, this program is working pretty good.

We continue to help vets daily, 24-7. I think some of you have called me and asked me. I know I had one of you ask me, well, what the heck are you doing? I said, I'm on my tractor bailing hay. And I answer my phone, it doesn't matter where I'm at, I'm going to answer my phone and I'm going to help our vets and that's what Jody does. So, just because we can't get into our office in Portland, doesn't mean we're not going to help our vets.

We're going to continue to help our vets. For example, I know that Jim is going to talk about the blue water navy, but due to the wildfires, I had one vet call me up with the blue water navy that the VA is sort of slowly starting to process these claims now. But his house is in Lyons and he lost his house. So, I made a phone call, did an email. 24 hours later, this man was service connected for his blue water navy issues and he received 55 thousand dollars. So, even though the process is different, there's still ways to make it go quick. All right?

Commander, there is one thing I'd like to bring up. In June of 2020, I received an email as a special ODVA grade directors' message and this message, in my mind, I hope in the Legion's mind, was totally inappropriate to send out. It was a press release sent out in June 2020, addressing the issue of the ongoing protests throughout our country. According to ORS 260.432 statutory provisions of this state that governs all employees of the state, is that public employees may not engage in political activities while on the job. This individual and this message clearly had a political stance and a political opinion which, in my mind, if you look at all these four values that the Legion stands for, at least three of those it didn't stand for. So, Commander, I would like you and the rest of the DEC to read this 2020 special ODVA grade director's message and see if it was truly in the best interest of the vets of this state.

Now no matter what your personal views are, your political beliefs are or anything like that, the tone of this message was inappropriate as well. That's what the important thing is that the tone of this message was inappropriate. **Bob Huff remarks it's the Hatch Act.**

All right, here we go. I don't think I'm going to read the whole message. It's quite lengthy. But I think the first two paragraphs of the message are going to show what it's about. It says, Dear Oregon Veterans, ODVA employees and partners, those of us who once wore a military uniform

swore an oath to uphold and defend the constitution of the united states and the principals on our nation was founded, that all people are created equal and that everyone has a basic human right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. That promise became part of our very identity, something that we took pride in then and continue to take pride in now. Nothing wrong with that. I support that 100% because we are all created equal.

Because those principles are part of my identity as a veteran and as a leader in the state government, I am deeply troubled by the senseless killing of George Floyd. His brutal murder and of so many black Americans before him is so contrary to our nation's fundamental shared values that it has left many of us shocked, angered, and searching for a meaningful response. George Floyd's death is also a reminder that for many Americans, particularly people of color, their life experience falls short of the ideals upon which our nation was founded.

Although I can never fully understand the frustration and life-experience of black Americans, I can also call attention to the deeply rooted racial injustice in this country and in this state. I can call attention to the fact that many of the systems in place contribute to those injustices to this day. I'm aware that how we collectively respond, regardless of individual perspectives, will chart the course of our nation moving forward.

While in the military, veterans from all walks of life have risked their lives in combat to oppose the repression of basic human rights around the globe. Many even worked to right wrongs within the military experience by black and brown Americans, women and LGBTQ individuals who simply wanted to serve our country and yet encountered injustice in the ranks. ODVA's work with underserved and marginalized veterans highlights the impact of this inequality and the ceaseless need for such work to continue, and it goes on.

So, this concerns me just for the reason that I don't know if you know what my history is. I worked as Jim Willis' deputy director. I believe in equality for all, and I believe in serving our community and our veterans. But ODVA has taken a wrong turn in who they are taking care of. If you look at right now Salem, there's no ODVA representatives that do claims work. None, except for the special interest groups. Don't get me wrong, I believe that we need those, but when we ignore the rest of the body and place that responsibility on the county, I don't believe that's right.

To me, it shows that there's a sense that we are not important, it's just the special interest groups that are and I sure don't like talking politics, but when we have a director of ODVA that's expressing a personal opinion, that is wrong.

I know other directors would not have done that. Well, I would hope other directors would not have done that. I would not have done that as a deputy director. I would hope that the American Legion at a minimum would express their concern that we have a director expressing personal political opinion during a tense, abusing their authority on state's time. Commander, that's all I got.

Steve Adams Thank you, Ed. Okay, now we're going to move on.

Larry Wittmayer, I'm disturbed by what Ed has brought before this body. But I'm also disturbed that it appears that we're going to move on. And I think we need to discuss this and I also think we need to make a public statement about it.

Commander Steve Adams recognizes **Alt NEC Jim Willis**.

Commander, my fellow legionaries, I believe Ed Van Dyke did a very good job of expressing what the issue was. So now, it falls upon yourself and the DEC to determine, I think, that as Larry was just mentioning our esteemed second vice, that you need to determine what if anything you want to do about that. But I will tell you, from personal standpoint, that I think, as a former director, you stay out of that politics, completely out of it. You just serve the veteran. You serve the veteran, their family and survivors, you're doing your job. You get outside of that, not only are you violating state law, but you are losing sight of your mission. And I think that's where we are. Thank you, Commander.

Steve Adams, Any other discussion on this point? NEC Andy Millar I just want to bring forward something. Not going to bring it forward. Okay. Is there any position that our Oregon veteran's group, the conglomeration of all the veteran's groups in Oregon taken? Any feedback? Who's representing us on the Oregon veterans' group. Flynn Phillips says Jack Labox was on the group. Andy Millar says he resigned.

Flynn Phillips says John Lee is probably the person. Andy Millar ask? John Lee? John Lee says yes.

John Lee, So apparently, I have not even been ratified. Anything that I have to say would be just the same as Jim Willis has just said. All my support right now, my training, is all coming from him. I've been into this really for about ten days and will be ratified hopefully today into that position. Unfortunately, Jack LaBox has had to step down, and he is out Commander.

