

**VFW DISTRICT 20 MEETING 04 MAY 2019
VFW POST 7108**

- 1. Call to Order: The meeting of Texas VFW District 20 was called to order by District Commander John Shipley, on 04 MAY 2019 at 0945 am.**

Salute to the Colors was rendered by Officer of the Day John Rodriguez and opening prayer given by District Chaplain Jack Steel.

Distinguished

Guests: Larry Velasquez- Past State CC, Past National Council, Candidate For National JVC

Sylvia Sanchez- Past State CC, Past D20 CC, National Home Chairman

Cris Vieyra- State Membership Chairman, Past D20 CC

Ed Torres- Past State CC, Past D20 CC

Dan Medrano- Past State Judge Advocate, Past D20 CC

Larry Sanders- Past State COS, Past D20 CC

Carlos Mujica- Past D20 CC

Jesse Dominquez- Past D20 CC

Jose Duran- Past D20 CC

Tony Vasquez- Past D20 CC

Norman Macey- Candidate for State JVC

- 2. Roll call of Officers: Commander Present; Senior Vice Commander Present; Junior Vice Commander Present; Chaplain Present; Judge Advocate Present; Surgeon Present; 1st Year Trustee Present; 2nd Year Trustee Present; 3rd Year Trustee; Adjutant Present; Service Officer Present.**

- 3. Roll call of Posts: Total Attendance 88**

Post 76 CC+3

Post 837 CC+1

Post 1533 CC+2

Post 2059 SVC+4

Post 4676 SVC

Post 4700 CC+2

Post 4815 CC+1

Post 4853 SVC+1

Post 6012 CC+1

Post 6970 CC+2

Post 7108 CC+15

Post 8397 CC

Post 8541 CC+7

Post 8555 CC+6

Post 8936 SVC+3

Post 9174 CC+5

Post 9186 SVC+5

Post 12041 CC+6

Post 12171 CC+1

4. **Reading of Minutes: Minutes of District 20 meeting provided to all District Officers and stand approved as written.**
5. **Quartermaster Report by District Quartermaster Robert Maldonado.**

Books have been audited by District Trustees.

General Fund: Amounts NOT Shown on Internet
V Sweeps: Amounts NOT Shown on Internet
Receipts: Amounts NOT Shown on Internet
Expenditures: Amounts NOT Shown on Internet
Total Balance: Amounts NOT Shown on Internet

6. Committee Reports:

Service Officer Report: District Service Officer Lee Rivas provided information on the Navy Blue Water Veterans Act. A US Federal Court on 29 Jan 2019 ruled in favor of the law. On 26 Mar 2019 the VA Secretary stated that he would no appeal the court decision. However the decision could be appealed by other entities. As of today 4 May 2019 no other appeals have been submitted and the VA Secretary has made notice to publish rules and regulations on this matter. It is now possible for all Navy veterans who served in the Blue Waters areas during the period Jan 1962-May 1975 would be eligible for the Agent Orange presumptive criteria same as “Boots on the Ground”.

VA Mission Act of 2018 requires that veterans allows more options for healthcare. The act allows veterans to now use other healthcare options than the VA. VA primary doctor can refer veterans to healthcare out of the VA. This will apply also to caregivers.

Surgeon Report: District Surgeon Marvin Arnold No report

Webmaster: District webmaster James Bennett indicated that a revitalized D20 website will be up and running in the next weeks. He will be adding some items such as events etc. If any items need to be added to website please make contact with webmaster.

Picnic Report: District QM Maldonado provided the final financial report for the District picnic. Total expenditures were \$5052.17. The total cost to the District was \$2870.17.

Hospitality Room: District Commander Shipley stated the incoming District JVC elect will be in charge of the District Hospitality area at the State Convention in Houston.

- 7. National Home remembrance was conducted by District Chaplain Jack Steel. A moment of silent tribute for the loss of District Trustee Lenny Layman's wife and also the upcoming heart surgery for Comrade Nathan Zuniga, Commander Post 9186.**

8. Unfinished Business:

District Bingo: District Adjutant Pat Clark indicated that he has received paperwork requested from Texas VFW Department and will continue the process for submission of unit bingo.

