



THE AMERICAN LEGION  
DEPARTMENT OF WISCONSIN  
8<sup>th</sup> DISTRICT EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

Held on 22 October 2019 at 1900hrs  
River Bar & Supper Club, Amherst WI

The meeting was called to order by 8<sup>th</sup> District Commander Jean Balz at 1900 hours followed by a salute to the colors. The 8<sup>th</sup> District Chaplain led a prayer. The Sergeant at Arms placed the POW/MIA banner on the empty chair. The Third Vice Commander led the Pledge of Allegiance. The Second Vice Commander led the recitation of the Preamble to the Constitution of the American Legion. Commander Balz declared the meeting of the 8<sup>th</sup> District Executive Board convened.

A roll call of officers was taken. Officers present included Commander Balz, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander Burt (Excused), 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander Melton, 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice Commander Zachowitz, Adjutant Herminath, Finance Officer Fregien, Judge Advocate Gorst, Chaplain Harn, Sergeant at Arms Young, Sergeant at Arms Elter, Marathon County Commander Syring, Portage County Commander Miller, Shawano County Commander Marien (Excused), Waupaca County Commander Melton, Waushara County Commander Miller (Excused), and Wood County Commander Krofta (Excused).

Commander Balz stated that the minutes of the last several 8<sup>th</sup> District meetings were on the website and asked that they be approved as read and published. The motion to accept the minutes was made and seconded. The motion was approved.

Commander Balz then asked for an 8<sup>th</sup> District finance report from Finance Officer Fregien. A motion was made and seconded to accept the finance report. The motion was approved.

Commander Balz asked for any new business

Vice Commander Melton said that King requested a meeting in November to discuss next year's 8<sup>th</sup> District Veterans Day program at King. King will not serve chicken dinners outdoors at next year's program due to the threat of patients choking on the food. The subject of the proposed meeting is to discuss what we would like to do at next year's event (Pilgrimage). Commander Balz said she would work with the Vice Commanders and King to set a date to discuss next year's program.

Commander Balz then went over the opening program for the upcoming 8<sup>th</sup> District Fall Conference. She then confirmed the names of 8<sup>th</sup> District Program Chairmen and officers who would read Department Executive Committee reports at the conference and handed out the documents.

Commander Balz then reviewed the 8<sup>th</sup> District Program Director reports that would be given on Saturday and insured that all the reports on 8<sup>th</sup> District activities were up to date.

Commander Balz reported that her main speaker for Saturday had backed out. She asked for suggestions for a speaker, including someone who could speak on membership or suicide prevention. After some discussion, it was decided to ask Darla Porter, Department Membership Chairperson, to be the main speaker on Saturday. Commander Balz added that Department Vice Commander Eirich would like to speak to us Saturday concerning the American Legion Academy. She said Department Commander Wischer would also stop by to say hello.

Commander Balz emphasized that she wanted shorter post reports. She asked that three things be stressed in the county and post reports on Saturday: what did the post do to increase membership and retention, what was the post's primary fundraiser, and what was post's most important community impact event. The County Commanders should stress the above major points when reading their post reports.

Finally, Commander Balz reported that 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander Mike Burt asked to step down and we would have to identify a new Vice Commander on Saturday.

Being no further business, a closing prayer was offered by the 8<sup>th</sup> District Chaplain, the POW/MIA flag was removed from the empty chair followed by a salute to the colors.

Commander Balz adjourned the meeting at 2020 hrs.

Arien Herminath  
8<sup>th</sup> District Adjutant