Steve Adams recognizes Kevin Owens, District past department commander. Yes, thank you, I guess the issue is, what are we going to do about it? We can talk about it all we want. **What is our statement and our belief as an organization what we think should happen?** We're the leader of the UVG.

We've got more members than any other organization in this Department. Let's be the leaders and quit being the followers and make a decision about what we want to do and how we want to. You know, have we lost confidence in her ability? What do we think that we need to do? Somebody makes that. Do you think we should **write a letter, the thing that we're displeased** with her comments, that she's a servant of the government and to the veterans of this state. That her political opinions don't matter to us. We don't care. You serve us, we don't serve you. How you word that, I don't care. But I think I'll **make a motion commander** that we **write a letter to**

the Director of veteran's affairs and how you word that is up to you, but we need to come forefront. Quit being the followers and be the leaders of this state. **Larry Wittmayer seconds the Motion.**

Steve Adams, We have a motion to get a letter to the Director of the ODVA. NVC Rob Liebenow remarks it should be going to the Governor not the Director.

Steve Adams, Okay. A letter to the governor expressing our concerns about the email from the Director of the ODVA. We have a motion; we have a second [crosstalk]. Any more discussion?

Jon Marsh, As a note of encouragement, I would just like to add, I had the pleasure of being in Indianapolis when commander Dan Dillinger when on national TV and demanded the resignation of Shinseki. Everybody else backed down until the American Legion did it and then all of a sudden, everybody else wanted to get on the bandwagon. My point is in support of Kevin, what he said. The American Legion takes action..

Steve Adams, So, this letter will go out to the governor with our displeasure of the ODVA director and her comments. I ask Flynn to compose the letter, and it will go through final approval before it is sent out.

Andy Millar, Do we want to ask for her resignation? Bob Huff and Larry Wittmayer both say yes. The Commander agrees.

Andy Millar, I'll move to **amend the Motion** that we also ask for her resignation of the ODVA director. **Jerry Patton** district three, **I second that.**

Bob Huff, remarks CC National and Washington.

Steve Adams, there's been a motion to amend the Motion to ask for ODVA director's removal. Any more discussion? Like I said, this letter **will be approved before** it is sent out by myself, Jim Willis, John Lee and Andy Millar. Any questions?

Steve Adams, if no more questions, all in favor say Aye, Group say Aye, Those Opposed?

Motion Carried.

The question came up which Motion?

Kevin Owens, You have two amendments. You voted on the amendment, right? You've got to vote on the amendment first and then vote on the Motion. Some discussion and people agree.

Steve Adams, Okay, **we just voted on the amendment.**, Now we vote on the **Motion** and it's been seconded to send the letter to the governor. Any discussion? All in favor say aye. Group says Aye.

Those opposed? **Motion carried.**

Steve Adams, now we are going on to **ratification of Commission and committee members.**

Steve Adams, asks is it all in here? Flynn says yes, Steve says here is the list. Okay. The administrative and advisory Commission. Jim Willis, yes. Law enforcement career. Law Enforcement Career Chairman, John Lee. Law enforcement career member, Denise Armstrong. Oratorical chair, Cory Brockmann. Legion Riders' committee, Michael Speer, Kevin Sands, Mark Lueck, Mike Heimback and Gordon Treber. Training and Development chair, Betty Fish-Ferguson. Legislative chair, John Lee. Legislative member, Herbert Hemingway Junior. Public relations member, John Lee. Public relations member, Dale Jenkins. We **do not have a judge advocate**. Our judge advocate has resigned. So, recommendation for judge advocate to fill that position, past department commander Gene Hellickson.

Steve Adams, Are there any questions on these appointments? If not, I would entertain a motion.

Kevin Owens, Commander, Kevin Owens PDC inaudible] discuss the matter. I salute. **Jerry Patton**, district three, I seconded it.

Steve Adams, We have a **motion to accept these appointments to the commissions and committees, seconded and approve**. Motion made and seconded. Any questions? If not, all in favor say aye. Groups says Aye, those **opposed? Motion carried**.

Steve Adams, Are there any suspension or cancellations of post charters? Where the hell? Are there any new charters? None offered.

Steve Adams, A&A commission report, Jon Marsh states Andy is still not here. He's given the report to Mike Jones. Okay. Then we **will skip him till later**. Americanism report, Sid Carter.

Sid Carter Americanism Report: Wonderful year this 2020. With no, I mean no interaction between children youth committee, boy scouts, baseball, boys state, junior sporting, law enforcement career and or Oratorical. I have **nothing to report sir**.

Steve Adams, I will now entertain a **motion** to accept the code of procedures for the Americanism commission.

Jerry Patton district three, I would like to **make a motion** to accept the code of procedures as written.

Steve Adams, Do I have a second? **Terry Brown, Second**.

Steve Adams. Terry Brown, there's been a **motion** made to accept code of procedures for the Americanism commission, **made and seconded**. Any questions?

Kevin Owens, Commander, district nine commander, I would say that there's probably some changes in those code of procedures, so I recommend with the changes that were made.

Kevin Owens states the changes are in the book.

Steve Adams, Motion has been made and seconded to accept the code of procedures report as in the book. Any questions? All in favor **say aye**. Groups says **Aye**, those opposed? **Motion carried.**

Steve Adams, there's **code of procedures** for the Children and Youth committee, Was there any changes?

Flynn says I think there was for, well it was junior shooting sports for sure. Steve remarks Well, I haven't got to that one yet.

Steve Adams, from what I have here, there were no changes to the children and youth committee code of procedures. They were as written last year. I would **accept a motion** to accept children and youth committee procedures report without changes.

Commander, **Jerry Patton** district three, I'd like to make the **Motion to accept the code of procedures as written in the book.**

Steve Adams, Motion has been made; do I have a second? A speaker#5 **says Second.**

Motion has been made and seconded to accept the code of procedures without changes for the children and youth committee. Any discussion? All in favor say aye **Group says Aye**, Those opposed (?) **Motion carried.**

Steve Adams Baseball committee code of procedures, no changes. Entertain a motion to accept those for the baseball.

