

**The American Legion Riders
Department of California**



For God and Country
Minutes
March 24, 2015

1. **Called to Order** - President James Adames at 1900 in due form
2. **Invocation** - Chaplain Mary Estrada
3. **Pause for POW/MIA** - President James Adames
4. **Pledge of Allegiance** - Sgt. At Arms Paul Patricio
5. **ALR Preamble** - James Adames
6. **Roll Call** - Steve Weber Quorum present, all DEC mbrs present and Pete Provencio, Doc Bart and Anita Bart guests.
7. **Additions to the Agenda** use our logo for a VSA, Finance adding
8. **Approval of Minutes** – Feb 19.2015 – Motion by Chris Coleman, 2nd A-5 Mick, no discussion, passed to accept
9. **Financial Report** – Don Christolear - finance report on file, \$64209.40, budget on file, 1st by A-6 Dan Dale, 2nd by A-2 Nacho to accept subject to audit, brief discussion re budget, A-2 Nacho, Livermore money needs to be voted on at later date, passed
 - a. need a few chapters to pay.
 - b. Quartermaster will send out some more money
 - c. \$17 - \$18K coming in this year
 - d. Donations should be looked at hard before voting, \$10K to Legion may be able this year but we will have to look out in future
 - e. Convention / Rally funds has not been used, Terry if pay room will be OK
 - f. Some chapters not sent in per capita fees yet
 - g. Cert of Off are coming in and an update should be in August
 - h. budget funds, need to move funds for Sgt at Arms and quartermaster for rooms,
 - i- Dan Dale and Nacho to move from donation to rooms for Sgt and 1/4master for convention.
 - j. rooms to be paid by Don for rooms or reimbursement at later date.

- k. we will wait till convention for any future increases, need to send the requests in to Don before convention if possible
- l. finance committee meeting Fri 3pm at convention
- m. suspension of chapters need to be gone over by Const and Bylaws, talk to Smokey regarding how

10. Vice President Report - Chris Coleman – Mick re 804 coming on, after convention, Area 4 chapter, working allot may have missed a few emails, vests compliance for doing what we need to do to comply

11. Area Reports

- a. Area 1 VP – Bob Perryman – quiet month, 3 funeral escorts, not much in chapter, presidents mtg last weekend, one chapter not willing to comply and may resign, he will go there and talk to them, D-5 is still being worked on, compliance with resolution is still iffy, Smokey working on talking to VP-1, he has talked with Doc Bart too,
- b. Area 2 VP – Ignacio Alvarez - mar 13th escorted dignitaries to groundbreaking for VA cemetery, A-2 presidents mtg on March 14, asked all chapters for \$500 for Livermore BBQ May 2nd, Vet Alliance donated money to hospitals fund, Easter Run, Ch 31 donating for kids party, appreciated letter from Cdr Wilson. Mtg went well, allot of time spent on resolution coming up.
- c. Area 3 VP – J. D. Bennett – Lodi post 22 chapter doing a ride on March 25th, convention, 509 disention, dinner dance 5pm see website, 18th, ch 23 hosting dinner dance at convention center, 7-10pm, dinner at 6pm, Sat lunch at convention, May 9th Porterville having poker run, convention ch. Customary to comp cdr of legion, not voted on at this time, not paid in past (Don)
- d. Area 4 – Vacant
- c. Area 5 VP – Mick Sobczak – lots of events going on every weekend, Bike rodeo for Comfort Warriors, resolution, causing 5 riders only so far, 76 yr old missing man, body found in mountains, escorted man through several events for this man, Amber / Silveralert, for elderly not doing yet, resolution to have this happen to be wrote for Legion convention, Doc Bart states that it can be done on Legion level
- d. Area 6 VP – Dan Dale - been busy, Santa Maria, DEC and Area mtg, fundraisers in Santa Maria and Arroyo Grande, flag line for military heroes , Guadalupe hosting welcome Vietnam vets, Robt McKendrick, direct of VA LA, several other guests, 11-3 Guadalupe City hall, WWII vets being honored too, Lompoc putting on poker run soon, lots of ALR removed from back of vests already, letter went out to chapters, not much bad stuff coming back yet. Uniform committee needs to discuss this issue at convention.

12. Committee Reports

- a. Quartermaster – Patrick Tafoya – orders are not coming in as fast as in past, 25 orders, processed, berets bringing to convention, small inventory still available, small patches still available too, shipping costs \$12.00, big or small, better to order more at once, appreciate room being paid for, \$1500.00 going to be sent to finance, we can have table at legion convention, rally sales did benefit the ALRDOC too, extra shirts were sent to Pat from rally too, small and med sizes available, emblem sales not giving much of a break for sales to quartermaster to sell, vendors are invited to go to rally and not necessarily by DEC but by rally chapter,
- b. Convention and Rally – Terry Baughman – great over in Sanger, rally going OK, when convention over going to Hanford, calls coming in about vests compliance, re enforcing at convention, we are ready for convention
- c. Judge Advocate Report – JAG - Robert Stover – going to others for help with answering, emails, sent out letter apologize for making personal comment, when some issues were not correct, resolution is binding now, not based on convention, still have some questions about front back sides of vests, do not ASSUME, moving forward, proposed amendment is ready for bylaws, resending to all the bylaw changes he has wrote.
- d. Service Officer – none -
- e. Safety Committee – Marc Mathes - info to bring to convention, street smart, MSF basic rider course is not being used as much right now, will have mtg at convention
- f. Jr. Past President – Poncho Villa – personal comments, D-11 cdr, was at DEC when resolution was passed, we have duty as program to respect Legion leadership, some emails lack of respect for cdr, riders very visible with patch on back representing legion, if we have problem we need to deal with this issue
- g. Historian – Jake Jacobsen -
- h. Dept. Commissioner – Jim Banakus – was at DEC for legion, 15-004 passed there, we are legion 1st ALR 2nd, Area 6 caucus following weekend, gave some info to Area 6 cdrs., resolution gives commission some direction too, bylaw changes to go through commission now, 3 commissioners on DEC at present are involved with ALR, dept adjutant sent letter regarding renting facilities to OMG, some of this has more to do with legion side
- i. James states that legion has say so over rental for posts, other commissioners can sit in our DEC mtgs as their job Pancho, comm, joining DEC mtgs should have

and have been able to join mtgs, Nacho D-28 had allot of questions re resolution, Smokey, the ALR is a program of the Legion

