



Department Executive Committee
Meeting Minutes
August 5, 2017



The Department Executive Committee met on Saturday August 5, 2017 at The American Legion Department of South Carolina Headquarters, 103 Legion Plaza Rd, Columbia, SC 29210

Dept Cmdr Mike Strauss
Dept Adjutant Nick Diener
NEC Bud Hennis
Alt NEC Gary Mitchell
Imm PDC Bob Scherer
Dept 3rd Vice Cmdr Roberta Poulos
Dept 4th Vice Cmdr Ron Price
D-1 Cmdr Jim Jarvis
D-2 Cmdr Chuck Blankin
D-3 Cmdr Melvin Pearson
D-4 David Goodman
D-5 Cmdr Jack Wright
D-6 Cmdr Jim Kvam
D-7 Cmdr Vacant
D-8 Cmdr Bill Wade
D-10 Cmdr Russ Cantrell
D-11 Cmdr Jim Rabon
D-12 Cmdr Charlie Davis
D-13 Carlton Patterson
D-14 Cmdr Mike Brandt
D-16 Cmdr Jim DeFrehn
D-17 Cmdr Jack Lonergan
D-18 Cmdr Larry Pouncy
D-19 Cmdr Grady Richardson
D-20 Cmdr Robin Rucker

Absent:

Dept J/A Stephen Lewis
Dept Asst J/A Anthony Livoti
Dept Historian Matthew Gooden
Dept 1st Vice Cmdr John Britt
Dept 2nd Vice Cmdr Walt Richardson
D-9 Isaac Miller
D-15 Cmdr Leroy Williams
Dept Sgt-at-Arms George Oxner
Dept Chaplain Bill Quarles

Present:

PDC Frank Whittle
PDC Frank Ward
PDC/PDA Jim Hawk
PNEC Billy Bell
Exec Dir M. May
P-15 Mbr. Peter St. Onge
P-130 Adj Darlene Walton

Cmdr Strauss opened the meeting and called on D-20 Cmdr Rucker for the invocation. The Commander read Resolution 288, led the Pledge of Allegiance and then asked everyone to join him for the Preamble.

Dept Cmdr Strauss: We've got a lot on the agenda this morning and I appreciate all the good wishes and we're about two months into it already and time is going fast. We've got the BB Regional Tournament going on in up in Asheboro, we had a great state tournament in Sumter, they did a fantastic job. There are a lot of great volunteers down there in Sumter. The Boys State program went off unbelievably great, we had over 1100 paid, however we had 39 no-shows so that was kind of a high number. It would have put us at over 1100 so some posts didn't get their money's worth out of that one. So make sure we get quality students in there. One of the main goals they told me they want to obtain is get all the counties in SC involved with Boys State. We had one county, Jasper County, that did not have a representative this year and so let's get all...every county represented at Boys State. They also asked if you, when you go to your District meetings, please emphasize trying to get every single high school involved in your area. A lot of posts out there have done it the way they've always done it and go to one high school and they may get 7 or 10, or 15 or 20 from one high school but our outreach could be so much better if we get some from all schools. So try to even it out and get some from all the schools so all schools are aware of The American Legion programs so try to emphasize that when you go around the State. We had 60 at Law Cadet, I'm not going to get into that because Russ is going to speak on that but it was a fantastic job by Law Cadet. We had a Jr Shooting Sports Representative from Fort Mill, our state champion went on to the National Competition in Colorado. Not only did he finish well but he finished point 7/10's of a point away from being a National Champion. Unbelievable shooting by our student up in Fort Mill, he finished 2nd to a female up there and actually the female took the two top slots in both categories so that girl was great. So our Jr. Shooting Sports did really well this year. So Florence Post 1 is the one that's playing tonight, there's 14 left in the SE Regional, two NC teams and one SC team. The Florence team is 40 and 3, that's a pretty darn good record right now. Keep promoting and let them know we got their back, we got their six, alright? So at this time I'd like to turn it over to the Adjutant for roll call.

Adjutant Diener called the roll and announced the Commander had a quorum to conduct the meeting

Dept Cmdr Strauss: Ok, at this time, it would be the point where I would read all the minutes of the past....

D-19 Cmdr Richardson: Cmdr, at this time, I make a motion to suspend reading the past minutes.

D-1 Cmdr Jarvis: Cmdr, I second that.

Dept Cmdr Strauss: Any discussion? All in favor, all opposed? Passed. Alright, we'll go into membership, Commander Rucker?

D-20 Cmdr Rucker: We've got the goals and also where we're at right now, I know it's the start of a new year. Basically, we got the numbers from national and you'll see the numbers when you get them of what we got to get. Last year we started out with plus one, stop the slide, we did that. This year it's plus one and continue to climb. And what we need you to do is just keep going, that's basically... we had 11 districts make 100% 80 posts made 100%. There's no reason that we cannot achieve our goal of plus one for the whole state and basically that's it. You've done a great job guys, you ought to congratulate yourselves, you have worked hard. We are doing revitalizations again, if you want to do a revitalization, get with me after this meeting. Revitalizations are already out at National for November and December. You can't wait until the last minute, it takes about three months to plan if you want to do a Ntl Revitalization. We'll be coming to you and talking with you about that.

Dept Cmdr Strauss: Cmdr, I have a question for you. When you guys did those revitalizations last year, were they successful?

D-20 Cmdr Rucker: Every one. Out of six revitalizations, every one of those districts made 100%. The proof is in the pudding.

Dept Cmdr Strauss: That's a very good number.

Dept Adj Diener: It was over 350 memberships that we got credit for doing those revitalizations.

D-19 Cmdr Richardson: I make a motion to go into Executive Session.

D-1 Cmdr Jarvis: I second that.

Dept Adj Diener: Can I get you to amend that staff can remain.

D-19 Cmdr Richardson: Sure, no problem.

Dept Cmdr Strauss: All in favor of going into Executive Session, any opposed? Passed. I'll turn it over to the Adjutant for a briefing. We shouldn't be too long hopefully.

D-19 Cmdr Richardson: I make a motion to come out of executive Session.

D-10 Cmdr Cantrell: I second.

Dept Cmdr Strauss: All in favor, any opposed? Ayes have it. Finance Report?

