

DEPARTMENT OF PACIFIC AREAS

Minutes – CONVENTION

12-14 June 2023, Phnom Penh Cambodia

Opening Ceremonies: Department Commander Warren “Max” Maxson called the Department of Pacific Areas Convention to order at 1000, 12 June 2023, in Phnom Penh, Kingdom of Cambodia. Opening ceremonies were held according to VFW ritual.

Appointments: Sergeant at Arms – Fernando San Luis.

Distinguished Guests: Adjutant Watson introduced the guests into the Convention; Deputy Chief of Mission at the US Embassy for Cambodia, Michael DeTar, VFW National Inspector General, Shawn Watson; National Council Member Ken Stein: Military Order of the Cootie, Supreme Commander, Dwight Hora.

Adjutant Watson introduced the Military Order of the Cootie Grand Commander, Fred Berg.

Adjutant Watson then recognized the Past National Council Members Shawn Watson. He introduced Past Department Commanders, Bob Henault, Jim Malott, Larry Lyons, Shawn Watson, Rick Farris, Ken Stein. He also introduced the Past Grand Commanders Jim Malott, Kevin Mitchell, Shawn Watson, Pat “Doc” Higgins, and Warren Maxson. 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: - Warren Maxson Present
Senior Vice Commander: - Alex Fores Present
Junior Vice Commander: - Michael Lutman Present
Adjutant/Quartermaster: Shawn Watson – Present
Chief of Staff: Ricky Farris - Present
Judge Advocate: Delbert Marohl – Present
Chaplain: Louis Holub - Present
Surgeon: - John “Jack” Farrell Present
Inspector: Kenneth Stein - Present
Junior Past Department Commander: Kevin Mitchell - Present
District I Commander: Michael Stanley - Present
District II Commander: David Ingram – Present
District III Commander: Don Kelley - Present
District IV Commander: Scott Ellinger – Present
District V Commander: Randy Riggs – Present
District VI Sr Commander: Gary Hendrix - Present
District VII Commander: James Collins – Present

Rules of Order: Advocate Marohl read that the Rules and 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 2022-2023 (as of 31 May 2023). He will present the DPA Income/Expense budget for 2023-2024 for approval at the In-Coming C of A, 14 June 2023.

Senior Vice Commander /Membership / Veterans Assistance Committee: Sr. Vice Commander Fores read his report. Commander Maxson presented the All-State Caps. (Atch A)

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

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: Sr Vice Commander Hendix read his report. (Atch I)

Commander District VII: Commander Reyes gave a verbal report.

National Council Member/Inspector/Redistricting Chair: National Council Member Stein gave oral report.

Comrade Stein made a motion to accept the recommendation of the committee to redistrict the following: Move District 1 Post 9723, D5 Posts 10249, 11575, and 12146 to District 4 with Post 9957. Motion passed after much discussion.

Judge Advocate: Judge Advocate Marohl read his report. (Atch M)

Department By-law amendments: 402b – Passed, 402 c, d, e, f - Failed, 902- Passed, 1002 – Passed as amended (amendment was to add the date of 22 June 24 to the proposed amendment), 1202 – Passed and 1302 - Passed.

National By-law amendments: 101 – Passed, 416a – Passed, 903 – Failed, 1201- Failed

National Manual of Procedure: 41- Failed, 1201a1 – Failed, 1201a2 – Withdrawn

Commander Maxson postponed all other reports to the 2nd business session.

Nominations of DPA Officers for 2023-2024:

The following Comrades were nominated and accepted their nominations:

Commander: Alex Fores

Senior Vice Commander: Mike Lutman

Junior Vice Commander: John "Jack" Farrell

Quartermaster: Shawn Watson

Chaplain: Robert Chatman and Scott Ellinger

Surgeon: Louis Holub

Commander Maxson announced that all nominations would remain open until tomorrow's business session, (14 June 2023). He then had the Sergeant at Arms prepare the room to salute the colors and called a recess to reconvene 14 June 2023, at 0900 hours.

