



THE AMERICAN LEGION
DEPARTMENT OF WISCONSIN
8th DISTRICT EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

Held on 23 October, 2018 at 1900hrs
River Bar & Supper Club, Amherst WI

The meeting was called to order by 8th District Commander Ron Fregien at 1900 hours followed by a salute to the colors. The 8th District Chaplain led a prayer. The Sergeant at Arms placed the POW/MIA Ceremony on the empty chair. Commander Fregien led the Pledge of Allegiance and the recitation of the Preamble to the Constitution of the American Legion.

A roll call of officers was taken. Officers present included Commander Fregien, 1st Vice Commander Balz, 2nd Vice Commander Burt (Excused), 3rd Vice Commander Melton, Adjutant Herminath, Finance Officer Jensen, Judge Advocate Gorst, Chaplain Melton, Historian Pope, Sgt.-at-Arms Young, Sgt.-at-Arms Wohlrabe (excused), Marathon County Commander Balz, Portage County Commander Miller, Shawano County Commander Marien, Waupaca County Commander Pope, Waushara County Commander Wickersheim (Excused), and Wood County Commander Krofta.

Commander Fregien asked for an 8th District finance report from Finance Officer Jensen. A motion was made to accept the finance report. The report was seconded and approved. Finance officer Jensen reported that he would not run for Finance Officer next year and the 8th District should start looking for a replacement.

Commander Fregien asked for any committee reports.

Commander Fregien then asked if there were any 8th District Legionnaires on sick call. It was reported that Legionnaire Jim Jolly was ill.

Adjutant Herminath reported that 66 Legionnaires and 48 Auxiliary Members had registered for the upcoming 8th District Conference on 27 October. Information on the upcoming conference and a registration form appeared in the September 8th District Auxiliary newsletter and has been on the front page of the 8th District website for a month or more.

Commander Fregien then went over the opening program for the upcoming 8th District Fall Conference. He then confirmed the names of 8th District officers who will read Department Executive Committee reports at the conference and handed out the pertinent information.

Commander Fregien reviewed a number of membership incentive programs from Department and National. He added that drawings and prizes for the above programs would take place at the 2019 Mid-Winter and Department Conventions.

In response to a comment on eligibility for membership in the American Legion, Judge Advocate Gorst reported that the requirement to be a wartime veteran may be changed in the near future. The status of veteran's organizations may be changed to charitable organizations which would make them eligible for 501c3 status. National has two resolutions pending to 1) consider all veterans injured since WWII as injured during wartime and therefore eligible for federal benefits, and 2) to consider all veterans who served from WWII to the present as wartime veterans. The above legislation is pending in Congress and may well be approved.

Being no further business, a closing prayer was offered by the Acting Chaplain, the POW/MIA flag was removed from the empty chair followed by a salute to the colors.

Commander Fregien adjourned the meeting at 2010 hrs.

Arien Herminath
8th District Adjutant