D-19 Cmdr Richardson: Alright, does everybody have a copy? Everybody have time to read it? Good, Great job on the Rifle Raffle, we far exceeded what we expected. But that does not mean we do not have extra money. There ain't no extra money, bury that deep within the dark recesses of your mind. Because we have to use that to balance the budget next year. We're about to get on good solid ground, we're going to be not where we want to be but we'll be on solid ground. If you look at the finance report. There's some things that should raise a red flag to you and I'm going to explain the best that I can. Page one. Dept Convention did a real good job, 40% over what we anticipated which is good Keep looking down, Rifle Raffle, 230% , what should raise a red flag and I'll explain to you in just a second, if you'll look at the Dept convention, page about 2/3rd's of the way down. You know, when we started last August, when we started the budget process, the Adjutant at that time gave us his proposed budget sheet, this right here. And this is what the finance committee went on. This budget sheet listed for our dept convention. \$11,000 expenses, we got this in August, we used this in August, we used this in September, we used this in October, we used this in November. The members of the finance committee, Commander Price, Commander Williams who is not here today, looked at this along with Imm PDC Scherer who was at every meeting along with several vice commanders were at this. And ladies & gentlemen, I'm going to be honest with you, it flew right over my head. Because when somebody's in a position and they say we're going to spend \$11,000 at the convention that's what you expect. Now, we spent \$24,789.78, ok? That's a lot more than what we had budgeted but it's still covered in the budget. There's no need to start tar and feathering the finance committee yet, we're going to get Nick before you get us. But the budget, it looks good, it looks good right now, I say we, the Department. Nick and Maggie, they're doing a good job maintaining the money and when you don't have much money to work with they have to do a good job. Now, I will tell you this, the finance committee met this week and we already started the budgeting process for next year. Nick's going to bring something up for next year that we hope, the finance committee, hopes will pass, aren't you?

Dept Adj Diener: When it comes down to me I have a whole list of items on here.

D-19 Cmdr Richardson: And that will be a big load off of our shoulders. And that's the final payment on the Rock Hill loan. Once we get that out from under us and from over our heads and everything it will be a whole lot easier to get along. Other than that, the sweepstakes did a little bit better on that than what we anticipated which is good. And some people asked, you're doing the rifle raffle and the sweepstakes? The sweepstakes reaches a different group of people than the Rifle Raffle and I'll be honest, I wanted to get rid of the sweepstakes and now I'm glad we didn't. The income on the sweepstakes, we made a little more than \$20,000 on the sweepstakes, the next one will be going out in October? Sometime in the fall. And encourage at your District Meetings, encourage your posts to participate in this sweepstakes. Now, I'll take a few questions.

D-20 Cmdr Rucker: One question that I have is about building and grounds maintenance, am I missing that?

D-19 Cmdr Richardson: Hold on, yeh, last page, maintenance, \$26,000.

D-20 Cmdr Rucker: My bad.

D-19 Cmdr Richardson: That's alright.

D-6 Cmdr Kvam: If we were that far over on convention, is the amount alright on the fall conference.

D-19 Cmdr Richardson: Yes, it is. I promise you this, it will be corrected in the next budget. We've had numerous talks about this and we're tweaking this form every time we meet, we changed this form this year. I think it's easier to read, I hope everybody else thinks it's easier to read. Is it perfect? No. But it gets better each year.

D-17 Cmdr Lonergan: I go to quarterly budget meetings every quarter for my job. And I have a monthly budget review every month for my job and if my budget is off by 225%, I have to explain it to people. What costs \$24,789.78 at the convention?

D-19 Cmdr Richardson: Everything that we do, everything that we get, if we have a microphone in that room,, food, everything. The way it was done in the past, you know, we had this sheet, and everything was on one line, it showed income and expense, ok? And the total those two together. We didn't do that on this one. That was our mistake, I'm not going to put that on anyone else.

D-17 Cmdr Lonergan: I understand that, but when you get a contract for a venue, it lists every expense it lists everything.

Dept Adj Diener: In the old format, the 11,000 was the net of what we had come in and what we had go out. When they carried it over they carried it over the income portion and put on the income line but the part they put on the expense part was the net figure.

D-19 Cmdr Richardson: The \$11,000 was the budgeted amount not counting the income that comes in from registration and things of that nature. And that's totally on the finance committee and the past adjutant. We make mistakes but we're not going to make the same one twice.

Dept Adj Diener: We spend \$24,000 but we actually had \$14,000 come in so the net of that is still within that \$11,000.

D-18 Cmdr Pouncy: Are still going to send two Legionnaires to Legion College?

Dept Adj Diener: We're past the deadline anyway.

D-16 Cmdr Defrehn: Do we shop the convention?

D-19 Cmdr Richardson: Earlier this year the Adjutant was asked to go to venues to bring to finance committee and then to the DEC?

D-16 Cmdr Defrehn: Do you shop different locations?

D-19 Cmdr Richardson: It's my understanding it's done by the DEC. Jim?

PDC Hawk: Thank you Grady. To answer your question, you go to have space to accommodate and everybody in Spartanburg don't have the space. We've been to every place in this state. Greenville has space and we went to Greenville for five years before the DEC wanted to come back to Columbia. Myrtle Beach has space,

Charleston has space. But Myrtle Beach is not going to allow us to have \$100 room rates, we've already checked into that, Charleston is the same way. If this body voted to go back there, fine. We checked into Embassy Suites at Charleston and Myrtle Beach and the cheapest rate five years ago was \$120 and that included a breakfast and a happy hour at every Embassy Suites. Here in Columbia the Embassy Suites can't accommodate our meeting space, we've looked at it.

D-19 Cmdr Richardson: When it's at Myrtle Beach, it's easier for me, when it's in Greenville, it's harder. The fairest place for everyone is in Columbia.

Dept Adj Diener: The attendance at Columbia has gone up since we've brought it back to Columbia.

D-16 Cmdr Defrehn: My room as a Marriot rewards member was \$89.

D-19 Cmdr Richardson: We're under contract.

Dept Adj Diener: You also have to understand, based on a guaranteed number of rooms that we give them, there are other things that our meeting spaces or other things that are at reduced spaced or we're given them free. So it catches you one way or another, the Legionnaire may not pay it in their rate but we're paying it meeting cost or have to raise the registration.

PDC Hawk: You have to understand that room rate rises 3% every rate. But we have to guarantee rooms and food and beverage to get the meeting space and rooms or we have to pay the full price. And who is in charge of that is everyone in this room that does not attend the conference or convention. It doesn't take a rocket scientist to understand, if you have a good conference and give them a reasonable price, they will come and Columbia is the most centrally located and we get the people that are able to come. Even those that travel each day, we still have enough to offset the cost to put on the convention for ya'll enjoy.

D-18 Cmdr Pouncy: Attendance was good at Myrtle Beach, that had been real good you know.

Dept Adj Diener: Attendance was lower than what it was for here.

D-19 Cmdr Richardson: And when we get ready to bring to the DEC our recommendation, we're going to try to have attendance figures there and here to show you. Thank you for your attention, Cmdr said I've talked long enough.

Dept Cmdr Strauss: Do we have a motion to accept the finance motion as read?

Vice Cmdr Poulos: I make a motion.

D-14 Cmdr Brandt: Second

Dept Cmdr Strauss: All in favor, any opposed? (all voted in favor of the finance report as read). Alright, we have some more, so we'll I call on Russ Cantrell for a report on Law Cadet Academy.

