

SUMMARY OF MINUTES
Pre-Convention SEC
90th Department Convention
Post-Convention SEC
June 12, 2021
Saturday

0901 Adjutant Oliver read the Purpose of the DAV.

Commander Halford-Pandos called the Pre SEC to order. The opening benediction was led by Chaplain Howell and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chief of Staff Eck.

The Commander declared the Pre SEC opened for the transaction of such business as may rightfully come before it.

Our District 21 NEC John Donovan was welcomed and introduced by the Commander and the members attending their first SEC/Convention were recognized.

Adjutant Oliver called the roll with all five Officers and twenty-one Chapter SEC's present. A quorum was declared.

The Commander announced that due to family health reasons Even Year Finance Committeemen Charles Rukes of Chapter 4 had resigned. She has appointed Scott Chisum Chapter 88 to fulfill the unexpired term and asked for a motion to approve this appointment. Chapter 32 moved to approve; seconded by IPDC Black. The motion prevailed.

Treasurer Fred White gave the current finance report and read the proposed budget. Chapter 7 moved to approve the finance report; seconded by Chapter 61. The motion prevailed.

Commander Halford-Pandos appointed the following members to the Credentials Committee: First Vice Commander Brown, Adjutant Oliver, Chapter 39 Barefield, Chapter 29 Edgin, and Chapter 61 Hammons. Chapter 65 moved to approve the appointments; seconded by Chapter 33. The motion prevailed.

Department Inspector reported that we currently have no members suspended pending an Article 16 Hearing and that the Department conducted two investigations one in 2019 and one in 2021 which resulted in one Letter of Caution and two members rescinded their memberships. There is also one ongoing informal investigation at a member's request.

There was no unfinished business.

Under new business, Chapter 44 moved to create a committee composed of the Chapters only to hear issues related to members with issues with the Department and National Officers. Motion by Chapter 61 to table the motion until the Post SEC. The motion to table prevailed.

Commander Halford-Pandos stated the purpose of our gathering here has been accomplished, but before we close, let us always be mindful of the principles for which this organization stands: Comradeship, Friendship, Loyalty to our Comrades and Devotion to our cause and let it be our moto: If I cannot speak good of my comrades, I will not speak ill of him or her.

The Commander entertained a motion to adjourn the SEC. Chapter 61 moved to adjourn; seconded by Chapter 32. The motion prevailed.

The Commander caused the members to rise, and Chief of Staff Eck led honors to the Flag of our Country and Chaplain Howell led the closing benediction.

Commander Halford-Pandos declared the SEC Meeting of DAV Department of Oklahoma adjourned.

Convention

Commander Halford-Pandos called the 90th Department Convention to order. Opening benediction was led by Chaplain Howell. Chief of Staff Eck led the flag salute.

Commander Halford-Pandos recognized and welcomed our District 21 National Executive Committeemen John Donovan and the members who were attending their first Convention.

Roll call by Adjutant Oliver. There were 21 Chapters and 9 Officers present. A quorum was established.

Commander Halford-Pandos announced that all delegates had been provided with the standing rules of the convention and would entertain a motion to adopt them. Chapter 7 moved to adopt them as printed; Seconded by Chapter 32. The motion prevailed.

Commander Halford-Pandos called for Donations. There were none.

Judge Advocate Vance had no report as there had been no submission for changes to the Constitution and Bylaws. He did state that he had reviewed and approved and forwarded two Chapters Constitution and Bylaws.

Commander Halford-Pandos gave her report to the Convention highlighting the 2019 State Commanders and Adjutants Associations Orientation, National Convention and Mid-Winter Conference, she also attended the National Commanders Testimonial Dinner in Minnesota.

NSO Supervisor Layton Lamphere reported on the numerous activities, claims and hearings that have been conducted on behalf veterans by the National Service Officers and Support Staff; even while working from home for most of the year.

Senior Vice Commander Schermer reported that DAV National Membership was offline as such there were no population or activity reports available.

First Vice Commander Brown reported on Mid-Winter Conference and several legislative agendas that all members can support if they register with DAV CAN.

Second Vice Commander Leday-Mauney recommended that the Department should reinstate the Homeless Veteran and Emergency Grant Committee while taking advantage of technology that became popular during the pandemic.

Adjutant gave the report of the Credentials Committee and on behalf of the committee requested that the roll of delegates hereby read be the official role of the voting member's strengths of the convention. Treasurer White moved to accept the first credentials committee report; Seconded by Chapter 39. Motion passed unanimously. Adjutant called the roll, polled the Line Officers, PDC's and announced the Chapters voting strengths.

