

**VFW DISTRICT 20 MEETING 22 FEB 2020
VFW POST 2059**

- 1. Call to Order: The meeting of Texas VFW District 20 was called to order by District Commander Rolando Webber, on 22 Feb 2020 at 1018 am.**

Distinguished

Guests: Keith King - State Commander

Robert Martinez - State Inspector, Past D20 Commander

John Shipley - Deputy State Inspector/Past D20 Commander

Sylvia Sanchez – Past State Commander/ Past D20 CC

Cris Vieyra - Past State Membership Chairman/ Past D20 CC

Larry Sanders - Past State Chief of Staff/Past D20 Commander

Dan Medrano- Past State Judge Advocate/Past D20 CC

Jose Duran - Past D20 Commander

Lynn Toomer - Candidate for State JVC

Jeff Clark - 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 Absent Excused; 1st Year Trustee Absent Excused; 2nd Year Trustee Present; 3rd Year Trustee Vacant; Adjutant Present; Service Officer Present.**

- 3. Roll call of Posts: Total Attendance 70**

Post 76 SVC

Post 837 CC+2

Post 1533 CC+4

Post 2059 SVC+5

Post 4676 CC

Post 4700 CC+5

Post 4815 SVC+2

Post 4853 QM

Post 6012 SVC+1

Post 6970 CC+2

Post 7108 SVC+6

Post 8397 CC

Post 8541 JVC+2

Post 8555 CC+4

Post 8936 CC+2

Post 9174 CC+4

Post 9186 CC+5

Post 12041 CC+4

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 financial reports provided to all District Officers and stand approved as written.**

Books have been audited by District Trustees.

- 6. Committee Reports:**

Service Officer Report: District Service Officer Lee Rivas provided information on the new law allowing access and military ID cards to all veterans with service-connected disabilities of 0% to 90% to military installations and use of all facilities including Commissary, Exchanges. Comrade Rivas also provided information on the South Texas Veterans Health Care System being designated the 3rd in the Nation as a Purple Heart System. He also stated the Audie Murphy VA Medical Center will be the first VA Hospital in the Nation to be designated as a Purple Heart Medical Center. The ceremony for this event will occur on 24 February 2020 beginning at 1000 a.m. at Audie Murphy Medical Center. The 70th Anniversary of the Korean War is approaching, and the Mexican Ambassador wants to honor all Korean War veterans and wants all who can be identified to participate in a ceremony on 22 May 2020.

Surgeon Report: No report

Homeless Veterans: No report

- 7. VFW National Home remembrance conducted by District Chaplain Lee Arnold.**

- 8. Unfinished Business**

None to report

- 9. New Business:**

A. District Commander Rolando Webber stated 2nd Year Trustee Comrade Lenny Layman has resigned due to health reasons. This requires the District to conduct an election for the position of 2nd Year Trustee. The district membership voted to conduct this election with a Post Commander vote.

Motion made by Comrade Jack Steel to conduct a Post Commander vote. Seconded by Comrade Larry Sanders. Motion carried.

District Commander Webber opened the floor for nominations for 2nd Year Trustee:

District Chief of Staff Jose Duran nominated Comrade John Maines. Comrade Maines accepted

Comrade Cris Vieyra nominated Comrade Robert Otto. Comrade Otto accepted.

SVC Armando Gonzales nominated Comrade Juan Martinez. Comrade Martinez accepted. Closed

Comrade Juan Martinez was elected with a majority of the Post Commander voting in his favor. Comrade Juan Martinez is duly elected to the position of 2nd Year Trustee.

B. District Nominations for 2020-21. District Commander Rolando Webber opened the floor for nominations:

District Commander: PDC John Shipley nominated District SVC Armando Gonzales. SVC Gonzales accepted. Closed

Senior Vice Commander: PDC Larry Sanders nominated JVC William Smith. JVC Smith accepted. Closed

Junior Vice Commander: Senior Vice Commander Armando Gonzales nominated District Service Officer Lee Rivas. Comrade Rivas accepted.

Junior Vice Commander: Junior Vice Commander William Smith nominated Comrade Joe Ramon. Comrade Ramon accepted. Closed

District Quartermaster: Comrade Raymond Silva nominated District QM Robert Maldonado. District QM accepted. Closed

District Chaplain: District Adjutant John Clark nominated District Chaplain Marvin (Lee) Arnold. District Chaplain Arnold accepted. Closed

District Judge Advocate: District Service Officer Lee Rivas nominated District Judge Advocate Dan Medrano. District Judge Advocate Medrano accepted. Closed

District Surgeon: JVC William Smith nominated Comrade Chris Espinosa. Comrade Espinosa accepted. Closed