9. New Business:

- A. Elections: District Commander Shipley opened the floor for District Elections stated the post voting strength for the elections as is required of 31 March 2019 by National, Department and District.**

Motion to have the District Adjutant cast one unanimous vote for all unopposed candidates at completion of other elections by Past SC Sylvia Sanchez. Seconded by Past DC Cris Vieyra. Motion carried

Motion to have candidates leave the area and conduct a hand vote to be tallied by the tally committee by Past QM Carlos Vela. Seconded by Past SC Eddie Torres. Motion carried.

District Commander John Shipley appointed a tally committee of District Adjutant Pat Clark/ District Trustee Rosie Carranza and Comrade Patty Hewitt.

DC Shipley opened the floor for nominations to District Commander:

**District SVC Rolando Webber previously nominated.
No other nominations District Commander nominations closed**

DC Shipley opened the floor for nominations to District Senior Vice Commander:

**District JVC Armando Gonzales previously nominated.
No other nominations District Senior Vice Commander nominations closed.**

DC Shipley opened the floor for nominations to District Junior Vice Commander:

Comrade William Smith previously nominated.

Comrade Lee Rivas previously nominated.

Comrade Larry Casillas previously nominated.

No other nominations District Junior Vice Commander closed.

Comrade William Smith received the majority of votes and is duly elected District Junior Vice Commander.

DC Shipley opened the floor for nominations to District Quartermaster:

District Quartermaster Robert Maldonado previously nominated.

Past District QM Carlos Vela previously nominated.

No other nominations District Quartermaster closed.

District Quartermaster Robert Maldonado received the majority of votes and is duly elected District Quartermaster.

DC Shipley opened the floor for nominations to District Chaplain:

Comrade Marvin Arnold previously nominated.

No other nominations District Chaplain closed

DC Shipley opened the floor for nominations to District Judge Advocate:

District Judge Advocate Dan Medrano previously nominated:

No other nominations District Judge Advocate closed

DC Shipley opened the floor for nominations to District Surgeon:

Past DC Clarence Soignet previously nominated.

Past DC Tish McCullough previously nominated.

No other nominations District Surgeon closed.

Past DC Tish McCullough received the majority of votes and is duly elected District Surgeon.

DC Shipley opened the floor for nominations to District Trustee 3 Year.

Comrade Jeff Rankin previously nominated.

Comrade Rudy DeLeon nominated District Webmaster James Bennett. Comrade Bennett accepted. No other nominations District Trustee 3 Year closed.

District Webmaster James Bennett received the majority of votes and is duly elected District Trustee 3 Year.

District Adjutant Pat Clark casted his ballot for all the unopposed candidates for District 20. Seconded by Past SC Eddie Torres. DC, SVC, Chaplain, Judge Advocate are considered duly elected to the respective positions.

District Commander elect Rolando Webber thanked the present District Commander John Shipley for the accomplishments this past year making All State and All American. He also expressed his gratitude to all Post Commanders that trusted in him to lead the District this coming year. He indicated he cannot do it alone and will need the help of the Auxilliaries and units. He has a plan to move forward and it will be presented to all elected and appointed officers shortly. To all elected and appointed District officers he stated “ To Succeed Tomorrow, You Must Lead Today”

B. Motion to approve the District 20 Budget made by Past SC Eddie Torres. Seconded by Past DC Jose Duran. Motion carried.

C. Motion for outgoing gift of \$200.00 for VFW State Commander made by Past SC Eddie Torres. Seconded by Past DC Carlos Mujica. Motion carried.

D. Motion to donate \$500.00 to the VFW Foundation made by District Adjutant Pat Clark. Seconded by Past District QM Carlos Vela. Motion carried.

E. District Commander elect Rolando Webber stated that VFW Post 7108 will donate \$500.00 to the District 20 Joint hospitality room at State Convention.

