



102nd Department Convention Meeting Minutes

BOB HUFF CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

**June 24th, 2021
Canyonville Oregon
10:22 P.M.**

**Call to order
Salute to Colors
Opening Prayer**

Department Commander Steve Adams

**POW/MIA Ceremony
Pledge of Allegiance
Preamble
Roll Call Quorum present
Reading of the previous minutes
Reading of the Department Standing Rules
Introductions of Department Officers
Reports**

Flynn Phillips:

Bob Huff will read the preliminary report from the credentials committee.

Bob Huff:

This is the first reading, we will have the [inaudible 00:00:06] reading tomorrow. I have to go through every post in the department. I will... Those posts that are in good standing that have paid, I will announce their delegates. I will announce posts that have not paid. And then a list of those that are not qualified because they don't have 15 members.

Portland Post 1 has no delegates at this time. Post Number 2, Washington, has three delegates. Post 4 Eugene has no votes. Post 4 Bend has no votes. Post 5 Willamette Falls has five delegates; three delegates and two delegates-at-large. Post 6 Hillsboro has five delegates; four delegates in one delegate-at-large. Post 7 Silverton has no votes. Post 8 Klamath Falls has five votes four delegates and one delegate-at-large.

Can everyone hear me?

Post 9 Capital has four delegate votes. Post 10 Albany has seven delegate votes. Post 11 Corvallis is three delegate votes. Post 12 Astoria has no votes and is not a good standing. Post 14 Ashland has two delegate votes. Post 15 Medford has four delegate votes. Post 16 Earl B. Stewart has four delegate votes. Post 17 Keizer has two delegate votes. Post 19 The Dalles has no vote. Post 20 Carl B. Fenton [inaudible 00:02:11] has three delegate votes. Post 21 McMinnville as seven votes, six delegates, and one delegate-at-large. Post 22, Hood River has no votes. Post 23 Pendleton has no vote. Post 24 Milton-Freewater has four votes, 3 delegates and one delegate-at-large. Post 25 Condon has no vote. Post 26 Bandon has two delegate votes. Post 28 Grants Pass has five delegate votes. Post 29 Crook County has five votes, four delegates and one delegate-at-large. Post 30 Gresham has three delegate votes. Post 32 Cottage Grove has three delegate votes.

Post 33 Independence has no vote. Post 34 Bay Area has six votes, four delegates and two delegates-at-large. Post 36 Coquille has two delegate votes. Post 37 Hermiston has four votes, three delegates and one delegate-at-large. Post 40 Springfield has no vote. Post 41 Baker City has no vote. Post 42 St. Helens has three delegate votes. Post 43 La Grande has four delegate votes. Post 44 Ray Johnson has no vote. Post 45 La Pine has six delegate votes. Post 46 Woodburn has three delegate votes. Post 47 Tillamook has no vote. Post 48 Warm Springs is incarceration. They would all like to be here, but they can not come. And that is actually true because someone who was just released two weeks ago, it was in my office at the VA and said they would all like to come to convention.

Post 49 Morrow has two delegate votes. Post 50 Williams Valley has three delegate votes. Post 51 Santiam has 12 votes, eight delegate and four delegate-at-large. Post 55 Moser has no vote. Post 56 Argonne has four delegate votes. Post 57 Lester Rees [inaudible 00:04:41] has three delegate votes. Post 58 Stayton has three delegate votes. Post 59 Florence has no vote. Post 61 Tri County has four votes, three delegate, and one delegate-at-large. Post 62 Reedsport has two delegate votes. Post 63 Harney County has four votes, three delegate and one delegate-at-large. Post 64 Oak Ridge has two votes. Post 65 Wilsonville has four votes, three delegate and one delegate-at-large. Post 67 Ontario has five votes, three delegate and two delegate-at-large. Post 68 Clatskanie has three votes. Post 69 Rogue River has no vote.

Post 70 Glen Morrison has two delegate votes. Post 72 Walla Walla as two delegate votes. Post 73 Moffitt has no votes. Post 74 Carl Douglas has four votes, three delegate and one delegate-at-large. Post 75 Sheridan, no vote. Post 76 Port Orford has no vote. Post 77 Ellis Tracey has no vote. Post 79 Nyssa has two delegate votes. Post 83 Santa Clara has five delegate votes. Post 84 Malin has three delegate votes. Post 86 Sisters has five votes, four delegate and one delegate-at-large. Post 87 Hepner has no votes. Post 89 Mount Angel has three delegate votes. Post 90 Banks has three delegate votes. Post 95 Lone has no vote. Post 95 Vail has no vote. Post 97 Lincoln City has no vote. Post 98 St. Johns has two delegate votes. Post 99 Seaside has seven votes, five delegate and two delegate-at-large.