D-10 Cmdr Cantrell: I'll try to be brief, this will only be about 30 minutes (laughter) I had the very distinct pleasure of participating in Law Cadet this year as a counselor. And folks I want to tell you what, to see high school kids come in unpolished and to see the end result. Now, I mean you're talking about kids that didn't know their left from their right by the end of the day and the end of the week, they knew their left from their right. Because of the dedication of the counselors, these are law enforcement professionals that took their time, took their summer vacation to train these kids. And it's for kids that are interested in law enforcement, let me state that. We had some kids, let me say that. We had some kids that said I don't know if I want to be here, and we asked them, why are you here? They said, because my Momma wanted me to come. We had one kid like that this year, and she made a complete 180 in one day and she became the top female cadet. We also have the privilege this year of giving scholarships to the top female and top male. The top male, on the first day I would have given you a plug nickel for him to be changed. But he did. And, you know, I saw the change in these young

people and this program, to me, is just as important as Boys State. I'm just going to tell you like it is. I'm retired Law Enforcement, this condensed training these kids go through is amazing. What got me is the dedication of all the instructors that took their time that took their time, their day to teach them how to drive, teach them how to shoot. So we need to be aware that we need to sponsor, every post in the state needs sponsor this. WE had 62 cadets, 37 of those cadets were sponsored by The American Legion this year. It should be 100%. If you need me to come talk to your post, I'll be more than happy to. I'm going to be a counselor next year and the next year after that and every year I'm able to. I think this is a good program that's well worth it and I think we need to invest our time and money into it.

P-130 Adj Walton: How many will they take?

Dept Adj Diener: 65 is what the Criminal Justice Academy has locked us in to.

Dept Strauss: That's really because we have two buses. If we go over that we'll have to get three buses and that might be a tough task.

D-10 Cmdr Cantrell: I mean, 62 was a handful. That was a lot of students. Then of course you figure the counselors, and the combinations, there were combinations (laughter). No really, I thoroughly enjoyed it but we need to get more posts to sponsor, we should be at 100%. Now, let me say this, the posts that aren't able to sponsor this, you can also sponsor a meal. Some of the meals were good, some of them, my opinion, were borderline. In my opinion, those kids should have a good meal every day.

Unidentified Speaker: You mean sponsor the meal, do you mean cook the meal?

D-10 Cmdr Cantrell: No you sponsor it. Like this past year we had a post sponsored, got food from Zaxby's stuff like that. You can send the money and sponsor a meal like that.

Vice Cmdr Price: Do you have an outline of the type of sponsorships provided. You go to a golf tournament, you can sponsorship two holes, stuff like that. Do you have that?

Dept Adj Diener: No, but that's a good idea.

D-10 Cmdr Cantrell. Great idea. And the commander was involved a few days this year.

D-1 Cmdr Jarvis: Was he qualified? (laughter).

D-10 Cmdr Well, you know, I said it was exciting but getting up at 4:30, I felt like I was at boot camp again. But we got up with them, because that's when do their running and I got up to watch them run. I was a good observer, I told them they did great running. We had a group of counselors that walked. It was a lot of fun and there was a lot of comradery by the end of the week. And we all had nicknames. I don't know if you can guess my nickname. Sasquatch. (laughter) I even have a nametag that says Sasquatch. And Steffanie Cockerill, she is dead on this program guys. She knows what's she's doing, she knows who to contact and everything. We have a great Director. And like I said, the counselors, they're phenomenal. We got people from SLED, all over the state, various Law Enforcement and for one solid week their focus was the kids. Anybody got any questions?

NEC Hennis: What is the cost of that?

D-10 Cmdr Cantrell: Right now it's \$200.

Dept Adj Diener: And that's what it will be for next year, we may have to look at adjusting it after that.

D-1 Cmdr Jarvis: Where is it held at?

D-10 Cmdr Cantrell: Criminal Justice Academy, Broad River Rd in Columbia.

Dept Cmdr Strauss: Those counselors not only gave up their time for one week but they gave up Fathers Day with their fathers and family so that was a big thing I can't emphasize so if you see the counselors thank them. City of Cayce, Lexington County, Town of Lexington, City of N. Augusta, SLED, these are people when you're out there and about or the Chiefs or Sheriff's, let them know thank you, thank you. It's a pain in the neck when it's 90 degrees to be out there on the firing range and let them know you appreciate them. We did lose breakfast at the Academy, that was a donation but funding cuts will not let them support that. We will need some support from the post level so please take this back to them for sponsorship for meals and cadets. I'll call on Nick for some administrative updates.

Dept Adj Diener: I can tell you we put on the entire Law Cadet with the donations and reduced prices for meals we put it together it for \$14,000 so with the new charges we're going to have so feeding and housing the kids and counselors for an entire week, we do a pretty good job of.

D-10 Cmdr Cantrell: The director wants to put what's on the Guidon on the hats. I was telling here the way to do that is with a fundraiser or something because right now we're kind of strapped. She's kind of looking into that, that's not going to happen soon but when I find out more I'll let you know.

Dept Adj Diener: I've got several things I've got to go through here and I would ask that as we go through these, that if there are any discussion on it, needless to say, everybody save your piece because we don't need to go back and forth a bunch because we're not going to get through here.

- 1) At Dept Convention, during the Riders part of it, the Riders, and it all came back originally in your packet, there was a change to the Riders constitution. It went to the Dept const & bylaws sub-committee, it went to the ALR convention and they approved it and now that change needs to come back to the DEC for final approval. And without reading, I can, but without reading the whole thing to you.

But basically they want to change it to where, when a change is submitted for the ALR constitution, that the first thing it goes to is the Exec. Cmte to the ALR, because if you noticed when I said it before, I never mentioned the ALR Exec. Cmte. That it goes to the ALR Exec. Cmte and then it comes to this body before it goes to the ALR Dept Convention. That way it gone through all the wickets and if their members vote on it at the dept convention, it's finalized.

Instead of what happens now they've voted on it and it comes back to us. And that is the change they approved. I can read it out but we basically just need your all's approval to approve that change.

Imm PDC Scherer: I move re accept the amendment they have.

D-1 Cmdr Jarvis: I second that.

Dept Cmdr Strauss: Any discussion?

PDC Hawk: Will that allow the Riders E-board to make their recommendations and they recommend to our Const & Bylaws cmte?

D-19 Cmdr Richardson: Yes, if we disapprove it, boom it's done. But if it's approved it goes to the Dept const & Bylaws cmte and then it comes here and then this body sees it and says no, it needs to be tweaked and then it goes to the ALR membership.

Dept Cmdr Strauss: All in favor, any opposed (all present voted in favor, none opposed, motion passed).