Commander Halford-Pandos asked the Chapter Delegates to take 5 minutes and select a chairperson to cast their Chapter Votes.

Commander Halford-Pandos appointed the following Tellers for the election of officers. Leisa Williams 66 – Lori Dean 39 – Leon Halpain 31. Motion was made by Chapter 7 to approve these appointments; seconded by Chapter 39. The motion prevailed.

Treasurer White presented the Budget for approval. Chapter 61 moved to adopt the budget for 2021-2022; seconded by Chapter 63. The motion prevailed.

Commander Halford-Pandos called on the Recorder of the Nominating Committee Alicia Dech to give the committees report; the following slate of officers was recommended by the committee:

Commander – Vici Brown 43
Sr. Vice CMDR – Merline Leday-Mauney 56
1st Vice CMDR – Arthur Pappy Papin 26
2nd Vice CMDR – Jason Burns 92
Finance Officer – Fred A White Jr. 7
Judge Advocate – Craig Vance 66
Inspector – Phil Schermer 44
Chaplain – Tommy Howell 17
Board of Directors – Dennis Cougar Hammons 61
Board of Directors – Melvin Francis 7
Finance Committee – Ray Helton 63
Finance Committee – Open

Commander Halford-Pandos asked the line officer to leave the head table and asked the tally committee to take their places at the head table. She recessed to the Delegates for ten minutes to discuss the proposed slate and upcoming election of Officers.

Commander Halford-Pandos called the convention back to order and opened the floor for nominations for:

Commander:

Nominating Committee recommended Vici Brown.

Ann Schermer was nominated from the floor and accepted.

With no further nominations, nominations were closed and both candidates were given a chance to address the delegates. Seconding speeches were given for both candidates.

Adjutant conducted a roll call vote. Ann Schermer elected.

Senior Vice Commander:

Nominating Committee recommended Merline Leday-Mauney.

Vici Brown was nominated from the floor and accepted.

With no further nominations, nominations were closed and both candidates were given a chance to address the delegates. Seconding speeches were given for both candidates.

Adjutant conducted a roll call vote. Vici Brown elected.

First Vice Commander:

Nominating Committee recommended Arthur Pappy Papin.

Merline Leday-Mauney was nominated from the floor and accepted.

With no further nominations, nominations were closed and both candidates were given a chance to address the delegates.

Adjutant conducted a roll call vote. Merline Leday-Mauney elected.

Second Vice Commander:

Nominating Committee recommended Jason Burns.

Arthur Papin was nominated from the floor and did not accept.

With no further nominations, nominations were closed. Motion was made to elect by acclamation.

Adjutant cast one unanimous vote. Jason Burns elected.

Treasurer:

Nominating Committee recommended Fred White.

With no further nominations, nominations were closed. Motion was made to elect by acclamation.

Adjutant cast one unanimous vote. Fred White elected.

Judge Advocate:

Nominating Committee recommended Craig Vance.

With no further nominations, nominations were closed. Motion was made to elect by acclamation.

Adjutant cast one unanimous vote. Craig Vance elected.

Inspector:

Nominating Committee recommended Phil Schermer.
Phil Schermer declined due to the previous election of the Commander Ann Schermer.
Don Eck was nominated from the floor and accepted.
Glen Stockinger was nominated from the floor and did not accept.
With no further nominations, nominations were closed. Motion was made to elect by acclamation.
Adjutant cast one unanimous vote. Don Eck elected.

Chaplain:

Nominating Committee recommended Tommy Howell.
With no further nominations, nominations were closed. Motion was made to elect by acclamation.
Adjutant cast one unanimous vote. Tommy Howell elected.

Board of Directors (Odd Year)

Nominating Committee recommended Dennis Cougar Hammons and Melvin Francis.
With no further nominations, nominations were closed. Motion was made to elect by acclamation.
Adjutant cast one unanimous vote. Dennis Cougar Hammons and Melvin Francis were elected.

Finance Committeemen (Odd Year)

Nominating Committee recommended Ray Helton with one open seat.
Jerry Black was nominated from the floor. He was not present and could not accept.
Kathy Durland was nominated from the floor and accepted.
Eric Anderson was nominated from the floor and accepted.
With no further nominations, nominations were closed.
Adjutant conducted a roll call vote. Ray Helton and Kathy Durland were elected.

Commander Halford-Pandos declared the elections complete and dismissed the tally committee.
The convention recessed for Lunch.