Post 100 Philomath [inaudible 00:07:02] has no vote. Post 104 Aloha has eight votes, seven delegates and one delegate-at-large. Post 106 Prairie City has three delegate votes. Post 108 Corbett, no

vote. Post 110 Aurora, no vote. Post 115 Dayville no vote. Post 116 Newport has five delegate votes. Post 119 Veronia has two votes. Post 121 Sutherlin has three votes. Post 122 Canby has five votes. Post 123 Fallin [inaudible 00:07:46] has three votes. Post 124 Beaverton has three votes. Post 125 Jefferson County has no vote. Post 126 Nehalem [inaudible 00:08:01] has no vote. Post 127 Sandy has no votes. Post 129 Central Point has three votes. Post 130 Athena has no vote. Post 131 Deer Ridge no vote. Post 133 Sweet Home has no vote. Post 134 F and J Ravin has three votes. Post 135 Wamic has no vote. Post 136 Salem has three votes. Post 137 Dana King has two votes. Post 140 Mission no vote. Post 148 Monument, no vote. Post 149 Pioneer has two delegate votes.

Post 150 Oregon Trail no vote. Post 152 Oakland has two votes. Post 157 Joseph, no vote. Post 158 Tigard has nine votes, seven delegate and two delegate-at-large. Post 159 Mill City two votes. Post 164 Spray, no vote. Post 168 Cannon Beach has three votes. Post 173 Carlton Memorial has four votes. Post 180 Milwaukee has eight votes. Post 184 Brownsville has three votes. Post 185 Musicians has no vote. Post 192 White City has four votes, three delegate and one delegate-at-large.

Commander. We have 75 folks that are standing in this department. At this point, we have 47 already present with more coming. We have a quorum. We have 11 posts that do not have 15 members. And by the way, we are ahead right now from our last convention on all accounts.

Steve Adams:

We will have the reading of the proposed Constitution and Bylaws amendments. [crosstalk 00:10:48]

Bob Huff:

The first reading today. And the second reading tomorrow we vote on it. [crosstalk 00:12:04].

Steve Adams:

Sergeant of Arms I need Ward Allen. Will you come up to the podium please

Ward Allen;

I would love to

Steve Adams:

Do you want to give him the Constitution and By-Laws so that he can read them

Ward Allen:

So welcome, everyone. This is going to be a reading of the Constitution and Bylaws. [crosstalk 00:13:06]
No way. Is this any better guys? So it's going to be...

There is no breaks. [inaudible 00:13:24]

Steve Admas:

We're going to take a real quick break from reading the Constitution and Bylaws. I would like to have Dean Kessel and Rob Liebenow now come to the podium please.

Rob Liebenow:

Just so you know, at National we take the shortest way to the podium. As long as we salute the flag, doesn't matter which side we come up on. Dean, I'd like to present you with one of our National Vice Commander coins. And I always like to say two things about these coins. One is for historical because they are the only National Vice Commander coins that are dated for two years. You'll probably never see that happen again. And secondly, if you collect these coins, they're very collectible because out of the five National Vice Commanders, we only had 500 of these coins made. So they're very limited. So it is my pleasure to present you with that coin.

[crosstalk 00:15:41].

Ward Allen:

So is this better? Can everyone hear me now? Fantastic. I'm going to have your attention here for a minute.

So I'm getting ready to read the resolutions. These resolutions are in your binders, in your packets that were handed out. This is going to be number C1 consolidation of Alexander Harper Post 115 and Ellis Tracy Post 77 or different district 10 Daniel Burks.

Whereas Alexander Harper 115 has experienced a continual decline in post membership and has not met the minimum membership requirements of 15 members over the past five years. And

Whereas Alexander Post 115 has not had a post meeting and over five years and has not had a functioning executive committee for over 10 years. And

Whereas Alexander Post 115 has not been successful in getting membership involved in stepping forward to fill the leadership positions in the post. And

Whereas Alexander Harper Post 115 membership does not feel that the additional membership to fill officers and executive committee positions is attainable and

Whereas Alexandra Harper Post 115 membership has expressed in a two thirds majority vote for post consolidation with Ellis Tracy Post 77,

Whereas Ellis Tracy Post 77 membership has expressed in a two thirds majority vote for a post merger.

And

Whereas Alexander Harper Post 115 has no physical assets. However, there are minimal monies available in a business checking account that would transfer to Ellis Tracy Post 77 for benefit of membership of both posts.