- 2) I've got a few budget issues, this should be all quick and easy. We call it the South State Bank Loan # 3 but basically it's the Rock Hill loan. Earlier this year this body voted to let us pay \$11,000 a month, basically doubling the payment and said after the convention and when the money started coming in to look at it again. The balance right now is, I apologize because I walked in here and didn't write the exact

figure down but it's basically approximately \$15,500. Rather than paying them \$11,000 this month and after \$4,000 still sitting there next month is just go ahead and pay it off and be done with it.

D-20 Cmdr Rucker: I make a motion we pay it off.

D-18 Cmdr Pouncy: Second.

Dept Cmdr Strauss: All in favor, any opposed? (all present voted in favor of paying off the SSB Loan # 3)

- 3) We've heard us talk about scholarships. Right now, if you all know, for oratorical we give out several scholarships there at at \$2,000 and \$1,000 and two \$500 scholarships but right now the Baseball scholarship is only \$500. What the BB sub-committee has asked if we can raise it up to \$1,000 next year to bring it more in line with some of our other scholarships. The finance committee approved it and we're bringing it the DEC for approval.

NEC Hennis: I make a motion to raise that to \$1,000.

D-6 Cmdr Kvam: I second that.

D-19 Cmdr Richardson: Please keep in mind this comes from the Americanism account, it doesn't come from the general fund.

D-17 Lonergan: This actually doesn't come from Baseball, this comes from individual posts that are paying for their teams to take part.

Dept Cmdr Strauss: Yes, we're being general.

D-1 Cmdr Jarvis: This is the first I've heard of this, is this per team?

Dept Cmdr Strauss: No, one person gets the scholarship. A player from Gaffney won the scholarship.

Dept Vice Cmdr Price: In the event if the funds aren't there coming from those teams, the scholarship is not there either.

Dept Adj Diener: When we look at that budget every year, if the number is starting to go down we have to pull that out.

D-19 Cmdr Richardson: And that goes for any program.

Dept Cmdr Strauss: Any further discussion? All in favor, any opposed? (all voted in favor to raise the BB scholarship to \$1,000 annually, none opposed)

- 4) Credit card for the Dept Cmdr. The Cmdr is given one of our cc cards and right now the finance cmte guidance is he can only use that for emergency purposes. For example, if he goes to Beaufort for a meeting and it runs late or there's any problem and he decides that he can't make it home that night and he needs to stay in a hotel room, right now he can't use that cc card for that, he has to put it on his cc card. And we reimburse him but he has to come back through us so he can get reimbursement. Same way, Cmdr Scherer can talk about this, if he has an accident and he has to get it fixed, he can't use the card for that. Or if he's at National and we don't match up to change it over to him, he has to pay for the room on his personal cc card and we have to write a check back to him to reimburse him. For me it makes sense for the dept Cmdr to use his or her discretion to use that cc card as they are going around the state. I review every statement and if it looks like it's being abused it's my job to bring that up to the cmdr and if necessary the finance cmte.

NEC Hennis: I'd like to make a motion that the cmdr have a credit card to use at his discretion. We elected him as the cmdr and he is actually over everything that we own so why not let him use his discretion.

Dept Adj Diener: It does have a \$5,000 limit.

D-18 Cmdr Pouncy: Second.

Dept Cmdr Strauss: All in favor, any opposed (all present voted in favor of the dept cmdr having a credit card to use at their own discretion).

- 5) Southern Bloc, they way they used to do it, they'd come up with fines and all sorts of other things they'd use to raise money for the cmdr's project or NEF. Southern Bloc is our region, they're asking every dept to make a \$500 donation to the NEF or the Cmdr's project. That was not in our budget for this year as a specific line item but that's one of those things that we need to do that to support them. Those are things that get noticed, although they don't officially tie that to cmte appointments or those things but they do notice what we participate in. So I'm asking for your permission to make that \$500 donation and that we also be allowed to put that into next years budget.

NEC Hennis: I make a motion to the Southern Bloc which in turn goes to the Ntl Cmdr's project for the year and also TFA and training this year. So that's what this money will go for.

D-10 Cmdr Cantrell: Second.

Dept Cmdr Strauss: Any further discussion? I will add that Cmdr's project is NEF and that SC got over \$17,000 last year.

Vice Cmdr Poulos: At the spring conference I was in on the voting on the money that came to this dept.

Dept Cmdr Straus: All in favor, any opposed (all present voted in favor of giving \$500 to Southern Bloc this year and to putting it into the budget next year.

- 6) Every year, and you're probably used to getting letters and phone calls from the NEC to collect funds to make a donation to the leading candidate. That's normally a thing we try to give \$2,000 to the leading candidates campaign fund. Most of the time, NEC Hennis is successful in collecting that amount but it's always questionable. I'd like to get permission if his efforts fall short that the dept be allowed to make up the difference in whatever the shortfall is to bring it up to that \$2,000. To be perfectly honest with you the \$2,000 is a low amount.

NEC Hennis: That \$2,000, that's been around a long time, that \$2,000 has been around for at least 18 years that I know of and that \$2,000 doesn't go as far as it did 18 years ago. Actually we do, all the officers, anybody that would like to contribute, Myrtle Beach Post 40 contributed \$100. We like to ask for personal contributions for that but when we don't meet that it's made up through the budget. But I'd like to see us go up and like he said, our Ntl cmdr looks at those things and here we preach membership, membership, membership. And we did real well in membership, great this year. And how would it look for the #1 Dept to go up there and give \$2,000. I'd like to make a motion to raise that to \$3,000.

D-1 Cmdr Jarvis: What do you normally raise?

NEC Hennis: We have raised up to \$2,000, sometimes over.

D-20 Cmdr Rucker: Can you tell them where that goes?

NEC Hennis: It goes to the leading candidates campaign. And that's what it's for, to help them along the way. And everyone that donates, will get a letter. And they will come up to you at National convention and thank you.

Dept Cmdr Strauss: That will have to go back to the finance cmte.

D-19 Cmdr Richardson: We said it had to come to the DEC. I don't have a problem giving \$3,000. My concern is if everybody sees that we're supplementing that the \$3,000, their donations will fall off and it will cost us more. That's a concern.

NEC Hennis: We're actually going to give him that money at the Ntl convention when he comes for the caucus.

Dept Cmdr Strauss: Maggie

Exec. Dir May: I'd just like to say that people are pretty consistent. Certain people give \$150, certain people give \$200, I mean, they're pretty consistent, the ones that do give. Willie Mac always gives the same amount, Bud always gives the same amount, Bobby Gibbons always gives the same amount, Hawk always gives the same amount, it doesn't drop down. They know the history of it and their obligation and they're pretty good about it.

NEC Hennis: Probably we need to or maybe it's my fault, maybe I need to preach it more when I go to these convention or when I go to posts. I mean, look at Post 40, here they are, burned to the ground and here they donated \$100. And it's all about veterans helping veterans and that's what we're about. Thank you.

Dept Cmdr Strauss: He made the motion, do we have a second?

