

**DEPARTMENT OF PACIFIC AREAS**  
**Minutes – CONVENTION**  
**13-15 June, 2022, Angeles City Philippines**

**Opening Ceremonies:** Department Commander Kevin Mitchell called the Department of Pacific Areas Convention to order at 1000, 13 June 2022, in Angeles City, Philippines. Opening ceremonies were held according to VFW ritual.

**Appointments:** Sergeant at Arms – David Gley.

**Distinguished Guests:** Adjutant Watson introduced the guests into the Convention; VFW National Chief of Staff, Matt Claussen; National Council Member Pete Callaghan.

Adjutant Chaplin introduced Military Order of the Cootie Grand Commander, Robert Moses.

Adjutant Chaplin then recognized the Past National Council Members Shawn Watson. He introduced Past Department Commanders, Larry Lyons, Jim Malott, Shawn Watson, Robert Moses, and John Gilbert. He also introduced the Past Grand Commanders Kevin Mitchell, Shawn Watson and Warren Maxon. Adjutant Watson recognized all active duty military that were present.

**Roll Call of Officers:** Adjutant Watson called the Roll Call of Officers as follows:

Department Commander: Kevin Mitchell - Present  
Senior Vice Commander: Warren Maxson - Present  
Junior Vice Commander: Kenneth Stein - Present  
Adjutant/Quartermaster: Shawn Watson – Present  
Chief of Staff: Peter Callaghan - Present  
Judge Advocate: Delbert Marohl – Excused  
Chaplain: Ron Davis - Excused  
Surgeon: Mariano Fajardo - Present  
Inspector: Robert Moses - Present  
Junior Past Department Commander: Kenneth Stein - Present  
District I Commander: Curtis Kozlesky - Present zoom  
District II Commander: Tim Anderson – Present zoom  
District III Commander: Don Kelley - Present  
District IV Commander: Scott Ellinger – Present zoom  
District V Commander: Randy Riggs – Present  
District VI Commander: Brad Ruzala - Present  
District VII Commander: Bobby Reyes – Present

**Rules of Order:** Adjutant Watson stated that the Rules were posted on the Department website and included in the May Typhoon newsletter. Motion was made and seconded to accept the rules as distributed and posted. **Motion Passed.**

**Minutes of the Mid-Term C of A:** Adjutant Watson stated that the minutes were posted on the Department website. Motion was made and seconded to accept the subject to correction. **Motion Passed.**

**Adjutant:** NTR

**Reports:**

**Quartermaster:** Quartermaster Watson handed out the Department of Pacific Areas Income/Expense budget for 2021-202 (as of 31 May 2022). He will present the DPA Income/Expense budget for 2019-2020 for approval at the In-Coming C of A, 12 June 2019.

**Senior Vice Commander /Membership / Veterans Assistance Committee:** Sr. Vice Commander Maxson read his report. (Atch A)

**Junior Vice Commander / Community Activities Chairman:** Jr. Vice Commander Fores gave a verbal report. He spoke about the DPA Awards program (winners to be announced at the Installation Banquet). (Atch B);

**National Council Member/ Chief of Staff:** Council Member Callaghan gave oral report.

**Commander District I:** Commander Kozlesky read his report.

**Commander District II:** Commander Anderson read his report. (Atch E)

**Commander District III:** Commander Kelley read his report. (Atch F)

**Commander District IV:** Commander Ellinger read the report. (Atch G)

**Commander District V:** Commander Riggs read the report. (Atch H)

**Commander District VI:** Commander Ruzala read his report. (Atch I)

**Commander District VII:** Commander Reyes gave a verbal report.

**Chaplain:** Adjutant Watson read the Chaplain report. (Atch J)

**Surgeon:** Surgeon Fajardo read his report. (Atch K)

**Judge Advocate:** Adjutant Watson read Judge Advocate the report. (Atch M)

**Service Officer:** Department Service Officer Pierce submitted a report.

**Inspector:** Inspector Moses read his report. (Atch N)

**Junior Past Department Commander:** JPDC Stein read his report. (Atch O)

**National Home for Children:** Chairman Himes submitted a report. (Atch R)

**Veterans & Military Support Programs:** Chairman Kelley submitted his report. (Atch U)

**Legacy Life Membership:** Chairman Lyons read his report. (Atch V)

**Certified National Recruiter:** PDC Lyons announced the names of DPA Recruiters for the 2019-20, 2020-21 and 2021-22 years for Recruiting Pins and those receiving Gift Certificates. These recruiting awards were presented by National Chief of Staff Claussen and DPA Commander Mitchel. (Atch Y)

**Comrade or Family Member in Distress:** Robert Dells and JD Keller had passed  
Commander Mitchell's brother and sister have passed. Inspector Moses brother had passed.