Jerry Patton, Jerry Patton district three, I make a **motion** to accept code of procedures as written in the book of reports. **Ed Mathews**, district eight, second.

Steve Adams, Baseball committee code of procedures, I have a **motion** to accept code of procedures without changes, seconded. Any questions? All in favor say aye. Groups says Aye. Those opposed ? **Motion carried.**

Terry Brown, Commander, Terry Brown district seven, in these commissions, if there is no changes, do we have to read each one and take a motion or can we just say (?)

Flynn remarks for the Commission, Law Enforcement changed, what changed was the name. It used to be called Public Safety Career Camp.

Bob Huff, That was changed before. That was changed a couple years ago.

Steve Adams, Okay, for the law enforcement career, there was no changes. So, I will accept a **motion** to accept the code of procedures for law enforcement career camp committee without changes.

Ed Mathews district eight, **approve. Second** from district three, Jerry Patton, I second.

Steve Adams, I have a motion and seconded to accept **law enforcement career camp committee** code of procedures unchanged. Any questions? Any discussion? All in favor say aye. Group says Aye. Those opposed ? **Motion carried.**

Steve Adams, Oratorical committee code of procedures. There were some changes there, am I correct Cory? Yeah. In red. Changes were section two was changed to members appointments will change from four years to three years to two years, two years to one year [crosstalk] and one year expiring appointment to be reappointed accordingly. Other changes, under section three, B, area two to include districts two and three, committee member Richard Ramey. Area three, districts four and nine, with oratorical committee member Steve Bergadine. Area four, districts five, six and 10, oratorical committee member Charlie Schmidt.

Under section five, A, post district contest should significant circumstances prevent an in-person post or district contest, the post or district oratorical chair respectively shall contact their respective oratorical committee member and/or Department oratorical chair for guidance on conducting a virtual contest. B, department contests, should significant circumstances prevent an in-person department contest, the oratorical committee shall render a decision on coordinating and conducting a virtual contest. Notification will be given to the district oratorical chairs and contestants and coordination of the virtual event will be conducted through the Department of Oregon's video conferencing system Also, post contests shall be held prior to the district contest. District contest shall be held in January.

Department contest is to be held before the national certification on March 15, 2021. The chair shall present the oratorical certificate and a check for \$100 from the trophies and awards budget to the post sponsoring the department winner at the national department convention. Section six, video conference, email or correspondence. The oratorical committee chair shall provide a brief written update to the Americanism commission chair for inclusion in scheduled DEC books of reports as well and I think this next one has already been passed before, but in red so I'll read it.

Scholarships shall be provided as follows for the department winners. First place, five thousand. Second place, 3500. Third place, 2500. Fourth place, two thousand. Under section nine, under B, three holding rooms large enough to set all contestants, approximately 10-15 individuals. These three rooms will be used to accommodate one, judges and tabulators, two, pre-contest pooling of contestants and three, post-contest pooling of contestants. C, three smaller rooms for individual contestants to prepare his or her assigned topic oration.

Section 10, department oratorical chair will ensure the oratorical committee submits monthly articles to the Oregon Legionnaire for publication in adherence with established department policy. Section 11, the oratorical committee code of procedures shall be reviewed annually and updated as necessary by this Commission and copies provided in advance to the Americanism commission chair and the department adjutant for review and approval at the fall DEC. Those are the changes to the oratorical.

Don Weber, asked Since we have eliminated the area contest, is there a need to have the area designations with the committee chairs for areas?

Kevin Owens, I have a question commander. I talked to Cory about this, about having an all-day contest and not limiting the amount of kids we have. So, if you've got 20 kids, let that 20 kids compete. Let's not limit it, because we have a hard-enough time getting two kids, if we had six kids or eight kids or 10 kids, let's get as many as we can. Because, frankly, when you have four people there, I don't see us ever having 20 kids unless we start doing better. But Cory, that'd be up to you.

Don Weber So, request suspension of the rules to hear from Cory.

Kevin Owens, I request suspension of the rules and have the chairman talk commander. He's the chairman. I'm just saying, I talked to him about this. I think I'd rather have an all-day contest. I'm going to be there anyway. Let's get as many kids involved as we can and not limit it ourselves [crosstalk]. We have such a hard time getting kids to compete now, the idea is to get more money in that fund. I make a motion we allow suspend the rules and let Cory talk.

Don Weber **Second, the Motion.**

Steve Adams, We have a motion to suspend the rules to let Cory Brockman talk about the oratorical. All in favor say aye. **Group says Aye**, Those opposed? **Motion carried.** Cory.

Cory Brockmann, Yeah commander, to the first question from the first vice. The areas, while we don't have an area contest, the area designation within the code of procedures helps us assimilate support to the districts by our four oratorical committee members. That's all that is. Okay. That's all that is. As far as district nine commander, the department oratorical contest must abide by the national oratorical contest rules, otherwise we cannot certify a champion. We could have a champion, but we could certify that him or her participated in the national contest finals in Indianapolis. I believe there's some words in the national contest that limits the number of participants through the department contest. I would have to review the contest rules.

Kevin, Commander I mean, I don't think so. I think last year we talked about two kids per district. That was 20 kids. That was last year we allowed two students. That was 20. Do you think you're going to get 20 students from ?

Cory, I don't believe I'm going to get 20 students, that would be a nice problem to have, it really would. What I do not want to do is create a scenario whereby we cannot certify a department champion. I'm not against it.

Kevin Owens, I don't understand how you're saying certified. You're going to have a champion. You're going to have a first, second, third, fourth place winner.

Cory, Right Kevin, You certified it.

Cory, Right. But there are limitations on to how many participants from a school. Okay?

