



**16th District Department of Virginia
The American Legion
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TO: 16th District Commander
FROM: 16th District Adjutant
DATE: June 7, 2020
SUBJ: 2020 District Convention Minutes

The 2020 District Convention was held on June 6, 2020 using a Virtual Meeting format.

Opening: The Joint Session was called to order by Vice Commander Terri Puckett.
Invocation: The invocation was provided by District Chaplain Robert Yowell.
Pledge: The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Vice Commander Terri Puckett.
POW/MIA: The POW/MIA Chair image was added to the slides and remembrance made.
Preamble: The Legion Preamble was led by Vice Commander Terri Puckett.
Post Welcome: There was no Post Welcome as there was no host Post.
Guests Intro: There were no scheduled special guests.
Legionnaires: Distinguished legionnaires (Past District/Department Commanders). Present were:

Name	Position(s)
Bob Brady	District Commander – 2002
Charles King	District Commander – 2009
David Stein	District Commander – 2010, Department Commander – 2017
Danny Goolsby	District Commander – 2013
Robert Yowell	District Commander – 2015
John Ward	District Commander – 2016
Sonnie Dickerson	District Commander – 2019

Auxiliary: District President Ginger Harvey provided the welcoming remarks for the 16th District Auxiliary. President Harvey introduced a special guests, Department President Dr. Lisa Chaplin and Northern Zone Vice President Karen Hunter.
General: There were no general announcements provided for the Joint Session.
Benediction: The benediction for the Joint Session was provided by Auxiliary Chaplain Paula Mullins.
Conclusion: The Joint Session was adjourned by Commander Carty.

The 16th District 2020 Convention was reconvened after the intermission and was called to order by Commander Carty.

A roll call of officers was completed:

District Position	Name (Post)	Status
Commander	John Carty (29)	Present
1 st Vice	Terri Puckett (29)	Present
2 nd Vice	Matt Matyuf (150)	Present
3 rd Vice	Lizzie Fontaine (1836)	Excused
Sergeant-At-Arms	Rick Shultz (290)	Absent
Chaplain	Robert Yowell (247)	Present
Adjutant	Ziggy Levison (247)	Present
Finance Officer	Bob Brady (247)	Present
Historian	Ed Thompson (290)	Absent
Judge Advocate	Mark Meier (10)	Absent
Service Officer	Steve Botello (10)	Present
Americanism	Jim Brock (10)	Absent
Athletic	VACANT	
American Legion Riders	Matt Matyuf	Present
Blood Donor	Ziggy Levison (247)	Present
Boys State	Robert Yowell (247)	Present
Children & Youth	VACANT	
Constitution & Bylaws	John Hess (290)	Absent
Credentials	John Ward (34)	Present
Foreign Relations	Charles King (293)	Present
JROTC Drill	Danny Goolsby	Present
Junior Shooting Sports	VACANT	
Legislative	Mike Wilson (28)	Present
Media & Comm	Ziggy Levison (247)	Present
Membership	Terri Puckett (29)	Present
National Security	VACANT	
New Posts	Bob Brady (247)	Present
Nominating Committee	John Ward (24)	Present
Oratorical	Terri Puckett (34)	Present
Rehabilitation (VA&R & VAVS)	Steve Botello (10)	Present
Resolutions	John Hess (290)	Absent
Sons of the American Legion	John Ward (34)	Present
Youth Cadet Law Enforcement	Mark Stein (10)	Excused

Posts attendance and representation were:

Post	Status	Representative
10	Present	Mary Antio
28	Absent	Absent
34	Present	Terri Puckett
72	Present	Claude Davenport
114	Absent	George Odom
150	Absent	Absent
247	Present	Joanne Smoot
290	Present	Patrick Fox
293	Absent	Absent

295	Absent	Absent
330	Present	Danny Goolsby
360	Present	Larry Washington
364	Present	Steve Blackstone
1799	Present	David Revill
1836	Present	Dan Zajic
2001	Present	Scott Morse

A call for certification of the number of Posts present for a quorum was made by Commander Carter. It was announced at the time that 10 of 16 Posts were present which met the minimum of 6, therefore a quorum was met. NOTE: Due to technical difficulties there were two other Post Commanders present that did not appear on the list at the time of the quorum call. Subsequent review of the attendance records indicate there were 12 of 16 Posts Commanders or their designated representative present. There were officers and members of Post 28, 150, and 293 but none were certified in advance to represent the Post.