Be it resolved that upon approval of the Department of Oregon Executive Committee, the existing six members of Alexander Harper Post 115 shall become members of Ellis Tracy Post 77 and shall be afforded all rights and privileges extended to the regular members and

Be a further result that the balance of the monies in Alexander Harper Post 115 checking account, as well as their financial records shall be turned over to the Adjutant and Finance Officer of Ellis Tracy Post 77 and

Be it further resolved that Alexandra Harper Post 115, Adjutant and District 10 Commander shall deliver the Alexander Harper Post 115 post charter. I post colors to headquarters Department of Oregon as if it has been dissolved dated this day, May 1st, 2021.

Now showing up **resolution C03**. This is the support of the Preamble of the American Legion constitution council department convention.

Whereas after pledging fledgling American Legion adopted a word for word provisional declaration preamble, the constitution May 8th through 10th, 1919 St. Louis caucus delegates praised the founding document as, "It came from the opportunity time. It summed up the spirit of our endeavors. It forecasted the mighty future for us." And in that moment, the American Legion stepped forward and became before the nation, the force made visible its soul with voice the incarnation of a greater endeavor. And

Whereas the preamble of the American Legion constitution was adopted at the Minneapolis national convention, November 10th through 12th, 1919 with 10 phrases that the builders of the American Legion were instructed to proceed with their jobs and

Whereas were asked after 102 years of preambles, 10 phrases still defines who we are, what we do and for whom we serve.

Whereas the American work, the America that generations of citizens sacrifice to preserve is now under attack by factions, shelter, shatter our democracy, and the cherished values of our nation, as long as it enjoyed [inaudible 00:19:25].

Whereas alternative measures to the public safety, additional security, freedom of religion and speech, freedom of speech elections, education, and other values are being injected to weaken our nation's infrastructure. Now,

Therefore be resolved by the 102nd convention of the American Legion department of Oregon, meeting assembled in Canyonville, Oregon on June 24th to 26th, 2021 at the American Legion as a storage inaudible 00:19:50] history for formulating positions to support the Constitution of the United States and the American Legion and let it

Be featured resolved that the soul of the American Legion's voice echo across the grassroots of America, of our commitment to each individual phrase in our Constitution preamble for America to hear. And

Be it further result that the American Legion has multimedia resources to reaffirm its efficacy to America of its perpetual commitment to its congressional charge of upholding and defending the Constitution of the United States of America, legions' long longstanding commitment to promote and perpetuate a 100% Americanism and

Be it finally resolved that upon acceptance acceptable votes at the American Legion Department of Oregon convention on June 24th, 25th, 2021 at Seven Feathers resort in Canyonville Oregon, this resolution before the national organization to be presented at the American Legion 2021 National Convention to be held in Phoenix, Arizona.

Up to C4. Title: Violation of oaths [inaudible 00:20:56] corporate convention.

Whereas one of the purposes of the American Legion was congressionally charged on September 16th, 1919, to uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America that has not changed in 102 years.

Whereas one of the value principles in the American Legion's mission statement is American values and patriotism, meaning the American Legion and advocates for upholding and defending the United States Constitution. And

Whereas the American Legion having served in the armed forces as officers and non-commissioned officers took an oath to defend the Constitution of the United States of America against all enemies foreign and domestic. I note that has been taken since 1775 with some revisions, and

Whereas at certain documents such as DOD directive 1344.10 and the Hatch Act of 1939 advisement, 1993, directed the military to maintain non-partisan position regarding Baltics. And

Whereas according to [inaudible 00:21:58] open source documents, statements of a partisan or political nature were made by high ranking military officers and non-commissioned officers and colored violation of their oath of office DOD directive 1344.10 and the Hatch Act 1939.

Whereas the Department of Defense has conducted stand downs for the possible purpose of indoctrination of partisan political natures, distracting from the focus of America's national security interests around the world. Now

Therefore be it resolved by the 102nd convention of the American Legion Department of Oregon meeting assembled in Canyonville, Oregon, June 24-26, 2021, that the largest veteran's service organization, the American Legion publicly express its concerns for the above mentioned events and speak out in defense of our oaths of allegiance. That

Be a result that the American Legion encourage departments to be vigilant of violations of its partisan political nature by any persons or organizations under the auspices of DOD directive 1344.10 or the Hatch Act of 1939 and a former elected representatives when they occurred.

Be it further resolved that the American Legion use multi-media resources to reaffirm its advocacy to America of its perpetual commitment to its congressional charge of upholding and defending the Constitution of the United States of America and of the American Legions, a longstanding commitment to its four pillar, multifaceted national security positions and the promotion of American values and patriotism. And

Be it finally resolved that upon acceptable vote at the American Legion Department of Oregon convention on June 25th, 2021 at Seven Feathers Resort in Canyonville, this resolution be ordered to the national organization and be presented at the American Legion 2021 National Convention to be held in Phoenix, Arizona.