D-20 Cmdr Second. I do want to say the Ntl Candidate, they have to raise a a half a million dollars just to run.

Dept Cmdr Strauss: Any further discussion? All in favor, any opposed? (all present voted in favor of supplementing the donations to the Ntl Candidates campaign to total \$3,000, none opposed).

- 7) In 107 D next to the Auxiliary, it has gone unrented. It's just one room, we were getting \$400 plus utilities. The Auxiliary would like to rent that but they're going to use it for storage. Their current storage contract runs out in December and they are renting storage for \$300 per month.

D-19 Cmdr Richardson: I make a motion to raise that to \$300 a month. That and we're going to allow them to go ahead and if they're willing to pay the utilities they can put their stuff in and that way they won't have to do it all at once.

D-12 Cmdr Davis: Second.

Dept Adj Diener: It was was one of those things where he wasn't paying, the BB people were paying it for him, we fixed up a bunch of things for him and then he left.

Dept Cmdr Strauss: All in favor, any opposed. (all present voted in favor of renting 107-D to the Auxiliary for \$300 starting in December plus utilities, none opposed).

A lot of you know in June I went down to Conway for our District meeting and right after that I went to MB Post 40, it's on the intercostal waterway. It was a great day, a perfect day, they had a grand opening after the flood. And this week they had a fire so they're back to square one with the damage to the post. I think a lot you know, they had insurance, my theme this year is we got your six so I'm going to ask you, drop the money in the box. It's nothing mandatory but if you'd like to make a donation we'd like to send them something to say we go you. There's a lot of stuff in there, model ships and photos, stuff like that. I'll turn it back over to Nick.

- 8) I did talk to Bill and he said the inside, because it's all wood, it's basically gutted. The outside doesn't tell you all of it, he said when you get to the inside it's bad. Ok. Another fun subject here. Post Charters. We had nine posts that we ended up this year, at the end of the year that had not made the minimum number of 15 which is required by the constitution for a post to maintain their charter. We also have two

of those posts that have not paid their final payment on their enhancement. So how I'd like to approach this, because some of them are cut and dry. So rather than discussing all the posts all at once. The membership team has looked at and I've talked with District Cmdr's as well.

- a) D-9 Gaffney P-201. They dropped down, they only got 12 members this year. Previous years they had 19 or 20. My recommendation and the membership Team recommendation is we don't take their charter. We really haven't done any sort of revitalization or concerted effort to get that back going again.
- b) D-13 Honea Path P-50. They dropped to 13 mbrs this year, previous years they'd been at 15 and 16, just barely making that and they keep struggling but at this point I don't think we need to take any action other than to get with the District cmdr and the Mbrship Team to get them going again.
- c) D-18 Post 226 Lakeview. The last two years this post has not met the 15 but again we really haven't tried to do a revitalization to get their numbers up so my recommendation would be to take the same approach to them as the others.
- d) D-18 Post 118 Nichols. If ya'll remember, they have one mbr right now, they have zero mbrs on their rolls because they've all transferred to P-82 so for all intents and purposes they've merged. We just can't get the paperwork from them. I have discussed this with Cmdr Pouncy, and we're going to do a letter for them to sign, that says by September 15th we need to receive their letter stating they've merged or we need to revoke their charter. And the reason the 15th date is in there is the next time Ntl looks at anything for charters, normally charter cancellations have to be in two weeks before that meeting. What we want to do though is we'd like to say they've merged. If we don't get the paperwork we'll have to say we've pulled their charter but we won't have another DEC meeting before then to make that decision.

D-1 Cmdr Jarvis: If they merge we got to pull their charter anyways.

Dept Adj Diener: No, it's a different kind of paperwork. It still has to go to National but you're voting to merge as opposed to revoking their charter. I guess I'm asking for ya'lls approval if we receive the letters to approve the merger and if we don't receive the letters to approve revoking the charter by September 15.

D-20 Cmdr Rucker: I recommend if we receive the letters from them by September 15 that they have merged approve the merge and if we don't receive the letters by September to approve revoke the charter.

D-14 Cmdr Brandt: Second.

Dept Cmdr Strauss: Any discussion?

Unidentified Speaker: Any property associated with them?

Dept Adj Diener: No, as far as I know. Post 118 there was no property associated with this. Like I say, all the members have already transferred. They had one paid mbrship for last year and that person has transferred.

Dept Cmdr Strauss: All in favor, any opposed? Passed.

- e) We have a similar situation between P-18 and P-47 in Timmons ville. If you all will remember P-18 was a new post that got started last year and bottom line to it is their charter went in, they never got their 15 people in. The 15 people that they got to sign the charter didn't all come through didn't pay all their memberships or do their transferring. At the same time that basically caused the other post in Timmons ville, it hurt their numbers because they weren't able to keep it going either. So what we ended with this last year, P-18 the new post had zero members and P-47 only got five members. We've run into the same thing and I've talked with Cmdr Pouncy on this and he said that he has talked to those posts and they are now talking about wanting to merge again and get it back to one post.

D-1 Cmdr Jarvis: There's nobody to talk to in 18.

D-18 Cmdr Pouncy: 18, yeh, I seen him, yeh.

Dept Adj Diener: Anyway, my recommendation is a similar approach to what we did with Nichols but that we send a letter to both posts that if by September 15th, if they don't do a letter to merge, that we approve the merger and if they don't, then we pull the charters. Post 18's charter needs to go. They tried to start a new post, it never got going. Post-47, they may not ever hit the numbers, they were struggling before but I think with the new post starting to form it kind of messed up 47 even more and we really haven't ever gone up there as a dept and done a good revitalization there. I will tell you, the mbrship cmte, in all fairness to them, their vote was to cancel both charters.

D-18 Cmdr Pouncy: Let's see what they do by September 15th. Give me the letters so I can hand carry it to make sure they get signed and I'll get it back to the dept. I think he moves from one house to another so he don't really have a mailing address. Send me the letters for the Post in Nichols and Timmons ville so I can hand carry them.

D-20 Cmdr Rucker: The recommendation of the mbrship team is to give them to the 15th and if they haven't done anything by the 15th is we recommend to pull both charters.

D-18 Pouncy: I said the 15th, didn't I?

D-20 Cmdr Rucker: Ok- I make a motion or I'll second his motion that we send them a letter, if they haven't done something by September 15th, we pull their charter.

Dept Adj Diener: You're saying s far as merging?

D-20 Cmdr Rucker: Merging. Either merge or pull their charter.

D-18 Cmdr Pouncy: I second that motion.

Dept Cmdr Strauss: Ok, do we have discussion?

D-19 Cmdr Richardson: To pull the charters, would we have to come back in and have another meeting to pull the charters?

Dept Cmdr Strauss: If we cannot get them to merge. We have a deadline to meet at National to pull them.