Kevin Owens, Okay, I get what you're saying. I'm not saying that. I'm saying, if I have two people from Reedsport, two people Canyonville, two people from Roseburg, they're all from different schools, that's six kids. You have two people from Aloha, you have two people from Hillsboro, you have two people from Sherwood, you have six people, that's 12 students. We're not talking about schools, we're talking about participants.

Cory Brockmann, I do not have any argument with that. I don't believe that was in the code of procedures that this body approved last year.

Kevin Owens, But you can. It was two people though per district. But you can amend that, your thing if that's what you want. I'm just saying, we have a hard-enough time getting kids. You think about it, one student could be very good all the way till we had areas, he doesn't feel well, and he gets beat. Let's have a [inaudible] because I just think that we have a hard-enough time getting kids. Let's make it so we get more kids, better participation and then we can get that money increase. We've got it up to five thousand, we want to get it up to 10 thousand. We've got to compete with everybody.

Cory Brockmann, So, are you saying that there's no disagreement with what was approved last year with two district finalists?

Kevin Owens, I have no disagreement with that. All I'm asking is you take that out and make it unlimited. You still follow the rules about two kids per your school. I'm just saying don't limit the amount of students. If you could get 50 kids' man, I'll be there all for two days. I don't care.

Cory Brockmann, Commander, I do not have an argument with commander Owens if you want to insert that change or the if the adjutant wants to insert that change.

Kevin Owens, I don't want to force that on you. I just, I think?

Steve Adams, Actually Kevin, I do not see here where the districts are limited to two.

Kevin Owens, But that we had five kids last year.

Steve Adams, Yeah, well, it's not in the code of procedures.

Kevin Owens, Exactly, but she did limit it two because we had a hard-enough time getting the five we had.

Kevin Owens, You know? What I suggested, I'm going to get with Cory, is that I'm going to forgo my district nine money. I don't need that money, so that's another thousand bucks.

Bob Huff, I'm going to forgo mine also.

Kevin Owens, If Bob forgoes his money, there's some more money so we can give some more prizes. That's a thousand, what's that Bob? A little over two thousand dollars. Bob says 22 hundred bucks.

Kevin Owens, Yeah. So, if we can get more prizes, get more kids, I think that's our goal.

Bob Huff, And we'll challenge the rest of you to forgo your money.

Steve Adams, So, do I have a motion to accept oratorical code of procedures, oratorical committee with changes as read?

Jerry Patton, district three Commander, I make a **motion** to accept the changes. **Andy Millar Second.**

Steve Adams, I have a **motion** to accept the code of procedures to oratorical committee with changes as read. Any discussion? If not, all in favor say aye. Groups says **Aye**, those opposed? **Motion** carried.

Gene Hellickson asks permission of the floor. Were copies of the codes of procedures sent out to all? Were copies of the code of procedures sent out to all the voting members of the DEC?

Steve I was told they were then.

Gene Hellickson, This is just a question. Then why are we going through each individual one? Especially if there's no changes. Why can't we, if you've got 10 of them that have no changes, why can't we just vote on all 10 of those at once.

Steve Adams, Okay. Good point Gene. We can. The next one there is a change though. Bob Huff says, We've all got it already.

Terry Brown, When I get up (?)

Steve Adams, We accept all the code of procedures? Terry Brown, No, the changes for mine. When I get up and read. Each person will end up doing that.

Steve Adams, Yes Larry, I move we accept all the code of procedures, as published,

Terry Brown, District seven Commander Terry Brown, I accept that.

Steve Adams, We have a **motion** to accept all code of procedure changes as written and sent out. Am I correct? Kevin Answers correct. And we have a **second**. Any discussion? If not, all in favor say aye. Groups says Aye. Those opposed? **Motion** carried.

Steve Adams, Done with that. Internal affairs commission report. In lieu of Lou Neubecker, Jon Marsh will give the report.

Jon Marsh, Commander, standing in for Lou Neubecker. The only **changes** to the Internal Affairs Commission code of procedures were addition of his name as chairman and the year 2020.

Bob Huff, And it's already been accepted.

Jon Marsh, It's already been approved. The only other issues, my understanding, with anybody under the purview of the internal affairs is the **ALR has a change**. Other than that, internal affairs is clear. Nobody has any changes except the ALR and that is ?(all).

Steve Adams, Okay. The changes to the ALR.

Jon Marsh, yes

Steve Adams, The changes to the ALR were (?) Bob Huff says Approved.

Flynn Phillips, They were sent out.

Steve Adams, It was taken out of the code of procedures that all of the elected officers of the ALR were on the committee. That was taken out. It was also in the code of procedures that the committee members be approved by the Commander with recommendations from the committee chairman.

Jon Marsh, Apparently, Lou didn't know about this. Apparently, Lou didn't have this information.

Steve Adams, Lou had that information because I called him, and Gale called him.

Jon Marsh, Okay. You kind of skipped the convention commission? Do you want to hear from that?

Steve Adams, Yes.

Convention Report, Jon Marsh, okay. First off there's not changes to my code of procedures. Okay? Secondly, the **convention is on** for this year, the same place it was going to be last year. So, Seven Feathers. That's not an issue. The spring DEC, we're either going to the La Pine or Bend, we're not sure which yet. The winter DEC, nobody has told me for sure where, what, when. So, I can't really do anything. If it's going to be an over-nighter and you want hotels and all that stuff, y'all need to tell me. Okay? Other than that, that's all, I mean, do we know when the winter DEC is going to be at?

Steve Adams, the winter was going to be held in Wilsonville.

Jon Marsh, Okay. That's the ? deal?

Steve Adams, But department headquarters is not big enough for a DEC., So there needed to be found another meeting room or another couple of meeting rooms. One for the Legion, one for the Auxiliary, in Wilsonville someplace.