**National Home Prayer:** Acting Chaplain Travers delivered the prayer for the National Home for Children.

**Unfinished Business:**

- No Unfinished Business brought forward at this time.

**New Business:**

- The following resolutions were voted upon and passes:
  - Convert the Manila Department of Veteran’s Administration Outpatient Clinic to a full-fledged Veteran’s Administration Regional Medical Center.
  - Addition of Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) and Hazardous Material (Hazmat) Specialist to the Public Servant National Awards Program.
- The following National Bylaws were voted upon and passed:
  - Sec 720
  - Section 101
- The following National Manual of Procedure changes were voted upon and Passed:
  - Section 418(a)(1)
  - Section 418(a)(7) – was tabled on the first business day and then untabled the second business day and passed.
- Comrade Larson made a motion to require the Department Service Officer to be bonded. Second by Past Department Commander Webber. Motion Passed

**Nominations of DPA Officers for 2019-2020:**

The following Comrades were nominated and accepted their nominations:

**Commander:** Warren Maxson

**Senior Vice Commander:** Alex Fores

**Junior Vice Commander:** Mike Lutman

**Junior Vice Commander:** Mariano Fajardo

**Quartermaster:** Shawn Watson

**Chaplain:** Lou Holub

**Surgeon:** Jack Farrell

Commander Mitchell announced that all nominations would remain open until tomorrow’s business session, (15 June 2022). He then had the Sergeant at Arms prepare the room to salute the colors and called a recess at 1235 hours to reconvene tomorrow, 15 June 2022, at 0900 hours.

**Commander Mitchell reconvened the convention at 0900 hours, 15 June 2022.**

Commander Mitchell reopened Nominations of Officers for 2021-2022:

**Commander:** Warren Maxson

Commander Mitchell asked if there were any other nominations for Commander. No further nominations were made Commander Mitchell declare Warren Maxson the winner.

**Senior Vice Commander:** Alex Fores

Commander Mitchell asked if there were any other nominations for Sr Vice Commander. No further nominations were made Commander Mitchell declare Alex Fores the winner.

**Junior Vice Commander:** Mike Lutman

**Junior Vice Commander:** Mariano Fajardo

Commander Mitchell asked if there were any other nominations for Jr. Vice Commander. After a roll call vote Adjutant Watson declared that Mike Lutman had won the vote.

**Quartermaster:** Shawn Watson

Commander Mitchell asked if there were any other nominations for Quartermaster. No further nominations were made Commander Mitchell declare Shawn Watson the winner.

**Chaplain:** Lou Holub

Commander Mitchell asked if there were any other nominations for Chaplain. No further nominations were made Commander Mitchell declare Lou Holub the winner.

**Surgeon:** Jack Farrell

Commander Mitchell asked if there were any other nominations for Surgeon. No further nominations were made Commander Mitchell declare Jack Farrell the winner.

#### **Good of the Order:**

- Commander Mitchell recognized Bert Key, candidate for Jr Vice Commander in Chief, to address the Convention.
- Comrade Collins announced that the VA Regional office was going to set up an outreach in Angeles City.
- Comrade Collins briefed on the closing of the FPO for retirees in the next few months.
- Comrade Farrell announced his intention to run for Jr Vice of the Department.
- Commander Mitchell invited National Chief of Staff Claussen for any remarks or comments. CoS Claussen thanked the Department for a commendable year and emphasized the need to continue all efforts.

There being no further business to come under the Good of the Order, Commander Mitchell called a recess at 1025 hours to reconvene at 1800 tonight for the Installation Ceremony and dinner banquet.

Commander Mitchell reconvened the Convention at 1800 hours.

Following dinner, Commander Mitchell called upon Adjutant Watson to be Master of Ceremonies for the Evening Session. Chief of Staff Claussen and DPA Commander Mitchell presented the DPA Awards. Adjutant Chaplin called upon Commander Mitchell for his final words as Department Commander. Commander Mitchell addressed those gathered and then called upon Chief of Staff Claussen to perform the Installation of officers for the ensuing year Chief of Staff Claussen then installed Warren "Max" Maxson as the new Department of Pacific Areas Commander. Commander Mitchell was introduced and provided his opening remarks, expectations, and words of encouragement.

There being no further business to come before the Department of Pacific Areas Convention, Commander Maxson asked the newly installed officers to remain in order to conduct some final business then he conducted the closing ceremonies according to VFW Ritual.

By order of:

//signed//

Shawn C Watson  
Adjutant  
Department of Pacific Areas

//signed//

Kevin E. Mitchell  
Commander  
Department of Pacific Areas

Distribution:

Council Members (w/o attachments)

National Adjutant General (w/o attachments)