- j. Ch Mary, groundbreaking for cemetery, only a few invited because of accessibility, Fort Ord had almost 1000 in attendance at different event for this cemetery, original 5 families buried there, flag line by ALR at cemetery, encourage us to keep involved in their communities, another state cemetery in El Toro being worked on for veterans cemetery, get involved, trying to organize a breakfast at convention Sunday Morning, James thanks for being our chaplain. JD prayer breakfast at DEC was well attended and looking forward to having it at convention.

13. Old Business

- a. Minutes of special DEC, Mar 4th, motion by A1 Bob Perryman, A3 JD 2nd passed
- b. Chapter Forms and Payments, drop dead date extended , April 1, 2015 only, then back to our bylaws, Mick 1st, Nacho 2nd, JD called all chapters already, 1 opposed, passed,
- c. Terry B, program from beginning has had some problems, 8 years later we need to remember where we have come from and where are we going.
- d. Ch 208 D5 was tabled until special JA gave report, initial report problem correspondence, minutes etc, final report not in yet, table was whether they broke Lodi agreement, removing of patch on vests, Lodi agreement not as much an issue, special JA still working on it. James gave 14 days to remove patch, they have not done it yet, Terry, James is voice of the ALR, a handful of bad apples has caused us problems, Bob Perryman, did James order all D-5 to remove patch or just president,
- e. Special JA was appointed because Smokey wanted outside JA because his involvement in Lodi agreement. The resolution by DEC becomes overriding issue about patches.

14. New Business

- a. New Chapters – A-1 Bob Ch 264, splinter group from 383, wants to be a chapter, 5 members now, they were at Dixon presidents, will they be seated at convention, A-1 Bob 1st, 2nd BY Mick Sobchak, Smokey roster has 2 members listed as new, passed, welcome aboard Lincoln.
- b. Red, resolutions committee, emails bounced back except A-2, resolutions need to be in by 1030 Saturday, she is helping with one right now, need to be ready now or getting ready, she will help anyone with writing resolutions,
- c. A2 Nacho, D-13 Santa Clara, created mustang permission to put legion logo on car, referred to Doc Bart.
- d. James read, Resolution letter from Janet Wilson Cdr Dept Legion CA., (letter on file), mandates put on legion or a program of legion must be adhered to, oversight of vest due to copyright restrictions, Arguments from individuals going against resolution will not be accepted as we are a program of the Legion, rank patches must be removed.

- e. Dan Dale, A6, letter is addressed to ALR, can I send this letter to the chapters, it explains how the resolution was decided. Doc Bart stated that letter was written for purpose of clarification.
- f. Paul Sgt at Arms, when will we enforce vest policy, at convention it will be enforced because it was passed by ALDEC, is he going to have clear direction to proceed, DEC members from all areas should police these issues, bylaws state you can wear no patch not approved by DEC,
- g. Doc Bart, resolution doesn't address patches that are not your military, resolution is a result of ALR cannot manage vests because officers change every year, basic guidelines where we can approve certain patches, vests are to be controlled by dept, side panels not mentioned, not designed to dictate every issue of vests. Clear we needed to protect the ALR and Legion, thinks this will work out fine over all. Most potential with ALR for something to happen while we are out and about is great.
- h. James, we were given a directive by ALDEC.
- i. Nacho, association with OMG, bike blessing, ALR can go to certain events with OMG present but should not go into clubhouses etc. with vest on, charitable events or hanging out at different events, toys for tots etc are different than riding alongside OMG's, posts renting to OMG's may not know that they are on the DOJ list,
- j. Mick what they are wearing underneath vest, in support of OMG's not allowed either.
- k. Don, if not wearing vests are they going to be seated at convention. Smokey, suggests clarification going out to chapters that they may not be seated either.
- l. Pancho, if letters and memos are going out to chapters, we will be enforcing these rules,
- m. What are we going to do to people, ask them do they want to comply, they need to resign from ALR if not. Due process, must be adhered to, if post does not oversight then program could be removed from post. Hearing is required to have people not in compliance removed from ALR. At convention all ALR must have vests in compliance to be admitted to convention.
- n. James, What are we going to do to chapters that say they are not going to comply.. We have to amend our bylaws according to Doc Bart to comply with the ALDEC resolution.
- o. Nacho, can we get info to chapters before convention so they know what to expect.
- p. James, we do this or we fail.
- q. Bylaws changes have to be posted on Friday so general members can vote on during convention. Smokey to send out by email changes to bylaws.

15. Sick / Memorial – Chaplain Mary Estrada, email went for names for rider everlasting so she can get a ribbon made.

16. Good of the Order – President James Adames – JD can we get tour of new dept headqtrrs – 1530 time frame would be good, James can write article to be put in legionnaire, April 24th deadline for input from JD for convention.

17. **Next Meeting Date** – Friday night at 530 at convention.
18. **Benediction** - Chaplain Mary Estrada
19. **Adjournment** – President James Adames adjourned mtg in due form at 2340 hours.

Respectfully submitted
Steve Weber
ALRDOC Secretary