

# The American Legion Riders Department of California



*For God and Country*

**DEC Minutes**  
September 27, 2016

**Called to Order** - President Mick Sobczak

**Invocation** – Chaplain Gerald Stockert

**Pause for MIA** - President Mick Sobczak

**Pledge of Allegiance** - Sgt. At Arms Steve Storey

**ALR Preamble** - President Mick Sobczak

**Roll Call** - Secretary Monique Clemons

## **Additions to the Agenda**

James asked if we will be speaking about the Rally.

Mick advised that the Secretary had computer problems and the minutes are not available.

Motion Made by Hy Libby to suspend reading of the minutes till next month's Meeting

James Adames Seconded motion

Motion passed

**Approval of Minutes** – August 2016 DEC Minutes (Suspended till October Meeting)

**Financial Report** – Anthony Serio

An audit was performed as part of the annual audit at the cost of \$300 which was charged against the Treasures budget line. This is due to a budget not being able to be done at convention. We do not have a line item to put this under currently. We need to create a place to put these cost now before the convention. As a reminder all officers such as VPs, Secretary, JAG, Ect, Have a line item and can be reimbursed for their expenses.

\$43614.38 Current Balance

If you are doing a Paypal payment , please advise the Treasurer directly not just the VP. A

\$25.00 fee was payed on Paypal for a new chapter. Books are open for review at anytime.

Administrative cost for Treasurer is not being charged to the DOC.

Randy asked about the Finance report being able to be emailed out. Anthony will go ahead and do that.

Mick requested that an Email with the Budget be sent out to the DEC so that it can be reviewed for a place to create a new line item.

Anthony stated that we have the funds we just need to have a place to account for spending the money.

Mick stated that he would like to have a motion first to accept the Financial report pending audit and then a motion to create a \$1000.00 Misc line item to cover this expense and other expenses like this.

James Adames made the motion to accept the Financial report pending audit  
Warren Holsted seconded the motion  
Motion passed 1 no vote casted

Steve Story motioned to create a line item named Audit and Financial Services for the amount of \$1000.00.  
Brad Ring seconded the motion

Randy asked if a \$1000.00 is enough to cover the legal cost or do we need to increase it. Mick stated we do also have a legal fund already. Anthony will have to speak with the Lawyer and review the records if we have funds are left in the fund or not. James asked if the funds left over from this Audit and Financial Service line should go back to general fund or carry over. Anthony stated he feels it should role over booth for this line and also for the officer's line items as well. We need to also go over and create a line item budget at the next convention and he will need enough time to go over it. Don Marriott asked if we can have a Petty Fund that the treasurer knows he can use and doesn't have to hope the DEC will approve on the next call.

Motion Passed

### **Presidents Report** – Mick Sobczak

We need to work on more new chapters. If we have a very large Chapter with another post nearby look at splitting the Chapter and creating a new chapter. The State commander is pushing membership not just numbers but active members.

Past weekend we had the State Rally with very poor turnout. We hope next year we can have a physical DEC meeting at the Rally and this will allow for mileage cost to be payed and not to come from the budget for that position.

### **Vice President Report** - Brad Ring

September I participated with chapter 48,502 and the soon to be new chapter and helped with registration and parking of the motorcycles.  
Also participated in the Sarah's ride in Oxnard we had over a 100 people and served 70 meals.

## Area Reports

### **Area 1 VP – David George**

Grass Valley will be having their first poker run this Saturday. WE are working on a couple of new chapters including Oak Grove who is currently doing there paperwork

### **Area 2 VP –Warren Holsted (Assistant Area 2 VP)**

We have raised over \$3000.00 for Operation Freedom Paws. In August 928 hours were volunteered by the riders in the area for Security at the stand down. October 6-9 we will have the traveling wall come through the area.

### **Area 3 VP – Randy Brenneman**

With the nice weather many chapters are out riding. We participated in the Pony express ride for remember the fallen, we passed the Wall off to Area 5. Working on a new chapter at Post 221, Still working on getting enough members.

### **Area 4 VP – Vacant**

### **Area 5 VP – Rey Ruiz**

As already stated we did the Pony Express Style ride that went well. We have at several successful events. We will have the Warrior Heart run coming up out of Chapter 852. October 8<sup>th</sup> we will have our presidents meeting at the Fontana Post. We will also have a Legion of the Silver Rose event coming up as well.