Technical difficulties did not allow us to recognize Finance Officer Bob Brady at the appropriate time. Subsequent we had Finance Committee Chair David Stein give the report that Bob Brady had provided before the meeting. A review of the budget and finances were provided and a copy has been filed with the Adjutant. A motion was pre-filed by John Ward and seconded by Adjutant Levison to accept the Finance Report subject to audit and it was carried by unanimous consent without objection.

The following Committee Chair reports are on file and individual reporting was waived due to the nature of the Virtual Convention:

- Americanism – No report.
- Athletic – No report.
- American Legion Riders – Report available online.
- Blood Donor – Report available online.
- Boys State – Report available online.
- Children and Youth – No report
- Constitution and Bylaws – No report.
- Credentials – No report required at this time.
- JROTC Drill – Report available online.
- Junior Shooting Sports – No report.
- Legislative – Report available online.
- Media and Comm – Report available online.
- Membership – No report.
- National Security – No report.
- New Posts – No report.
- Nominations – Report available online.
- Oratorical – Report available online.

Rehabilitation (VA&R & VAVS) – Report available online (combined under Service Officer Report).

Resolutions – No report.

Sons of the American Legion – No report.

Historian – No report.

Adjutant – Minutes from last meeting posted online, no additional reporting.

Chaplain – No report, nothing to report.

Sergeant At Arms – No report.

Third Vice – Report available online.

Second Vice – Report available online.

First Vice – Report available online.

Commander – Report available online.

Old Business – Bylaws Updates. The committee has not met due to COVID-19 restrictions. Matter resubmitted to committee to report out at the Fall Conference.

New Business – No new business was presented to the Commander prior to the Convention to be recognized.

Elections – John Ward, Nominations Committee Chair presented the candidates for elected office for the 16th District. Officer nominations were:

Finance Committee Member – Robert Yowell (247)

Sgt At Arms – Rick Schultz (290)

Chaplain – Robert Yowell (247)

Finance Officer – Bob Brady (247)

Vice Cmdr – Mark Stein (10)

Vice Cmdr – Lizzie Fontaine (1836)

Vice Cmdr – Jim Grenier (34)

Cmdr of the 16th District – Terri Puckett (34)

A call was made for floor nominations and none were provided. A motion was pre-filed by John Ward and seconded by Adjutant Levison to accept the nominations as presented. A call was made for any objections to the unanimous consent and none were registered. The election of officers was carried by unanimous consent without objection.

Commander Carty introduced District Commander Elect Terri Puckett to make acceptance remarks.

Commander Elect Puckett made a brief acceptance speech thanking everyone for their support.

Commander Carter congratulated all elected officers on their selection and noted the administration of the Oath of Office would be suspended until the District Planning Meeting. A question arose over the swearing in of Post Commanders. This matter was deferred to each post to conduct.

Commander Carty called for any items for the Good of The American Legion and recognized Dave Stein. Dave Stein readdressed the question of swearing in of Post Commander and Post Officers. If there are new officers to be sworn in, this can be done by the Post or they can request a visit from the District Commander when the COVID-19 restrictions are lifted. Dave Stein also presented information on Department Committee assignments that had been made. He also provided information on a limited upcoming Department Convention that would be held on July 11 at 10:00 AM with additional details to be provided. The voting for Department Officers will be accomplished via mail-in balloting and Post Commanders should be looking for the packet of information to be delivered. The DEC Meeting will be at 12:00 Noon on July 11 and District Commander Puckett will be receiving information on that soon.

Vice Commander Puckett announced that Membership Cards had been received and Post Commanders should contact her to arrange for a handoff of the new year membership cards.

Commander Carty provided closing remarks thanking all for the hard work they had done this year to make the District highly successful.

The closing benediction was given by Chaplain Robert Yowell. The convention was then closed by Commander John Carty.