3 Year Trustee: PDC John Shipley nominated Comrade John Maines. Comrade Maines accepted.

3 Year Trustee: JVC William Smith nominated Comrade Jim Paisano. Comrade Paisano accepted.

3 Year Trustee: PDC Larry Sanders nominated Comrade Nathan Zuniga. Comrade Zuniga accepted. Closed

District Commander Rolando Webber declared all nominations closed until reopened at our next meeting 2 May 2020

10. Good of the Order

State Rep: State Commander Keith King great to be in District 20. He reminded all that IRS 990's are to be filed. He indicated that his home Post was visited by the IRS indicating no had been filed for 3 years. Indicated they had used H&R Block. The agent indicated they had not submitted to the government. So be careful. Commander King also stated he received a call from a Past State Commander indicating he should refrain from relieving Post Commanders, Quartermasters and was to strictly follow the Bylaws. Commander stated he would continue to follow the VFW Bylaws. Reminded all the Quarterly audits should be completed on time to not receive a phone call from Department Headquarters. Keep on working your Post Community Service Projects, Youth and Americanism they are being looked at by State Inspectors. Get the State Awards for areas submitted for all who deserve. Ensure your Post has current By Laws always available. Continue to do VPR's they are important and there only 21 and gave examples what they are worth. Commander stated that the USAA would like to sponsor our District 20 picnic. Be careful in all what you do in relation to Sexual Harassment, Perception is Reality. Know your audience.

**Jeff Clark, Candidate for State JVC, great to be in District 20
Four pillars of retention: Recruitment, Retention, Training, Mentorship. He would expand the present mobile training being conducted to more areas of the state to include The Valley, Central Texas area.**

Lynn Toomer, Candidate for State JVC, honored to be in District 20. Thank

ed the Vietnam Veterans for what they have done for the veterans of today. Biggest District in the state of Texas. Keep the VFW Great. We are the best VSO serving veterans. Be sure to mentor new members with your experienced mentors. Expand more training into the business area due to our canteen operations and other functions

- Post 76 A joint event Post 76 and 4815 a Funeral reception for the Green Beret from San Antonio recently killed will be conducted at 1300 Rudy BBQ will provide meals for 500. All are invited.**
- Post 837 Henry Tribute Rifle raffle until August 20. 28 Mar fundraiser for Auxiliary member with cancer.**
- Post 1533 Thanked their Post QM also the District QM for obtaining a loan to double the meeting room size.**
- Post 2059 Welcome to District 20. Spaghetti lunch \$8.00**
- Post 4676 27 Mar 20 Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans 1000 am. Auxiliary President setting up.**
- Post 4700 WW 2 veteran Jose Navaro recognized on 22 Mar 20 at 1000 am**
- Post 4815 No**
- Post 4853 Post home flooded**
- Post 6012 25 Mar Mardi Gras party. Best costume**
- Post 6970 Auxilary President Jenny Soignet passed away, Strawberry Festival, 4-5 Apr, Keith King Grand Marshall, PDC Clarence Soignet in Hospital.**
- Post 7108 Fat Tuesday Gumbo Cookoff, King Cakes, Post Chaplain minor stroke recovering in hospital, then rehab. QM returned after**
- Post 8397 Repaired building after purchase then roof fell. Repaired with insurance,need help**
- Post 8541 No**
- Post 8555 Semi Annual Chicken dinner 29 Mar 1000 am \$10.00**

Post 8936 Mardi Gras party Birthday today, Feb 28 Desert Storm ceremony at 6 pm. Tickets for Baretta at \$20.00

Post 9174 Thank You Lenny Layman Past Commander

Post 9186 Fat Tuesday celebration, \$10.00 4-11. Every Sunday event Rodeo day \$4.00 at door.

**Post 12041 Recently feed 100 Trailriders going to Rodeo. A welcome home to USAF unit returning from deployment at San Antonio Airport
4 Apr Feed the Little League opening ceremony
5 Apr Special Olympics 9 schools
16 Apr 9th Annual Awards night**

Post 12171 No

District Chief of Staff Jose Duran stated with the upcoming District and Post Elections and nominations all should read the By Laws to insure they understand the responsibilities. Honor the obligation you take the oath for.

District Commander Rolando Webber recognized the Posts that are at 100% 1533, 8541, 6970, 12171. Also 7 Posts above 90%, 4 Posts above 80%. Also please complete your VPR's.

District Junior Vice Commander William Smith provided information concerning gun raffles. He stated to have the gun released to an authorized gun dealer for them to issue to the winner of your raffle. You could have serious legal issues not doing it through a gun dealer.

Closing ceremonies performed by Comrades Jose Rodriguez and District Chaplain Lee Arnold.

**John P. Clark
Adjutant**

**Rolando Webber
District Commander**