Jon Marsh, Well, Larry is indicating that he has some knowledge about meeting rooms in Wilsonville.

Larry Wittmayer, I'd already provided that to both of you.

Jon Marsh, Not to me. To me?

Larry Wittmayer, you have the emails.

Jon Marsh commented that the new hotel wants a lot of money. Larry commented that the Shriners had space, but Jon said they wanted more money than the hotels.

Steve Adams said, he will get a hold of Jon tomorrow.

Steve Adams Okay. All of the code of procedures were passed, right? Flynn remarks, Yes. All the code of procedures, all in one lump sum. So that piece of it can just go away. They can just give their reports.

Steve Adams, Media and communications chair report. Other than the internal affairs report?

Jon Marsh, Lou briefed me about internal affairs. He didn't tell me much about the other one so, I'll just be honest with you. He didn't tell me anything about the other one. So, I forgot to tell you what's going on with him. Lou is on a 10 or 14 day quarantine in his house. He has a condition, along with all his other conditions, cancer, heart disease, something about his lungs that are hardening. So, what they do is they go in every couple of years into his lungs and check them out and all that. So, that's why he's under quarantine and couldn't be here. All right? He's not really sick or anything. It's a standard procedure for him because of his various problems. So, I just thought I'd let the DEC know that.

National Security Commission Report. Greg Marvin not present.

Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Commission Report. Jim Willis, Earlier you heard a report from Ed Van Dyke on the service office and their activities. But I want to give a special thank you today to the Oregon American Legion Foundation and to our adjutant Flynn Phillips both of whom moved very quickly to establish Ed's ability to work remotely with the VA claims process by updating his laptop.

We had already done that for Jody Marsh, but we didn't do it for Ed at the time because he was still working out of the Portland office. When they shut down the Portland office, he wasn't able to file claims with the VA. So, it was really important that we move quickly. And again, both the

Foundation and Flynn Phillips together made that happen in a hurry. So, I want to express my appreciation on behalf of the Commission.

I want to note for all of you here that October is Agent Orange and some good news in that regard is that the VA has finished digitizing the deck logs for the blue water navy Vietnam veterans. So if you served off the coast of Vietnam in the blue water and certainly you would know the name of your ship and the ship's number, I would hope, all you have to do is work through your service officer, get that sent in, and it will back up the fact that you were there which will then allow you to move your agent orange claim forward if you have one, if you're authorized to have one.

The reason that's important is because, for some period time, the Department of justice is working against allowing blue water navy veterans to receive agent orange benefits. And, before that, the VA was working against it. The VA dropped their lawsuit, or the Department of Justice dropped their lawsuit and the Veteran's Affairs Administration, partly with the urging of the United States Congress, dropped their opposition. Now the blue water navy vets are able to file their claims. And it's long overdue. It should have happened a long time ago.

Also, the new 2020 federal benefits booklet is out. You can now download it in PDF format, and I strongly suggest if you have questions about the benefits, take a look at that document and see if you or one of your dependents or a surviving spouse would qualify to seek benefits under that booklet. Finally, I will tell you that the national level virtual meetings are being held for the VA and R commission at the national level.

Those meetings have gone well. When you dial in, you can hear everybody. They can hear you. You can move ahead on resolutions or issues that are important to veterans that particular Commission is covering and, as a side note, I will tell you that the National Legislative Commission is also holding virtual meetings, as is the youth Law Cadet Committee.

I'm sure some of your other commissions are also meeting just like that and it's keeping the American Legion moving forward while we're fighting this whole Covid-19 situation nationwide. My code of procedures has no changes, and apparently, by the vote just taken, it's already been approved. Thank you for approving my code of procedures, and that concludes my report. Thank you.

Veteran's Employment and Education Commission Report. Bob Huff. This is the **final commission report**. Look at those smiles. My report is in the Book of Reports and the only reason I say that is there's not that much to report because we're locked out of every place. We've gone to state buildings, federal buildings, private buildings and we have not been allowed to go in at any events.

We're working right now with the national guard and the Oregon employment agency and other partners to try to do something virtual and, as our last speaker spoke, I participated and past

national commander Charlie participated in a meeting with communications, virtual meeting with national last Monday which lasted four hours. I've done a lot of zoom meetings, but not four hours. It was excellent. It really was. And I'm sure in the future we'll be doing that again. Just as a wrap up so you don't have to listen to me anymore today. That's okay. All the receipts are up here. I had to clarify with one person one comment, because the money wasn't there but that's okay. We collected \$4335. The breakdown of that is the disaster fund received \$2730. The foundation out of the challenges and out of the other contributions received \$1100. National emergency fund, \$250. Veterans children foundation \$250 and thank you Ian for his five-dollar fine.

Steve Adams, Presentation of awards? Flynn commented We just have one change of policies and that was it.

Steve Adams, Department policies need to be approved. Right? Department policies. There were some changes. They are in your packet of what the changes were. And there was a lot of going back and forth in rewriting some of the policies and getting them, all lined out and getting up to date and in the current times. And one person that I would like to thank a lot for that, because he was the one that was wearing out his fingers on the computer, thank you Gene for doing that. [crosstalk]. And then through phone calls and meetings up at the headquarters, we got it all fine-tuned and it worked very well. We didn't always agree, but we discussed it and came to an agreement and it worked. It worked very well. Thank you very much for all that was involved. So I would entertain a motion to accept Oregon department policies as published.

Jerry Patton District Three, I **motion** for the department policies as discussed. Steve, I have a **motion**; do I have a second? **Andy Millar Second**. Thank you, Andy. I have a **motion** to accept Department of Oregon policies as published and **seconded**. Any discussion? If none, all in favor say aye. Group says **Aye**. Those opposed ? . **Passed**. Don't we have to do the strategic planning committee?