Commander Halford-Pandos called the convention back to order and asked the Adjutant for his report.

Adjutant Oliver reported on the changes the National Organization is making to the Membership system. He addressed the impact that the pandemic had on our Transportation and Service.

Under Unfinished business, there was none.

Under New Business PDC Hammons moved that Ann Schermer be elected to serve as the Department Delegate to the National Convention and Vici Brown as the Department Alternate

Delegate, seconded by PDC Black. The motion prevailed.

Commander Halford-Pandos dismissed her committees and appointed officers with thanks for a job well done. She then turned the gavel over to National Executive Committeeman Donovan to install the newly elected officers.

Installing Officer directed that the roll of the newly elected officers be called. When the newly elected officers were in place NEC Donovan gave the oath of office to all the elected officers. After giving the oath of office he directed that the newly installed officers be escorted to their perspective stations, leaving the Commander for last. NEC Donovan presented the Commander with her gavel the symbol of her office.

Commander Schermer called Immediate Past Department Commander Halford-Pandos to the podium. IPDC Halford-Pandos presented Commander Schermer with her Commanders hat and pin. Commander Schermer presented IPDC Halford-Pandos with her PDC hat and pin.

Commander Schermer thanked the Department for placing their confidence in her to lead the Department and congratulated the newly installed officers and was looking forward to a year full of communication and service.

Under Good of the Order. There was nothing offered.

Commander Schermer asked for a motion to adjourn the Convention. Motion made by PDC Hammons to adjourn, seconded by Chapter 32. The motion prevailed.

Commander Schermer rendered honors to the Flag of Our Country.

Chaplain Howell led the delegates in closing benediction.

Commander declared the 90th State Convention of the Disabled American Veterans Department of Oklahoma Adjourned.

Post SEC

Commander Schermer called the Post SEC to order. We were led in opening benediction by Chaplain Howell. Commander led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Acting Adjutant Oliver called the roll. There were five Officers and twenty-one Chapters present, a quorum was declared.

Commander stated her first duty was to appoint an Adjutant. Danny Oliver was appointed and accepted. Motion was made by Chapter 7 to approve the appointment, seconded by Chapter 88. The motion prevailed.

Commander made the following appointments: Chief of Staff – Chris Harrington, Sergeants at

Arms – Phil Schermer – BJ Armour, Women Veterans Liaison – Leisa Williams, Benefit Protection Team Leader – Vici Brown. She then asked for approval for these appointments. Chapter 61 moved to approve the appointments, seconded by Chapter 33. The motion prevailed.

The Commander then asked our District 21 NEC John Donovan to come forward and install the newly appointed Officers. After their installation, the appointed Officer went to their perspective stations.

Under Old Business, The Pre SEC Tabled Motion was returned to the floor. Chapter 44 withdrew the motion. There was no further old business.

There was no new business.

Adjutant stated, Due to the Constitution and Bylaw requirements of SEC approval for three years in advance for hotel sites for the SEC/Conventions the following recommendations were made. Convention sites – Enid or Oklahoma City (2022), Lawton or Oklahoma City (2023) and Tulsa or Enid (2024). The recommended sites for the 2021/2022 Fall and Spring Conferences are the Fall Conference in Muskogee and the Spring Conference in Lawton.

The Commander asked for approval of the Adjutants recommendations. Chapter 39 moved to approve and Chapter 65 Seconded. The motion prevailed.

Under Good of the Order, IPDC Halford-Pandos made a motion that the Department support Tommy Howell in his quest for National Chaplain with a \$1,000.00 donation, seconded by Chapter 17. The motion prevailed. Chapter 66 moved that the Department adopt the current IRS Non-Profit milage rate of \$0.14 per mile, Seconded by IPDC Halford-Pandos. The motion prevailed. The Commander announced that we would tentatively hold new Officers' orientation/training seminar on July 16, 2021.

With no further business the Commander asked for a motion to adjourn the Post SEC. Chapter 61 moved to adjourn, seconded by Chapter 32. The motion prevailed.

Commander Schermer asked Chief of Staff Harrington to render Honors to the Flag of our Country. Chaplain Howell led the closing benediction.

Commander Schermer announced that the Board of Directors would meet in the Council Room immediately follow the Commander and Adjutants Associations elections. She then declared the Post SEC meeting of the Disabled American Veterans Department of Oklahoma Adjourned.

The Fall Conference is tentatively scheduled for October 2121 in Muskogee.

Attested:

Danny Oliver
Danny Oliver
Adjutant