

Council of Administration Minutes
Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, Department of Alaska
Convened January 11, 2020
Wasilla, Alaska

State Commander Lemelin opened the Council of Administration for business at 9:00 AM. Chaplain Lorraine Roehl gave the opening prayer. Commander Lemelin led the Council of Administration in the Pledge of Allegiance.

State Commander Lemelin directed AQM Sheppard to read the roll call.
The following Council members were present:

<u>Department Officers</u>	<u>Post</u>
<u>Commander David Lemelin</u>	<u>Post 1685- Commander Brett Spence</u>
<u>Sr. Vice Commander Carol Kacal</u>	<u>Post 3836- Commander Heidi Anderson</u>
<u>Jr. Vice Commander Todd Maynard</u>	<u>Post 9365- Jr. Vice Commander Roy Outcalt</u>
<u>Surgeon- John Walker</u>	<u>Post 9365- Commander Derek Heavener</u>
<u>Chaplain-Lorraine Roehl</u>	<u>Post 10029- Jr. Vice Commander Mike Ingraham</u>
<u>Adjutant/Quartermaster Mel Sheppard</u>	<u>Post 10041- Commander Henry Hunter,Jr.</u>
<u>PDC Walter Watts, Jr.</u>	<u>Post 10046- Jr. Vice Commander John Walker</u>
<u>PDC J.R. Hackett</u>	<u>Post 10450- Commander Mike Cassidy</u>

Commander Lemelin introduced Fritz Mihelcic, VFW National Jr. Vice Commander In Chief. He spoke briefly and informed the crowd he would speak at the banquet.

Council of Administration minutes from May 4, 2019 were read. PDC Hackett motioned to accept the the minutes as read, Jr. Vice Commander Kacal seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Commander Lemelin appointed the Time and Place Committee: Time and Place Report attached.
Sr. Vice Carol Kacal- Chair
Post 10029 Jr. Vice Ingraham
Post 9785 Commander Heavener
Post 9365 Commander Hackett

Old Business – AQM gave the final reconciliation totals for Western Conference and paid post portions due. The Henry Rifle raffle was announced, the drawing to be held on Saturday Jan 12th. All tickets are sold.

New Business – The Time and Place Committee members from Post 10029, North Pole briefed the hotel pricing and registration cost for the 2020 State Convention in North Pole. Packets will be available in February General Orders and on the Department webpage.

Commander Lemelin announced; we have two candidates for 2024 National Jr. Vice Commander. Tim Peters and Bert Key.

Committee Reports- Information gleaned from committee reports identified a lack of participation in the Buddy Poppy and Community Activities programs. The Department Auction raised \$6,463.00. The updated budget report will be sent to Council of Administration members.

National Jr. Vice Commander Mihelcic and Commander Lemelin spoke on membership. Where we are as a Department (96.32%) and addressed the question of Life Member payout.

Veteran Service Committee chairman Hackett updated the attendees on changes at the Veteran Service Office. He announced the acquisition of the Veteran Service Office at Ft. Wainwright.

Hospitality room donations were used at Western Conference, \$550.00 remains in account.

Good of the Order – JVCIC Fritz Milhelcic spoke to the assembly. He recognized Past Commander in Chief Gary Kurpius.

Fritz spoke on membership again, recognizing Alaska as first in the nation on membership. We need to be forward looking. Your Commanders need to know your progress and issues you encounter. We need to operate as a business. We need to be active in the community with community service. He spoke on the “VFW Family” and the VFW Action Corps.

AQM Sheppard distributed 10K dollar raffle tickets.

Sr. Vice Kacal announced her Commander shirts are on sale now.

Commander Lemelin recognized new attendees to the conference.

State Surgeon John Walker remembered Herb Stettler, past member from Soldotna and his contributions to the organization and the community.

Chief of Staff J.R. Hackett passed out bumper stickers. He then asked attendees honor deadlines for meeting registration and hotel reservations, due to late registration requests.

Post 10041 Commander Hunter spoke on Bethel Post accomplishments this year.

Inspector Bill Yudiskas announced he is running for State Judge Advocate.

Surgeon John Walker is willing to remain at Surgeon for the ensuing year.

Inspector Yudiskas spoke about PDC Bill Timmons passing, Bill Yudiskas was present in the hospital.

Post 10029 Jr. Vice Commander Mike Ingraham announced the post fishing derby in March. Mike spoke on the condition of the post roof. The roof must be replaced, the cost is several thousand dollars.



Mel Sheppard
State Adjutant