Steve Adams, The next item is presentation of awards. And I will introduce Larry Wittmayer, membership chairman with that. Well, basically, we did that last night. Basically, we did all those membership awards last night. We recognized all the 2019-20s and some of the advanced 2021s. So, I rest my case.

Steve Adams, Unfinished business.

Kevin Owens, Commander, I **request we go into executive session** for the purpose of discussion. **Steve** Says Okay. Okay, we will take a five-minute break and we will come back into executive session at 10 minutes till 12.

Steve Adams, Okay. **We are reconvened in the general session**. And I will turn this portion over to Department first vice, Don Weber.

Don Weber, I'd like to take a **motion** from the floor.

Kevin Owens, Commander, a this time would like District 9 Kevin Owens Past Department Commander, I move to offer to, post 10 in dropping all charges prior to October 4 2020 for probation for one year and working with a mentor team consisting of Gene Hellickson two Kevin Owens, Bob Huff and District three Commander Jerry Patton, a mentor post in for professional development. **I make that Motion.**

Don Weber, here's a motion. Is there a **second**? Jerry Patton, District 3. I'll **second that**.

Don Weber, Okay. Thank you. There's a **motion and a second**. Is there any discussion? No discussion. All those in favor, signify by saying aye. No discussion. All those in favor, signify by saying aye. Group says Aye. All those opposed, ?? **Motion carries**. Thank you. I'm going to turn the meeting back over to Department Commander.

Steve Adams Okay. We have another issue. We have a post that has been on probation for what? Three years, Kevin? Yes,

Steve Adams, Something like that. This is a good example of what can be done. Don Weber, Flynn Phillips, myself and Terry Brown went into Post 134 because nothing had been done. It kicked the can down the road, went in there and had a discussion with them and with in I would say Okay It was explained to them, what they needed to do, paperwork they needed to get to the Department. This kind of thing. In a very short period of time These are entirely new people we were talking with. In a very short period of time, they got the paperwork together, got it to Department, with one exception. They have a bank account that they couldn't get access to. They called Flynn and said, "Hey, we need more than 30 days here on this one."

No problem. **Post 134 is back**, functioning very well, from what I understand, doing very good. I would entertain a motion to get them off of probation.

Jerry Patton, District 3. I would offer the **Motion** to take them off probation. Steve, Do I have a second?

Terry Brown, District Seven, Commander. I make a **second**.

Steve Adams, We have a **motion** to take **134 off of probation**. Have any discussion? If not, all in favor, say aye. Group says **Aye**. All opposed ?, **Motion carries**. I would like to thank Terry Brown for all of the hard work that he's put in to achieve this. Thank you very much, Terry.

Steve Adams, unfinished business. If none, we'll go to new business. Under new business is the five-year strategic membership plan that was put together with a lot of input. Charlie had some input on it. Mike Jones, Kevin, and a lot of other people had some input. We come up with a strategic plan that was sent out to all members of the DEC and PDCs to review. Is there any

discussion on that? If not, I would entertain a motion to accept the five-year strategic membership plan as published.

Jerry Patton, District three, Commander. I'd like to offer a **motion** to accept the five-year plan as written and sent out.

Steve Adams, I have a **motion**. Do I have a second? Bob Huff **Second**. Okay. We have a **motion** to accept the **five-year strategic membership plan as published**. Any discussion? If not all-in favor, say aye. Group says **Aye**. Those opposed ?, **Motion carried**.

Steve Adams, **Good of the order**. I wish to thank District Three and Santiam on Post 51 for hosting this fall's DEC. Thank you very much, much appreciated I now call on the Department Adjutant for his report.

Department Adjutant report. S. Flynn Phillips, my report is in the Book of Reports. Number one, the Legion family logo is being painted on the side of the building. As we speak, my daughter's doing that. She did the flag, and it looks really good. The second is **the Eagle scout project**. That has got pushed back for a little bit because of the smoke, but it's going to be probably done second or third week of October. The sprinkler system for the lawn, so that'd be really good. Y'all got one of these, this is the adji-chaplin plan project, with Steve Shollenburg and I. If any of you have been out to Post 21 and seeing the Evergreen Cemetery monument, where they've got big black granite service decals on one, and on the other side, they've got the first responders. We plan to raise funds through corporate sponsorship and anybody else that wants to donate, to have like a 12 foot. What is it, 12 feet?

Steve Shollenburg, Yeah. 12 feet, six inches by five foot, four Black granite. It's going to have the new space force logo attached to it. We're going to have a new flagpole, going to have a couple of concrete seats with a concrete bench. Yeah. So, take a look at that. We're going to run that by the A&A, make sure we get blessings on everybody, but we want to do this right. So that every everybody's included, and the money is put into a department in the proper location and all that kind of stuff. So, this may take us a month. It could take us 10 years. I don't know. It just all depends on how we get out there and promote it. That's kind of all I had there. I do have one last thing. There is a price, it's \$55,000. It's not chump change, but we'll have lights and a big flag. If we get it all in sponsor plaques, it'll be real pretty.

The other thing I've got is this letter from Matthew Herndon, who's the Internal Affairs and Membership Director at National. He sent three on behalf of National Commander, Bill Oxford. He presents **specially numbered commemorative coins** for outstanding performance in the '19-'20 membership year, and he'd like to give the Department Commander and the Department Membership Chair and the NEC committee man, a special coin. They do that every year, but no one's ever brought it up.

Bob Huff, It's the number on the back that's important.

Flynn Phillips, Yeah, it's the number on the back has got the standing of membership. Maybe you guys can get us up to the next level.

A&A Commission Report. Andy Millar, A&A Commission met on July 19 in Prineville, basically to do Flynn's evaluation. All 11 of the key elements of our evaluation process were deemed either being performed as expected or better than expected. Considering the job expectations and his dynamic job we consider Adjutant Flynn doing quite well in the position.