Commander Maxson Adjourned the convention until 0900 hours, 14 June 2023.

Commander Maxson reconvened the convention at 0900 hours, 14 June 2023.

Continue of Reports:

Chaplain: Chaplain Holub read his report. (Atch J)

Surgeon: Surgeon Farrell read his report. (Atch K)

Service Officer/Convention Chair: Department Service Officer Dibble read his report.

Department Service Officer: DSO Dibble read his report. (Atch N)

Chief of Staff: Chief of Staff Farris read his report.

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

PP/VOD/Teachers: Chairman Gley present National awards.

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

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

Certified National Recruiter/ Legacy Life Membership: Sr Vice Fores read the reports. (Atch V)

Comrade or Family Member in Distress: Andy Richards, Robert Riggs, John Gilbert, Jim Luther, and Ed Sostack.

National Home Prayer: Chaplain Holub delivered the prayer for the National Home for Children.

Unfinished Business:

- No Unfinished Business was brought forward at this time.

New Business:

- Jr Past Department Commander made a motion to be reimbursed \$269 for flowers at PDC Moses Funeral. It was 2nd. Motion Passed.

Commander Maxson reopened Nominations of Officers for 2023-2024:

Commander: Alex Fores

Commander Maxson asked if there were any other nominations for Commander. No further nominations were made, Commander Maxson declared Alex Fores the winner.

Senior Vice Commander: Michael Lutman

Commander Maxson asked if there were any other nominations for Sr Vice Commander. No further nominations were made, Commander Maxson declared Michael Lutman the winner.

Junior Vice Commander: John "Jack" Farrell

Commander Maxson asked if there were any other nominations for Jr. Vice Commander. No further nominations were made, Commander Maxson declared John "Jack" Farrell the winner.

Quartermaster: Shawn Watson

Commander Maxson asked if there were any other nominations for Quartermaster. No further nominations were made, Commander Maxson declared Shawn Watson the winner.

Chaplain: Robert Chatman and Scott Ellinger.

Commander Maxson asked if there were any other nominations for Chaplain. Scot Ellinger withdrew his name. No further nominations were made, Commander Maxson declared Robert Chatman the winner.

Surgeon: Louis Holub

Commander Maxson asked if there were any other nominations for Surgeon. No further nominations were made, Commander Maxson declared Louis Holub the winner.

Good of the Order:

- Comrade Holub asked if anyone needed any convention shirts to get with him.
- Comrade Collins presented a bid for Convention 2024 in Angeles City.
- Comrade Watson announced that he was going to seek the office of Jr Vice Commander in Chief 2028 and asked for total support from the Department. Comrade Stein made a motion that the Department 100% supports Comrade Watson. It was seconded. Motion Passed
- Comrade Ingram wishes the Army a 228th Birthday.
- Commander Maxson invited National Inspector General Watson for any remarks or comments. NIG Watson Congratulated the Department for an Outstanding.

There being no further business to come under the Good of the Order, Commander Maxson called a recess at 1015 hours to reconvene at 1800 tonight for the Installation Ceremony and dinner banquet.

Commander Maxson reconvened the Convention at 1800 hours.

Following dinner, Commander Maxson called upon Jr Vice Lutman to be Master of Ceremonies for the Evening Session. DPA Commander Maxson presented the DPA Awards. Jr Vice Lutman called upon Commander Maxson for his final words as Department Commander. Commander Maxson addressed those gathered and then called upon National Inspector General Watson to perform the Installation of officers for the ensuing year

National Inspector General Watson then installed Alex Fores as the new Department of Pacific Areas Commander. Commander Fores 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 Fores 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//

Warren "Max" Maxson
Commander
Department of Pacific Areas

Distribution:

Council Members (w/o attachments)

National Adjutant General (w/o attachments)