[crosstalk 00:24:04]

Apparently I missed one. **Number C2:** Consolidation of Monument Post 148 and Ellis Tracy Post 77. Mr. Commander, Dan Burks presented it does [inaudible 00:24:25] regarding Post consolidation, Whereas wanting to Post 148 has experienced continual decline in post membership and has not met the minimum membership requirements at 15 members over five years. And

Whereas Monument Post 148 has not had a Post meeting over five years and has not functioning executive committee in over 10 years.

Whereas Post 148 has not been successful in getting membership involved instead before for to fill leadership positions in the post.

Whereas monument Post 148 membership does not feel that the additional membership to fill officer and executive committee position is attainable. And

Whereas Monument Post 148 membership has expressed a two by two thirds, majority vote for post consolidation where the Ellis Tracy Post 77,

Whereas Ellis Tracy Post 77 membership as expressed in the two thirds majority vote for posted merger.

And

Whereas Monument Post 148 has no physical assets. However, there were minimal monies available in a business checking account that would be transferred to illustrate the Post 77 for the benefit of membership of both posts.

Be it resolved that upon approval of the Department of Oregon Executive Committee and the existing six members of Monument Post 148 shall become members of Ellis Tracy Post 77 and afforded all rights privileges extended to the regular members to

Be further resolved the balance of the monies in Monument Post 148 checking account as well as the financial records shall be turned over to the adjunct and finance officer of Ellis Tracy Post 77. And

Be it further resolved that Alexander Harper Post 115 adjunct and District 10 Commander shall deliver Alexandra Harper Post 115 charter and post colors to Department of Oregon headquarters.

Now, B1: Amendment to department Constitution and Bylaws, but it's an ad hoc extended [inaudible 00:26:22].

Whereas the Department of Oregon, adheres to the principles and abides by the jurisdictional guidance described within the national and department Constitution and Bylaws. And

Whereas the legislative body of the Department of Oregon shall be a department convention to be held annually at a location determined and approved and vote of the department executive committee. And Whereas critical business functions occur at the department convention, including the election and ratification of officers, approval of an annual budget, election of ratification, delegates to the national convention and taking action on the resolutions brought forth before the convention voting delegation. Whereas the potential exists for the postponement or cancellation of the department convention due to unforeseen or unactionable outcomes of events, which negatively impacts the ability of the Department of Oregon to conduct perfunctory duties and obligations. And

Whereas the Department of Oregon remained steadfast with the resolve to fulfill our own statement that the American Legion strengthens our communities, states and nation with programs and services for veterans, the military and the families.

And

Whereas the current modern business practices and technologies have evolved since the American Legion originated in its leadership responsibilities to advance the recommendation practices to the benefit of the American Legion and to all veterans. Now

Therefore be it resolved that the Department of Oregon constitution and bylaws be amended to permit upon the exigency, the conduct of virtual convention, whereby the requirements and obligations of the actions of a typical convention are fulfilled. The audio visual conference technology in accordance with statutory law as stipulated further within the resolution and

Be it further resolved that the constitution of the American Legion Department of Oregon Article 5, Section 1 be amended to [inaudible 00:28:17] the legislative body of the American Legion of Oregon shall be department convention to be held annually. The location of such convention shall be fixed by a vote of the department executive committee upon the recommendation of the department convention commission and the event of such exigency that the department convention cannot be conducted where, and as scheduled, the department executive committee shall be fixed by the vote, a decision to conduct a virtual department convention and audiovisual conference technology upon the dates commensurate with the exigency. And

Be it further resolved that consideration occurrence with the convention commission and the electronic voting platform utilized as deemed necessary during exigence in accordance with statutory law to conduct, collect and document for the record, all voting members majors that'd be conducted. And

Be it further resolved that the bylaws of the American Legion department of Oregon Article 5, Section 1, to be amended [inaudible 00:29:22] to several posts of the American Legion shall at least 45 days prior to the opening of the annual department convention, elected delegates and alternatives alternates and certified them to the department adjutant, the registration fee for all authorized delegates, alternates and delegates-at-large as it shall be determined by the department executive committee shall be set in accordance with the convention commission, go to procedures, no delegate shall be seated at the convention prior, except as herein provided.

And

Be it further resolved that the bylaws of the American Legion department of Oregon Article 7, be admitted to Section 14 upon... Exigence within virtual department conventions, all resolution memorials and other written submissions will be transferred via electronic transmissions to the appropriate committee and be it deemed necessary electronic voting platform utilized in accordance with statutory law to get up collect and document for all voting majors that conducted.