D-16 Cmdr Defrehn: Timmons ville. Geographically, does that fall anywhere close to other posts so you can take the five guys that are there and roll them into another post.

D-18 Cmdr Pouncy: Florence or Effingham.

D-16 Cmdr Defrehn: I'm wondering and I know how far it is as a new post, sometimes it's probably just better if these guys are die hard Legion guys.

Dept Cmdr Strauss: I'm going to end that conversation just for time purposes, we can talk about that afterwards.

Dept Adj Diener: There are 172 members in the area to get their numbers back up.

D-4 Cmdr Goodman: If I understand they have until the 15th to merge or you're going to pull both charters.

Dept Cmdr Strauss: That's right, the membership team is aware of it. All in favor, any opposed? Passed.

- f) The last group of posts, three posts, D-7 posts where we currently don't have a D-7 Cmdr, we've been fighting with these posts, Barnwell P-46 who has not met the minimum for the last five years but they

have paid their enhancement. Blackville P-91, they have not met the number in the past four years. This last year they only had seven paid members, through the efforts of the mbrship cmte we did transfer six members in there that got them to 13 and they stopped and they also owe their last payment on the enhancement of \$108. Williston P-75 has not made the minimum number for the last two years, last year they had 13 mbrs and they still owe their last enhancement payment of \$150. We've worked this area for the last three years, we've tried to get different pp to stand up and get those post back going and everything we've tried so far has been unsuccessful. We've tried to suggest to them they merge, they agree at one meeting and then you can't get them to talk with you. The Post Cmdr of P-75 said all that and transferred his mbrship to P-71. That's what we've been dealing with. A lot of folks in the room have been frustrated dealing with them. Two of those posts haven't paid their enhancement, if they stay with their post number, then there is still the enhancement problem and we've been pretty strict with the enhancement payments. Another option if they all merge into Barnwell P-46, by merging and picking up the P-46 number the requirement for paying the enhancements goes away and they at least a viable post down there for Barnwell Cnty to keep it going. Cmdr Rucker, do you have any comments from the mbrship team?

D-20 Cmdr Rucker: We've tried to contact these people, this ain't something that we just did, and they don't talk to us. That's what so frustrating. Even Ron Price has been down there, you've been down there. They'll talk a good game when you get a hold of them but then they won't call back. The recommendation of the mbrship team is we revoke their charters and give them to September 15th, you want to say merge, that's fine, but if by the 15th they haven't merged, we revoke all three charters.

Vice Cmdr Poulos: I second that.

Dept Cmdr Strauss: Discussion?

Vice Cmdr Price: I did go down there in July and was able to meet with P-46, P-91 and P-246 and gave them their mbrship cards. P-91, Bill Jones, stated he has access to the Post although the Vietnam Veterans use it but he has access. Dan Packer, P-46 stated their building was given to the Church so basically they don't have any property. P-91 and P-46 agreed to merge and they gave me at that date their first meeting was going to be on August 15th. I've tried to get in touch with the other posts since that time frame. For that area, my recommendation is that P-46, P-91 and P-75 be sent a letter to either merge or close. We keep going after this, we been going after this for four or five years. If they don't reply back, I recommend they merge.

D-1 Cmdr Jarvis: I've been part of that conversation, they've even been known to say, they're not going to take our charter.

Dept Cmdr Strauss: Can I recommendation? Can we have the letter ready to sign so they don't have to go home and do it. Can we also send letters to all the members of the affected posts?

Dept Adj Diener: That does have to be done, yes.

Imm PDC Scherer: Do they have any property?

Dept Adj Diener: It's my understanding they've given it all away.

D-16 Cmdr Defrehn: Is it a power struggle? You know the commanders, is the commanders?

Dept Cmdr Strauss: I think it's age.

D-20 Cmdr Rucker: They don't like each other, bottom line. Barnwell don't like Blackville, Blackville don't like Williston.

Dept Cmdr Strauss: All in favor, any opposed? (passed).

- g) I'm going to pick on the District Cmdr's a little bit. Per the constitution, by August 1st all the dates, places (with addresses), and times are due. Some of you have given some of that or none of that and some of ya'll have give us all of it but we need those in. There's other schedules that are made off that and there's a reason we need those in. Cmdr, that's all I have.

D-1 Cmdr Jarvis: 119's deed.

- h) I now have something else, after Jim saying that. At the last meeting this body voted to transfer the building in Eastover to P-119. We have been trying to go through a retired attorney that has done work for us pro bono, I sent it in and I still don't have the paperwork from him. The post is getting antsy so I've reached the point that we try to get this attorney to do it free or we try to get another attorney to do it.

D-1 Cmdr Jarvis: I make a motion to go outside and get a quit-claim deed.

Dept Cmdr Strauss: We need something more specific.

D-1 Cmdr Jarvis: A lawyer.

D-14 Cmdr Brandt: Second.

Vice Cmdr Price: Do we have a cap on a cost? We don't have anything in our budget.

Dept Adj Diener: He was going to do the quit deed and we were going to take it to the courthouse to file it. \$25. The cost we're talking about now is the cost of an attorney.

Dept Cmdr: Any other discussion?

D-16 Cmdr DeFrehn: Any attorney is going to run between \$500 and \$750.

NEC Hennis: Let the new post pay that cost, we're giving them the property.

Dept Adj Diener: The motion needs to be amended if we're asking them to pay for the attorney.

D-1 Jarvis: Once they get the deed they get liability and not the department, the building is just sitting there.

Dept Cmdr Strauss: We'll stick with the original motion. All in favor, opposed? (The motion to get an outside attorney to do a quit-claim deed for the Eastover property was passed and so ordered). Jim Jarvis? We got \$466 for Myrtle Beach. (applause)

D-1 Cmdr Jarvis: The Adj is passing out the final proposal plan from the re-districting cmte, you'll notice that back before the convention, we asked for some input, some feedback and hoped that we would get feedback that would go in favor of or take into consideration the overall picture of the dept. We did get a few feedbacks and they were presented to the cmte, the cmte went over all of them, we did make one change, P-30 was moved from D-15 to D-17 but other than that, that's the only change from the last thing you've seen. Any of the old ones you have are moot because of that one small change. We've worked on this for a year, we were tasked with geographically bringing the posts or districts together where we kind of numbered between 7,8,9 knowing that with 168 posts that's 8.4 so our goal was to get between eight and nine per district. So we have 15 districts that have eight or nine and we have one with six and we have four with ten which brings everybody between six and ten.

Which right now we have one with four and another district with 16 or a district with 13 and that type of thing. And it was all based on Geographic's. The map that you had there had nothing on it, I took it to the, I call him the computer weenie, I gave him our voting strength sheet, I said, these are our 168 posts. Disregard post 172, please take a map of SC, put these little dots on there and give me a map outline with dots, no cities, no nothing.