10. Good of The Order:

Past State Commander Larry Velasquez and candidate for National Junior Vice Commander presented greetings from the State Commander Inge Conley. It is always great to be in District 20. He reminded all that all Contracts must be approved by Department. He also mentioned that State Surgeon Doc Howard a 10 year veteran in this position has been in the Hospital two months and to not forget him. The new National Commander

will change the criteria for All American so be aware of changes. Also do not forget the National requirement to register and pay the \$25.00 fee to attend National Convention.

Past State Commander Eddie Torres stated that he has applications for a free Dental Program Smiling Veterans for 15 veterans that will visit San Antonio 24-25 May 2019. This is a program that is being coordinated by Chaplains throughout the Nation.

Also on 25 May 2019 Post 4815 will have Memorial Day ceremony with a Missing Man format.

Comrade Gilbert Cadena stated that a Memorial Day Ceremony on 25 May 2019 will be conducted at the State Capital at 1000 am. Upon the completion of the ceremony all will be invited to the basement of the Capitol rotunda for a POW-MIA ceremony where the Honor Chair presented to the State by the Motorcycle Group of VFW Post 7108 will be honored. All of the State's VFW are invited.

Past State Chaplain Norman Macey candidate for State Junior Vice Commander indicated that he would appreciate the support for his election. He has campaigned for two years and travelled the entire state and visited many posts and sent a letter to all post on his candidacy. Spoke of the three B's Build,Bridge,Belong. Belong is most important all must feel that are a part of the organization. The support of our veterans is paramount in all we do.

DC John Shipley stated that there was a District check for \$200.00 to be presented to each Post who was over 100% based on the District Membership Incentive program. The following Posts will receive checks: 76,837,2039,4676,4700,6970 will give check back to District,8397, 8541,8555,9174,9186,12041,12171.

**Post 76: 26 Jun 2019 102 Anniversary party
24-26 May 10th Anniversary Celebration**

**Post 837: 1 Jun 2019 Post Yard sale
21 Sep Annual Chili Cook Off**

**Post 1533: 1 Jun Installation of Officers 1600
Thanks for \$500.00 Homeless Vet program donation**

**Post 2059: 11 May Installation of Officers 3-5 pm
18 May Post Yard sale**

Post 4676: 11 May 48th year celebration.

Post 4700: 15 Jun Installation of Officers

Post 4815: Free Dental program Smiling Veterans

**Post 4853: 18 May IBCA Cookoff need Judges. Jourdanton FD support
12 Jun Women Veterans Day Texas**

Post 6012: 11 May Steak Night 5-8 pm

Post 6970: 11 May Installation of Officers 1830 Steak Dinner

Post 7108: 17 May Installation of Officers

Post 8397: 18 May 1000 am Fox Tech Monument dedication

**Post 8541: 18 May Flea Market
25 May No Flight Honor Flight 0730 visit Nimitz Museum
Host breakfast return at 1630.**

Post 8555: No

**Post 8936: 19 May Spaghetti Dinner
13 Jul Xmas in July
Donations for Desert Storm Memorial**

**Post 9174: 25 May Installation of Officers 1200
Buy building next to present building. 7500 sq feet.**

Post 9186: World War II Veteran Juan Padilla present Charter Member

**Post 12041: 20 May Installation of Officers
Slab for 10,000 ft building this year**

**Post 12171: Thanked District for VAVS donation of \$500.00 to be presented
To VAVS at Audie Murphy.**

District Commander John Shipley that the Commander and members and Auxiliary of Post 7108 for the hosting of the Joint meeting and District Convention.

District Commander John Shipley expressed his gratitude for the privilege of leading the greatest District in the State of Texas. Thanked all for placing the trust in him to lead District 20.

Closing ceremonies performed by Comrades John Rodriguez and Jack Steel.

Meeting adjourned at 1219 PM.

**John P. Clark
Adjutant**

**John E. Shipley
Commander**