We have also held three A&A meetings on the phone, regarding the wildfire disasters, and made recommendations to the Commander first and second vice of the Disaster Relief Committee to function in Oregon at this time. It never had this issue before. Bob Huff was appointed Chair of that committee and Terry Brown,

I think Flynn is on it. Anyway, we need to just get everybody on board, that the membership standing 55% of 15,975 is less than 55% that we had last year, 16,474. We need to jack up the membership. We've been kind of slow with the COVID and the fires. We need to get with it before the holidays and make recommendation that department leadership press on that very issue.

We further **request that our code of procedures be approved without changes.** Bob Huff says You're approved.

Andy Millar, sincerely A&A Chairman, Mike Jones. Thank you.

John Lee, Legislative Commission report. Yeah. I'm John Lee, and I'm the new chair; been here for what two hours and 15 minutes or so already forgot the year, but that's all right. I just want to say Jack LaBox did have to step down due to health issues and our prayers are definitely with him and his family. I've been very active. I've been with Jim Willis. I've met him several times in the last 10 days or so since I found out about this, he tried to bring me up on speed for this Legislative Commission. Last year, there were 20 bills that were passed in 2019. Some of those bills very quickly.

One of them authorized The Senate Bill ?? 66 authorized the Oregon State Board of Nursing to recognize military education for the Nursing. Until then, if they didn't go to an accredited college, they weren't getting credit. In the military training for nurses with not being accepted. It will be now, which I think is a really great thing.

Especially at a time when we need nurses. Another one State Bill 593 makes persons holding disability, veterans, aid in getting their hunting license that gets some extra points. So, for a lot of people that really was kind of important. They also accepted a bridge grant that was passed along with that. ODVA has started giving those out May 9. The bridge is for those people that are using the GI bill. If your class isn't available for a semester, you would not be paid. So, it was

leaving these students near graduation and not being able to complete it without going out and getting a full-time job for a while.

They found that most people went out and got that did not come back. What this did is it's money that can be given to them up to \$5,000, gets them through that. They started giving those out in September, or, was out in August, coronavirus hit, and they've now been burning through it at about \$15,000 a week. So, they've had to go back and take a look at the application, and that's just now changed.

Trying to extend this out so that it'll go through the biennium. All along with that, they are actually asking for a little bit more money. They're hoping that the committee can come up with some money through the lottery to be able to extend that because with the coronavirus, a lot of the classes were canceled, and it's left some people in really dire straits going through. It's helped a lot of these people go through.

Most of them are 31 years old. Most of them are married with a child on average. So, the other part of that though, is that there were 14 bills, bedroom bills, that were not passed. I don't know if you remember, but during the session we had a number of legislators that chose to go elsewhere. So, the session was called short and in doing so, any bills that were sitting there were not passed.

Some of those were rather important. I'm trying to go through this a little bit quicker. But one of the ones that really, I think is hurting was to be able to change the unemployment for active military. If you are on active military and not getting paid, you still have to show up for work. You can't go look for a job. You're not eligible for unemployment. So, we had Coast Guard, not being paid. What this would do is allow military, that are on active duty and not getting paid, to apply for unemployment.

Unfortunately, that was one of the bills that did not pass. Also, the state funds programs for the money for the veteran's home down in Roseburg, that money was still sitting on the table. It never got voted on. Hopefully, they'll get to it next year, but it does slow down the funds coming through there. If I made any errors on this, I'm sure Jim will let me know that I got it wrong. So anyway, there were a couple of other things I was going to bring up that we'll let it go there to shorten the time.

Larry Wittmayer, the bills that did not pass, do they have to be completely reintroduced?

John Lee, My understanding is yes. It's just like if we have a resolution that goes through here and it gets forgotten, we don't vote on it. Larry, you had to rewrite that resolution to send it through again. Same thing with the bills that had in our Congress and Senate. You have to do that. And that's the end of my report. And thank you for approving our procedures.

Steve Adams Calls on Chaplin Steve Shollenburg for an announcement. Commander, we just received a note, that District 8 Glenn Stam had serious breathing problems and he's been admitted into Emmanuel Hospital in Portland. So please put him on your prayer list. I'll put him on the chapter call prayer list when I get home.

Steve Adams calls on **Terry Brown**, District Seven, Commander. I don't know if this is for the good of the order or not, but let's say **I'm having buyer's remorse**, for a better lack of term. But we may have passed a **resolution today based on an opinion**. As all due respect, to Ed Van Dyke, two paragraphs that he read from a rather lengthy, according to him, email that was sent out and we're asking for **this person to lose her job**. Now, I don't know what her performance has been since 2018, when she took over as Director of ODVA. If it's been really good, why do we want to remove that person? Was it right for her to send out her opinion? No, but is it egregious enough that she should lose her job? I don't know.

I'm getting a little sensitive about people, demanding people to lose their jobs. Being kicked out. I grew up with John Wayne. John Wayne made some comment 30 years ago. So now they're removing his name from an airport, taking down a statue just goes on and on. It's just like, is this overreacting to something that came up? My opinion.

Steve Adams, Thank you, sir,

Jon Marsh, Sons of the American Legion report. The only reason I came up here, it's kind of lengthy. **We've got two resolutions.** So, I'll start right at the beginning. We opened the meeting at 1:00 PM. Carl Pawlik, Willy Williams, Larry Wardell and Jon Marsh. Kevin Owens, Dan Burks, Bob Sloan, Mark Cheney, Rob Liebenow. Jeff Gordon, Jerry Patton and Gary Patton. The meeting ensued. That's all I have for neat notes at the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 1:49.

During the meeting, **there was two resolutions** that were brought to the floor. They were brought by Carl, I believe. Carl Pawlik read two resolutions. Jerry Patton made a motion to accept the resolution as read.