And we worked with that and that's what we worked with pretty much for six months before we even decided that we were ready to put post numbers on there. And you'll notice that by the time we got to the nine month mark, we're not even talking District Cmdrs or districts, we're just trying to figure out where everybody's at now. Once we got to that point, that's when we said, ok, how close are we, how much movement are we going to have between the old districts and the new districts. We were basically close but you can imagine with a change like, I'm going to call it, re-formulating new districts. We think it's a good plan. A lot of thought went into it, we think it's a fair plan but more than anything we think we based this on geographic and we got the numbers of the districts, of the posts in the districts down to a more equitable fair position.

D-3 Cmdr Pearson: I'm noticing here you're saying no district cmdr, my post in Greenville, P-3, has been moved to Carlton Patterson's district. If I was elected in a proper election as D-3 Cmdr and then my post has been out of three, is Greenville going to be moved back to D-3? Because according to the Dept Const & Bylaws the Dist Cmdr's post must be within the District. So is Post 3 going to be moved back to D-3?

D-1 Cmdr Jarvis: This is our final proposal, as you see it right in front of you, that's the final proposal from the re-districting cmte.

D-3 Cmdr Pearson: Does this mean I'm being fired from District Cmdr?

D-1 Cmdr Jarvis: According to the constitution it's called "disqualified".

Dept Adj Diener: You would no longer be eligible to be Cmdr of D-3.

D-3 Cmdr Pearson: And that happed because someone wanted to move Greenville to D-13.

Dept Adj Diener: The constitution says that can be done, yes.

D-1 Cmdr Jarvis: That's the way it geographically came out for the cmte.

Dept Cmdr Pearson: So I'm out of a job and I'm not supposed to be here right?

D-1 Cmdr Jarvis: That's not true either, you're supposed to be here because you're an active District Cmdr at this point. This has to be approved.

Dept Cmdr Pearson: Is Greenville P-3 is not going to be moved back to D-3.

Dept Cmdr Strauss: This is the plan being presented by the re-districting cmte.

D-13 Cmdr Patterson: I'm like him, P-113, Pendleton. That's right in my backyard. Why should I have to go all the way to Greenville, nearly an hours drive away when I go down to Pendleton in 15 or 20 minutes. Everything in Pickens Cnty would come under me and you have one post in Pickens Cnty going to D-3? They don't want to go to D-3.

D-1 Cmdr Jarvis: The rational and logic is that you and I aren't always going to be district Cmdr's for eternity, the next D-Cmdr might be from P-3

D-13 Cmdr Patterson: Logic, logic, why not give me Oconee and Pickens Cnty?

Dept Cmdr Strauss: Just to get this into the discussion phase? Do we have a motion to accept the recommendation of the re-districting cmte?

Imm PDC Scherer: I make a motion to accept the recommendation of the the re-districting cmte.

D-19 Cmdr Richardson: I second that.

D-16 Cmdr Defrehn: Is there a problem with switching P-113 and P-3?

Dept Cmdr Strauss: They've already had that discussion, this is the plan they're presenting today. We're not going to change any part of this plan today. Somewhere down the road if they want to look at that, they can.

D-19 Cmdr Richardson: I understand (inaudible)where it was approved for the DEC to change the districts. We can do a wholesale change or at a later day, if this body chooses to move Hemingway, which is God's Country in Williamsburg Cnty, to D-1 in Columbia, this body can do one post, one move because we have the power to change the districts. The problem with P-3, D-3 and all that, could be addressed at a later date.

Dept Cmdr Strauss: Any other discussion. I'm going to call for a vote.

D-19 Cmdr Richardson: I request a roll call vote.

Dept Cmdr Strauss: Maggie, do you have a roll call vote?

Exec. Dir May: I have the roll call.

NEC Hennis: I have a question.

Dept Cmdr Strauss: We're not in discussion.

Dept Adj Diener called the roll call for the vote to re-district: (after completing the roll call vote Adj Diener asked one more question.

Dept Adj Diener: NEC Hennis, do you still want to leave this as an abstention or no vote?

NEC Hennis: If I can ask a question than I can vote. A non-vote, yes.

Dept Adj Diener: Cmdr, 12 to 9.

Dept Cmdr Strauss: Redistricting passed, 12 to nine. The motion passed.

Yes	Abstain	No
Imm PDC Scherer	NEC Hennis	D-3 Cmdr Pearson
Alt NEC Mitchell		D-5 Cmdr Wright
Vice Cmdr Poulos		D-8 Cmdr Wade
Vice Cmdr Price		D-11 Cmdr Rabon
D-1 Cmdr Jarvis		D-13 Cmdr Patterson
D-2 Cmdr Blankin		D-16 Cmdr Defrehn
D-4 Cmdr Pearson		D-17 Cmdr Lonergan
D-6 Cmdr Kvam		D-18 Cmdr Pouncy
D-10 Cmdr Cantrell		D-20 Cmdr Rucker
D-12 Cmdr Davis		

D-14 Cmdr Brandt D-19 Cmdr Richardson 12	1	9
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D-1 Cmdr Jarvis: The next step to this was after we come up with this we worked on how we need to make sure we have District Cmdr's for every District and we're basing our final recommendation on is if there was a greater than 50% turnover of posts, in other words if a district had more than 50%, greater than 50% changeover then we would constitute needing an election. This is based on and/or greater than 50% and/or no District Cmdr there.

For example, D-3 had a 50% change of posts, according to this plan and no district cmdr and D -6 had a greater than 50% change of posts which will require, according to our basis, require an election and that will be until 2018 to stay with the odd/even rotation.

D-7 had a 50% change of posts and no District Cmdr, D-8 had a 50% change of Posts and no District Cmdr, when I say a District, that's based on this new picture. Greater than 50% in District 17 and no District Cmdr, D-11 had greater than 50% and D-19 had greater than 50%. Based on all that, our recommendation is that the vice Cmdr's hold elections as soon as possible on this seven districts and that's our plan for that portion.

Imm PDC Scherer: Do you need a motion on that?

Dept Adj Diener; There should be a vote on how this body wants to do this.

Imm PDC Scherer: Cmdr I make a motion to approve the elections for the district cmdr's based on the recommendations of the re-districting cmte.

D-19 Cmdr Richardson: I'll second.

Dept Cmdr Strauss: We have a motion and a second. Any discussion?

D-20 Cmdr Rucker: How many days are you talking about doing it, 45, 90, what?

D-1 Cmdr Jarvis: We would like, that was the next step I had but I guess we should say it now. We want this done as soon as possible and we want the transition.....our concern by the cmte is we don't want a post to fall through the cracks. So we're asking the District Cmdr that's losing a post that they follow that post to make sure it happens. And that's there's a smooth transition. And that the losing District Cmdr initiates contact with the new cmdr. We were looking for everything to be completed the day before the Fall Conference. In other words, August and September.

