



American Legion

Department of Wisconsin

8th District Executive Board

Regular Meeting Minutes

May 15, 2012, 1900hrs

Rivers Bar and Supper Club, Amherst, WI

1. The meeting was called to order by District Commander Dan Rindt at 1900hrs followed by a salute to the colors. Third Vice-Commander Solberg led the membership in the Pledge of Allegiance. Eighth District Commander Rindt led the membership in the POW/MIA ceremony. Portage County Commander LaCroix led the membership in the Preamble. Chaplain Knauf gave an opening prayer.
2. The roll call and determination of quorum was completed by Adjutant Arien Herminath with the following results:

Members Present: Dan Rindt, Jerry Krofta, Sam Solberg, Arien Herminath, David Jensen, Vernon Baierl, Don Southworth, Louis LaCroix, Rick Klotzbuecher, Wayne Winter, Larry Olsen and Ronald Fregien.

Members Excused: Vern Pitt, Tony Nardi

Members Absent: Larry Olsen

Guests Present: 8th District Auxiliary President Lori Barber, Past 8th District Commanders David Jensen, Kathy Gorst (currently serving as Department Vice-Commander), Robert Polaske and Don Southworth were recognized.

3. Reports:

- a. 1st Vice Commander Jerry Krofta
Gave a report on 8th District membership, we are currently in 8th place.
- b. 2nd Vice Commander Vern Pitt (Excused)
- c. 3rd Vice Commander Sam Solberg
- d. Finance Officer Dave Jensen
It is time for an audit.
- e. Adjutant Arien Herminath
To lower printing cost, he made a motion that only 30 copies of 8th District Executive Board and Conference minutes be printed for approval at the Spring and Fall Conferences. Legionnaires at the Spring and Fall Conferences could share these copies prior to approval. The motion was seconded and approved.
- f. Chaplain LeRoy Knauf
- g. Historian Don Southworth
- h. Parliamentarian Gene Van Ryzin
Reminded all posts to insure that their Bylaws were up to date.
- i. Sgt-at-Arms Wayne Winter
Will not be at the Department Convention this year due to a travel conflict.

- j. Sgt-at-Arms Vernon Baierl
Will not be at the Department Convention this year due to a medical problem.
- k. Marathon County Commander Tony Nardi (Excused)
- l. Portage County Commander Louis LaCroix
Has been elected Portage County Commander for the next 3 years.
- m. Shawano/Menominee County Commander Larry Olsen (Absent)
Commander Rindt spoke about recent activities and achievements in the county.
- n. Waupaca County Commander Larry Klotzbuecker
Adjutant Herminath also reported on a recent highly successful County Youth Government program involving six Waupaca County high school and 125 students.
- o. Waushara County Commander Marty Czarnecki
The Adjutant congratulated Waushara County for having 3 of the 4 top A&G students in the 8th District.
- p. Wood County Commander Ron Fregien
- q. Former 8th District Commander Robert Polaske
Commander Polaske gave a report on early reservations received for the upcoming 8th District Spring Conference at New London Post 63.
- r. Department Vice-Commander Kathy Gorst
Spoke about the mylegion.com program and encouraged posts to participate. Several County Commanders spoke about the benefits of this program to their membership and administrative programs. She thanked everyone for their hard work and support during her year as Department Vice-Commander. She encouraged everyone to continue to work hard on membership as many of our posts are just a few members short of 100%.
- s. 8th District Auxiliary President Lori Barber
Mentioned that rooms at the hotel where the Department Convention will be held are going fast. Anyone who wants to reserve a room at the convention site should do so as soon as possible. She also gave a report on the 8th District Auxiliary Spring Conference.

4. Communications:

- a. Commander Rindt spoke about the slate of high ranking national defense speakers at the 2012 National Convention in Indianapolis.
- b. He also spoke about updated Camp American Legion information on the Department and 8th District websites.
- c. Department is encouraging all legionnaires to sign up for e-subscriptions to the Badger Legionnaire. These subscriptions save Department a lot of money.
- d. Post information administrative manual updates will be handed out at the Department Convention. Every post should have be represented at the 8th District Quorum meetings on Friday and Saturday at 0730hrs to participate in Convention activities and pick up their post administrative manual update material.

5. Under old business:

- a. Commander Rindt asked the District Finance Officer for an update on the Sgt. Forest Perez fund. He added that he would call for a donation to this fund at the 8th District Spring Conference on 19 May.

- b. Commander Rinds thanked everyone for their support during the past year. He singled out several individuals for special recognition, including the President of the 8th District Auxiliary.
 - c. Commander Rind encouraged everyone to continue to work on membership. He thanked everyone for their hard work in this area.
 - d. He encouraged posts to get their CPR and VA&R reports in by 01 June, the cut-off date. He read a list of 8th District post reports received by Department to date.
6. Under new business:
- a. Commander Rindt distributed information from Department to assist committee representatives with their committee reports at the upcoming 8th District Spring Conference.
 - b. He reminded all Post and County officers to submit their updated officer and committee information as soon as possible
 - c. Applications are available to fill Standing Committee, Assistant Sergeant at Arms and three Ballot Clerk positions at the Department Convention.
 - d. We are still accepting bids for the 8th District 2012 Fall Conference. To date, Clintonville Post 63 has turned in a bid for the Fall Conference.
 - e. A list of posts with membership money surpluses at Department HQs was read.
 - f. Finally, Commander Rindt pointed out the increased payout for the free insurance policy sponsored by the American Legion.
7. Important dates:
- a. 8th District Spring Conference on May 19
 - b. Badger Boys State from June 9-16
 - c. King Day on June 17 (8th District membership cards ready for pick up by posts)
 - d. 8th District Membership Training at Clintonville Post 63 on June 23
(8th District membership cards will also be available for pick up at this meeting)
 - e. Manawa Rodeo Veterans' Night on June 29 starting at 1900hrs
 - f. Department Convention from July 18-22
(8th District Caucus at 0730hrs on July 20-21)
 - g. National Convention from August 24-30
 - h. 8th District Fall Conference on October 27
8. Special training event:
Department Adjutant Kurtz will provide membership training for 8th District officers on 23 June 2012 at Clintonville Post 63. This training will be of special value to Post Commanders, Adjutants and Membership Chairmen, but all legionnaires are welcome to attend. This training will last from 10:30 – 13:00hrs.
9. Next meeting of this body: Rivers Bar and Supper Club, October 23 at 1900hrs
10. Being no further business for the good of the American Legion, Chaplain LeRoy Knauf gave a closing prayer and the POW/MIA flag was removed. A final salute to the colors was given and Commander Rindt adjourned the meeting at 2045 hours.

Meeting minutes submitted by: Arien Herminath, 8th District Adjutant