Be it further resolved that the minor edits to the language described herein and permitting provide no substantial deviations. That occurs [inaudible 00:30:37] and the context of this resolution would be it finally resolved that this amendment be adopted upon the acceptance and the American Legion Department of Oregon 2021, the department convention in Canyonville, Oregon.

Almost done.

All right, we are up to **B02**: Procedures do adopt a budget in the event of interruption of the department convention for the permanent finance committee, commission.

Whereas the permanent finance commission of the American Legion Department of Oregon is tasked with creating an annual budget for the financial year. And this occurs for the department bylaws, Article 8, permanent finance commission, Section 3, prepare an annual budget for ensuring the year for the Department of Oregon convention publishing the same 30 days before the next annual department convention and present the same at the convention for adoption. And Article 5 organization and administration Section 3, the legislative body of the Department of Oregon shall be in department convention. And

Whereas in the event of a cancellation of the department convention due to unforeseen circumstances prevents the adoption of the budget. And

Whereas there was no provision in the Constitution and Bylaws of the department of Oregon or the adoption of the budget without having a department convention.

Whereas the need to pass a budget is required to continue as functions as a legion department to support the aims principles and programs of the American Legion.

Therefore be it resolved that a mail-in ballot and a copy of the budget will be sent to each posts in good standing. And the Department of Oregon question that'd be returned within 30 days to the department headquarters and the event, the department convention is canceled and

Be approved resolved that the Department of Oregon budget will be adopted with a majority of yes votes received. And

Be it further resolved the department bylaws Article 8, permanent finance commission, Section 3 after and the present and present the same to the convention for adoption, add the sentence in the event of the convention is canceled at, in mail in ballot systems to each post in good standing will be authorized and

Be it further resolved that this resolution upon approval at the Department of Oregon convention at Seven Feathers, June 25th, 2021 take effect as it so implemented.

It's kind of, that's what it is [crosstalk 00:33:13] There's one that's supposed to be off. Okay. All right. I am reading these quick, these are in your packet. I just want to make sure they get put into the record. These are important, but if you follow along with me, we're doing **resolution number B03** titled: Merger of District Seven and Eight, [inaudible 00:33:32] Oregon, District Seven and Eight.

Whereas the American Legion department of Oregon constitutional bylaws Article 1 Section 1, district shall consist of all dutifully chartered post within the county boundaries except any post we've abstained. And the county after other than the assigned district county shall be grandfathered in their current district. And

Whereas there has been significant reduction in the number of posts, district seven and eight since originally formed. And

Whereas the overlapping post boundary screen and increasing complexity in coordinating with the local city, state, federal jurisdiction. And

Whereas if reduction is required, the district commanders and budgets will result in saving to the department budget. And

Whereas merging district seven and eight would increase the diversity of the applicants to feel the district leadership positions,

Whereas merging districts would be better aligning vote, delegates strength at convention. Now therefore be it result Department of Oregon as sole authority for determining the district boundaries and

therefore further result the district number for merging district seven and eight shall be district 78 and be it final result at the resolution take effect July 1st, 2022 as approved by the department of Oregon convention, June 25th, 2021 at Seven Feathers Resort in Canyonville, Oregon.

Commander those are the resolutions.

Steve Adams:

Thank you Ward

[crosstalk 00:35:46]

Speaker 3:

Okay, we're not going to have time to get to the committees and commissions reports right now because we're going to have to break for lunch in about 15 minutes anyway. So we're going to break now, and I request all District Commanders, go out into the hall during this extended break and get your boxes with your membership cards, please. If you don't, then the adjutant [inaudible 00:36:19] is going to have the mail those from department. And after the last couple of years, you don't want to see our department adjutant [inaudible 00:36:32] after he's licked that many stamps.

[crosstalk 00:36:45]

Steve Adams:

The reconvene time will be at 1:45 today, be here promptly please so we can get started. So at this time, convention is...

The Americanism lunch is in the Juniper Room and the box lunches are going to be in the auxiliary [inaudible 00:37:19] meeting room.

Chair recognizes Cory Brockmann.

Cory Brockmann:

When will we announce to the convention committee time and locations we've been signed up to follow 1345 following the lunck

Steve Adams:

Okay. Your committee chair times and places are on the wall, out in the hallway. You need to check those for location and time. Also the people that are on those committees that were named on those committees, fine, but anybody is allowed to attend in any committee that they wish to. Okay. It's not closed just to members. So we stand in recess until 1:45.