Dept Adj Diener: Per the const, any time there's a vacancy, the vice Cmdr with oversight must conduct an election within 45 days.

D-1 Cmdr Jarvis: So by the time they get that done and we get all the transitioning done we're looking to have everything done the day before the conference so at the conference we can see if there's any problems. Does that answer your question?

D-6 Cmdr Kvam: And getting people sworn in.

D-8 Cmdr Wade: This is going to cost membership. My post is dead against moving to another district. The whole district is dead against what ya'll are doing.

Imm PDC Scherer: The District has nothing to do with the posts.....

D-8 Cmdr Wade: Moving P-93 in Walterboro down with James Island P-147, I don't know what you're trying to accomplish.

D-1 Cmdr Jarvis: With what we were tasked to accomplish. To geographically get the Districts at an equitable level, and what we got was between six and ten, 20 Districts.

Dept Cmdr Strauss: All in favor, any opposed? The ayes have it.

Dept Cmdr Diener: Do we have an effective date?

D-1 Cmdr Jarvis: All the elections should be done the day before the Fall conference and it's effective today. We should have a map of the quadrants, we gave them the existing quadrants and our recommendation was we move D-7 into Quadrant One and we move D-14 down to Quadrant Two. To make to five districts per quadrant and that's the commander's call but I'm just mentioning that.

Dept Cmdr Strauss: Do we need a motion on that?

Dept Adj Diener: No. You can decide that.

Dept Cmdr Strauss: Quadrants will be effective for the oratorical contest. Do we want to move them now?

D-1 Cmdr Jarvis: It's your call Commander. I think I've been saving 7 and it should be D-9. Moving 9 into Quadrant One.

D-5 Cmdr Wright: Have you designated the vice cmdr's yet under the new districts?

Dept Cmdr Strauss: The vice Cmdr with oversight will call a meeting within 45 days.

Dept Adj Diener: The oversight remains the same,

D-1 Cmdr Jarvis: Quadrant one, John Britt, Quadrant two, Walt Richardson, etc.

Dept Cmdr Strauss: So we'll go with the updated one for the Oratorical contest also. What else is on the agenda?

Imm PDC Scherer: Can I make a motion we adjourn?

D-16 Cmdr Defrehn: I second.

Dept Cmdr Strauss: For the good of the order?

PDC Hawk: Are we supposed to be getting income from Pamplico, has it been sold?

Dept Adj Diener: That is our with a realtor at this point. We have three offers come back in. They were all three from the original people that had talked with us before we had a realtor, one offer was \$25,000 which I think is way too low, the other one was \$45,000 but we finance it which we rejected and we reject before. The building is appraised at \$43,000. Mr. Carter first of all was going to rent it and then he offered \$38,000, then he offered \$35,000, we sent him a contract for \$35,000 and we ended up withdrawing that. Now he's come back and offered us \$32,000 so he's dropped it even further. We counter offered with \$40,000 and they said no. Per the discussions with the finance cmte, I'm going back with a counter proposal to Mr. Carter that we'll with \$35,000, his original offer or we'll go with \$32,000 and he'll pay the back rent for his stuff sitting in the building for a year.

D-19 Cmdr Richardson: If you've never seen the property, Florence is widening 51 between Johnsonville and Florence. That takes the road almost at that building so it's going to be a hard sell. If he's going to do the \$32,000 plus the back rent, which he ain't going to do, we'll take it. But if he does the \$32,000, I'd say take it because its going to cost us money each month. I may be out of order and I've been out of order before. I may be

out of order but I'd like to give the Adjutant full authority to negotiate with them and not bring it back to the DEC until he has a final offer with a deposit in hand.

Imm PDC Scherer: Non-refundable.

D-19 Cmdr Richardson: Yeh, non-refundable. Do I need to make that a motion? I'll make that a motion.

Imm PDC Scherer: Second.

Dept Cmdr Strauss: Any discussion?

D-18 Cmdr Pouncy: Make sure he pays the legal fees and not the department.

D-19 Cmdr Richardson: If we can get them.

Dept Cmdr Strauss: All in favor, any opposed, ayes have it.

PDC Hawk: Any update on the brick wall?

Dept Adj Diener: That's sitting in my court, I have to sign the paperwork and get with the bricklayer and we're ready go get going on that.

PDC Hawk: What about our water problem down there?

Dept Adj Diener: You're talking about the drainage? Everybody I talk to I can't get them to give us a bid.

Exec Dir May: Our plumber is bringing someone in.

Dept Adj Diener: Yeh, we keep working it. Our plumber said he knows someone that can give us a bid.

PDC Hawk: The reason I'm asking Mr. Adjutant is we don't need to lose our good renters down there because we're sucking wind in getting that corrected for him and those kids. That's been a long going thing created by Lloyd Woods and was done by the James and now you've inherited the problem. We need to correct that and move on.

Dept Adj Diener: If anybody knows a contractor that will come, I've called several companies and I can't get a bid.

Exec Dir May: Brantley has a good reputation and he's bringing someone by.

Dept Adj Diener: Yeh, Pete Brantley is supposed to be bringing someone and he does good work.

D-5 Cmdr Wright: I'd like everybody to know that Spartanburg JR BB team won the championship. (applause) We had great attendance and it was a hard summer with all the rain we had. And I've had numerous calls on the Rifle Raffle regarding the information that is put out on the website only shows the name. And they would like to know where these people are from and what post is possible. They would like to know a little bit more information on these people are winning.

Dept Cmdr Strauss: Not all of them belong to a post.

(unidentified Speaker) We want to know what city they're from.

D-16 Cmdr Defrehn: They think they're all from 172.

Dept Adj Diener: We know what city they're from but we'd have to go back through the database to find the ticket number and who sold it and we can't guarantee the names will be posted on the website within a day if we're going to be doing that.

D-12 Cmdr Davis: Are we going to be notifying the posts they've moved to a new district?

Dept Adj Diener: Yes, we'll need to do that, yes.

D-1 Cmdr Jarvis: We discussed that. In a letter and the District Cmdr's as well. Between the two of them it should work.

D-17 Cmdr Lonergan: Shaw AFB and their annual POW/MIA ceremony on 9-15, as soon as I find out the time, I'll send it to Maggie so she can get it out.

Dept Cmdr Strauss: Any other business?

Dept Adj Diener: Before we go, afterwards, we've got National Cmdr Pens, license plates. And we've got pictures.

Imm PDC Scherer: I make a motion we close the meeting.

D-16 Cmdr Defrehn: Second.

NEC Hennis: Jim, I'd like to compliment you and the re-districting cmte, you did a great job on that.

D-1 Cmdr Jarvis: Thank you.

Dept Cmdr Strauss: With the colors being in place, hand salute.

Cmdr Strauss called on D-20 Cmdr Rucker for the invocation and closed the meeting.

For God and Country,

Nick I. Diener
Department Adjutant

ND/mm