

The American Legion Riders Department of California



For God and Country
Minutes
Friday April 22, 2016

1. **Called to Order** - President James Adames opened meeting in due form at 1735
2. **Invocation** – Chaplain Mary Estrada
3. **POW/MIA** - President James Adames
4. **Pledge of Allegiance** - Sgt. At Arms Steve Storey
5. **ALR Preamble** - President James Adames
6. **Roll Call** - Secretary Steve Weber quorum declared
7. **Additions to the Agenda** - Delinquent Chapters, Ch 456
8. **Approval of Minutes** – DEC Minutes of Mar 28, A3 JD 1st to approve minutes, A2 Nacho 2nd, Passed, Pres made mention that there is no smoking in public in SLO,
9. **Financial Report** – Don Christolear start 57381.95 end 57499.54 Mick Sobzcak 1st to accept report pending audit, 2nd by Nacho, discussion, passed, Budget was proposed from what he sent to all members of DEC, Convention fees have been raised and are put in with Secretary fees, other items were raised based on actual costs, convention seed has been raised too, website fees raised too, plaques cost to be looked at, we are down approx. \$4600.00 from last year, we have to keep it in check, quartermaster sales have been down this year, we have to decide how much we are going to give as donations, a question on what is the tax situation with our lawyer, we do not know how that is going to come out, discussion on how to pay the tax issue if it comes up, VA&R budget discussed as far as how it is designated and spent per the Legion expenses and each Area can have a budget for the VA&R budget, more discussion on patch profits and the dwindling revenue due to members lost and slower growth than we had in the past, per capita increase was discussed and how much it should be, if raised, \$5.00 increase was discussed, Chapters not paying 22-3, 100-3,241-6,249-3, 872-3, 355-3, 456-2, 264 folding, 56 folding, 74 is folded. JA Bart recommended that the chapters not paying be sent notice of possible suspension for failure to pay per capita and/or delegate fees. Suspended status gives the Area VP's the right to go in and have say so in what they are doing and even put in change of officers. A3 JD to cancel the charters of the chapters that are folding, 2nd by A5 Paul Patricio, passed.

10. Vice President Report - Mick Sobczak – thanks for a good year

11. Area Reports

- a. Area 1 VP – Mike Ross – 3 chapters in one district wanted to start but have not got ready, Ch 119 has lost 25 members who did not renew, trying to find out all circumstances of loss
- b. Area 2 VP – Ignacio Alvarez - activities throughout area have been busy, Ch 456 is still doing things but has issues with department, recommended suspension but they are all ready in suspension due to failure to send in fees or paperwork due.
- c. Area 3 VP – J. D. Bennett – Ch 509 to make donation for Legacy fund
- d. Area 4 – Vacant
- c. Area 5 VP – Paul Patricio - progress
- d. Area 6 VP – Don Marriott – convention is what he has been working on, happy to say allot of support with many helping with setup etc,

12. Committee Reports

- a. Quartermaster – Patrick Tafoya – trudging along, trying to keep orders going out as fast as we get them, moving along.
- b. Uniform Committee – no report
- c. Convention and Rally – Terry Baughman – convention starts SLO tomorrow, D-28 to hold rally this year, Ch 69 Hollister possible for convention next year. Area 5 has not been asked to help with meetings for rallies or conventions. Terry says he has sent emails to those listed on the website as members.
- d. Judge Advocate Report – JAG - Doc Bart - progress, no report
 - 1.
 - 2.
 - 3.
- e. Service Officer – Chris Coleman - interesting year, would like to have done better, he is not a service officer by trade, he would like to see a actual service officer or funding for training for him, Smokey stated that his squadron would donate \$250.00 to service officer program. All posts have a service officers and could help with our situation. Budget could include this item if we had money for them to train.
- f. Webmaster – Jim Oxley – website has chapter activity page and can be entered immediately by the chapters to update on their own, some chapters have not been put on website and have been addressed, he will make sure that any and all chapters will be listed, he has brought all old data from old website to new website, the website is user friendly

- g. Safety Committee – Ken White- progress
- h. Jr. Past President – Poncho Villa – thanks for support, progress
- i. Historian – Jake Jacobsen -
- j. Dept. Commissioner – Jim Banakus – commission mtg was at 4PM today, several commissioners were not able to make the meeting today, 3 commissioners were in attendance, good meeting waiting to see what resolutions and bylaws changes that may come forward to convention and to recommend to dept. legion for approval. If we have changes to make to bylaws they are effective as of convention even though the Legion can also recommend changes or ratify our changes. Bill Sloan and John Moffitt are both here from the National organization. We will be hearing from them during convention. Area commissioner's discussion on how they are appointed and how can we get them to be more involved.

13. Old Business

- a. Ch 456 report on retired fire fighters and police, they refuse to pay fees and are failing to comply and as we stated earlier they will be on suspended status.
- b.
- c.

14. New Business

- a. New Chapters- none
- b. D-28 issues and regarding the hosting of the rally for this year, not all are in compliance with 15-004, we have had correspondence with them regarding the issues we have, they have some members showing no regard to our required issues, at commission meeting we have discussed the issues again, motion to take rally away from D-28 by A5 Paul and Past Pres Poncho 2nd, Nacho, further discussion was they have had almost 1 year to come into compliance, if they are not in compliance they cannot hold any rally or convention, modified motion to: no chapter can host rally or convention unless certified by Area VP, passed, the chapter must get all their members in compliance or face the consequences, rally in D-28 may not be able to hold the Sept rally if they cannot verify compliance by May 6th.
- c. Motion any chapter applying for convention or rally must submit a letter of 100% compliance within 14 days of approval, failure to do so will void their application, by Mick Sobczak and 2nd by Paul Patricio, passed.
- d.
- e.

15. Sick / Memorial – Chaplain Mary Estrada – Jake Jacobson is very ill and possibly terminal, prayer given for Jake, 10 names for our ribbon this year of members that have passed.

16. Good of the Riders – President James Adames – to keep everyone in line if they are out of order the president can ask for a member to be removed from floor and a alternate can be put in their place. James again thanked the DEC for the work they have done.

17. Next Meeting Date – Consensus

18. Benediction - Chaplain Mary Estrada

19. **Adjournment** – President James Adames meeting adjourned at 2000 in due form.