### **Area 6 VP – Don Marriott**

Western Romp flyer has gone out. Everything is set. We will have operation surf from the 17-18 and the 19<sup>th</sup> is thee Ride to recovery. The leather Venders from convention were involved in an accident the wife Julie died at the scene and Steve was taken to the hospital in serious condition. Several events have been planned in their honor.

## Committee Reports

### a. **Quartermaster – Patrick Tafoya**

Things are going well and all orders have been shipped. We have 50 centers in inventory. We have been working on an online ordering system which will simplify and make ordering much easier.

### b. **Uniform Committee – No Report**

### c. **Convention and Rally – Dee Pittinger**

Currently no information regarding Rally. Chapter 684 has sent in a letter stating they interested in holding the rally for 2018. Paul stated that Chapter 434 has stated they are interested in holding the Rally. Ray will ask in his weekly email for Chapters that are interested.

Regarding Convention in Hollister. During conversation regarding the convention with the Hollister Post things have not been finalized. Mick requested that the Area 1,2 and 3 area VP's find another possible location for Convention if Hollister has to pull out. Area 2 VP will need to follow up with the Hollister Chapter regarding their plans.

Hy Libby reported on Rally- The feedback on the rally has all been positive. The package given (t-shirt,Hat,CD, Ect.) was very nice. The one drawback was not having a host hotel. 18 Chapters were represented with 40 people in attendance.

The Convention will be the fourth weekend of April due to Easter.

d. **Judge Advocate Report – John Bart**

The letter from Dan Wheeler , National JAG. The issue that is listed regarding appointment of officers is a non- issue. Hy Libby will be taking lead on the issue of the Bylaws getting it in line with National. The Riders are doing well and very little in complaints are brought to the State JAG. We just lost one of our service officers in the Oakland office. We are in need of service officers and if people are interested they can contact John Bart.

e. **Service Officer – George Smith**

The survivor benefits are important to understand and push to get. Will send out a brochure with information about this benefit to the Area VP's

f. **Safety Committee – Ken White**

Has gotten some good feedback regarding the Safety Manual. Any other feedback please get it in as soon as possible. Working on the Legacy Run will be sending out more information as soon as possible. We will ride together as a state from Sanger to the National Convention in Reno.

g. **Webmaster – Jim Oxley**

No Report

h. **Membership Committee –**

No Report

i. **Historian – Jeff Gallagher**

No Report

j. **Jr. Past President – James Adames**

The bike that will be raffled was at the Rally and it is a beautiful bike. Tickets are \$25.00 each. The Rally was a wonderful event and the attendance was so poor it was disappointing. At least Chapters in the same Area should have shown up. The hosting chapter spent a lot of money and did not recoup what they spent.

k. **Dept. Commissioner – Steve Weber**

Working on getting a list of duties for the Commisioners so they are more active.

**Old Business**

None

**New Business**

I. **New Chapters –**

Possible Chapter 484 presented by Don Marriott

Jim Oxley sent out the information a couple of weeks ago and very thing is in order.

Don Marriott made a motion to accept Chapter 484

Rey Ruiz Seconded the motion

Motion Passed

Welcome Chapter 484

Steve Story advised that we still have vest out of compliance. The information has been sent to the Area VP's. We have seen Members from Area 2 and 3 at event as fr away as Reno with vest out of compliance. Mick stated that Area 1,5 and 6 VP's will be a committee responsible for deciding what to do either suspend the member or the chapters involved.

Financial Report regarding Rally

Received \$1000.00 seed money with other funds received the total income was \$3295.00. The amount spent was \$4353.15 for a total loss of \$1058.15.

James Adames motioned to reimburse the chapter the \$ 1058.15

Steve Story seconded the motion

Randy questioned us doing this and the precedence that this will create.

Discussion followed regarding the precedence and possible draw backs to doing this.

Motion Passed

Hy Libby Thanked the committee for the decision and their generosity.

James Adames also thanked the Committee

**Sick / Memorial** – Chaplain Gerald Stockert

Our prayers go out to Steve and his recovery and the loss of his wife Julie.

**Next Meeting Date** – October 25, 2016 1900 Hrs

**Benediction** - Chaplain Gerald Stockert

**Adjournment** – President Mick Sobczak 2108 Hrs