That's **resolution number one.** Where all and whereas, where there are no funds in the Sons of the American Legion budget for a yearly American Legion family picnic. And whereas the Sons of American Legion are created to be part of the American Legion family. Whereas the cost of hosting a statewide Sons of the American Legion picnic by squadron can be prohibitive. And whereas all squadrons must have the same ability to host a Sons of the American Legion family picnic.

Therefore, at the Sons of the American Legion, Department of Oregon Detachment Executive Committee meeting held in Lebanon, Oregon at Post 51, on October 3, 2020 voted to include any annual Sons of the American Legion Detachment of Oregon budget, \$500 for an annual picnic. And therefore, be it resolved.

Squadrons must apply for writing for the annual picnic funding prior to the Sons of the American Legion yearly convention, and therefore be a resolve. The rule will be taken at the Sons of American Legion, detachment of Oregon State Convention, and wording picnic funding to a squadron. And therefore, be it finally resolved. This resolution will be adopted in the Fall in the 2021 State Convention. After a heated debate, it was passed by a vote of eight yay, three nay. That's resolution one.

You want me to read both of them before you vote on them, or do you want to vote on this one?

Steve Adams, **Resolution one** was read by Jon Marsh, any discussion? Okay. I will accept a motion for resolution one from the Sons of the American Legion. **Andy Millar So, moved.** Andy Millar made the Motion. Do I have a second? **Don Weber, Second the Motion.**

We have a **second to the Motion to accept resolution one from the Sons of the American Legion.** Any discussion? Hearing none all in favor, say aye. Group says Aye, those opposed.? **Motion carries.**

Jon Marsh, **Motion two.** Kevin Owens made a motion to accept the resolution as read.

Whereas, all squadrons must have an equal chance to host the Sons of American Legion Detachment of Oregon annual picnic. And **whereas** all squadrons are required to submit your reports to the Sons of American Legion, Detachment of Oregon. And whereas all squadrons going to submit a written request to host the Sons of the American Legion annual picnic; including date and location with your annual reports, the executive committee can review, request and select a squadron that will host the Sons of American Legion, Detachment of Oregon annual picnic.

Therefore, you resolved that the Sons of American Legion Department of Oregon detachment executive committee meeting held in Lebanon on October 3, **voted to include written requests for funding for the annual Sons of American Legion picnic to be included with required yearly reports.** Therefore, the Sons of American Legion, **Detachment of Oregon, will name the squadron selected to host the annual picnic for the Sons of the American Legion Detachment of Oregon annual convention.**

Therefore, we had finally resolved this **resolution will be adopted immediately following the 2022 state convention.** It was passed by a vote of 12 yay, one abstaining. That's the resolution. I was going to go ahead and read the rest of it.

Steve Adams, To **enter resolution two.** Jon Says Two. I would entertain a **motion** for Resolution **two** from the Sons of the American Legion. **Andy Millar So moved. Jerry Patton Second.**

Don Weber asks What's different about the first one?

Jon Marsh, All it is, is they're requesting this be put in the yearly report. Requests to host the picnic, be included with their yearly report. Want to read it? Want me to read it again?

Don Weber, Do we really need it?

Jon Marsh, I don't know. They passed it, so I would say so.

Rob Liebenow past Department Commander. I was in there. **I think the first resolution is authorizing the \$500.**

Steve Adams, Thanks, Rob. Thank you. We have a **motion on the floor for Resolution Two** from the **Sons of the American Legion**. Is there any discussion? If not all in favor, say aye. Group says Aye.

Those opposed? , **Motion carried.**

Jon Marsh, Thank you. I'll just read the end of what they gave me to read. Willy Williams and Carl Pawlik traveling to Roseburg to work with Larry Hill to set up a Squadron in Roseburg. They're also attempting to get a Sweet Home Squadron up and running.

Bob Huff said that he has a member that will revitalize Medford Squadron and has asked Ward Allen to send him the information packets, as everything has burned in the fires. Seaside Squadron 99 won a national award for children and youth consolidated report.

Milton Freewater donated a \$100 to the fire fund of the Oregon American Legion Foundation.

Rob Liebenow said that he was taking donations for his first vice commander coin. The proceeds are going to go to the Department of Oregon. Is anybody missed? Brown resigned, and Carl Pawlik appointed Mark Cheney to Assistant Sergeant at Arms. **That's the end of my report,** Commander.

Steve Adams, Thank you, sir. You can go home now. Do we have anything else?

The **January DEC** is to be determined; however, the dates have been set. The dates for the January DEC, January 16th and 17th. I had a discussion with Mr. Marsh earlier today, and we will know exactly where, by the end of this week, right, Jon? The spring DEC is still scheduled for La Pine. Jon said I got a good report today.

Steve Adams So, did I, thanks, Jon. So, Charlie, you needed to know exactly where it was going to be, because of the (?) that's when it's going to be.

Kevin, On the 9th, 10th, and 11th. ? Steve, Yeah. Yes. April.

Steve Adams, There might've been a little confusion because, to start with, it was scheduled for April 3 well, we can't do that through because that's Easter. So, we had to change it. And so, we changed it to the 9th, 10th, and 11th at La Pine. I have talked to the Commander and the Adjutant

at La Pine, and they're looking forward to it. So, everything seems to be doing just fine now. Is there any further business to be brought before this DEC?

Okay. If none, would you please stand, and we'll ask the department Chaplain Steve Shollenburg to give our benediction.

Benediction, Steve Shollenburg

Until we meet again, let us remember our obligation to our country can be fulfilled only by the painful performance of all duties of citizenship. Let service to the community, state, and nation be ever a main objective of the American Legion and its members.

Let us be ever watchful of the honor of our country, our organization, and ourselves. That nothing shall swerve us from the path of justice, freedom, and democracy. Facing the flag of our country, hand salute. Two.

I now declare this meeting of the Department of Oregon executive meeting adjourned.

Submitted

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "S. Flynn Phillips". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long vertical stroke extending downwards from the end.

S. Flynn Phillips

Adjutant