

**VFW Conference Room, Deadwood, SD
17 September 2021**

Meeting was called to order at 1600 hours. Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Derek Jaeger.

ROLL

Roll was taken and the following members were present: Derek Jaeger, Tabby Carr, Nate Hedin, Kayleigh Cihak proxy for 881st BN Rep, Courtney Tyrrell proxy for Karen Tucker, Bruce Anderson, Helen Juelfs proxy for Austin Pearce, Mark Jensen proxy for JP Hanson & Meagan Krahn & Sarah Henle, Rick Vanden Hoek, Charles Fincher proxy for MSG Rep, David Frock, Robert Aiken, and Neil Harris. Enough were present for a quorum.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

The minutes from the last meeting are posted on the website and there was no discussion about them. A motion to accept them as posted was made by Courtney Tyrrell and seconded by Rick Vanden Hoek. Motion carried.

Motion to deviate from the agenda was made by Kayleigh Cihak and seconded by Courtney Tyrrell. Motion carried.

Kayleigh Cihak presented thank you card for everyone to sign to show appreciation to the volunteers of the BHVM. We greatly appreciate all of the support from our volunteers!

Treasurer report was presented by Kayleigh Cihak. Report attached. Discussed the need for a mail box to alleviate some confusion with different addresses listed on accounts and tax info. Everyone was in favor of this and Kayleigh will get it set up on Camp Rapid, 2823 West Main St, Rapid City, SD. Filed as presented.

Area IV report by Mark Jensen. He has been reaching out to his units. There will be some challenges with mobilizing units and ensuring contact with them but many lessons were learned on the last MEB deployment and there is a way forward to help with membership. Filed as presented.

Area V report by Rick Vanden Hoek. He has been promoting the association and hoping to increase membership this year. Report attached. Filed as presented.

Scholarships report by Tabby – emailed the schools for the scholarship winners to ensure winners were enrolled and presented info to treasure. The scholarship info will be sent out in November and will be open until mid-March, so that we can present the winners at the State Conference. Filed as presented.

Membership report by Tabby Carr, Helen Juelfs, and Mark Jensen – The membership forms have been sent out and need to be pushed again. We need to ensure that BN reps and Area reps are pushing the info out to the units. There was also discussion about sending out text messages to share info, not just about dues but all of the good info about the association. We also discussed the ways for individuals to sponsor memberships, and decided that paper was the easiest way. Helen also volunteered to send our info flyer to the First Sergeants on the ARNG side. Mark Jensen is trying to set up tables at SRP's on the East side of the state and Bob Aiken will do the same for the West side of the state. Filed as presented.

Legislative report was presented by Derek Jaeger. At the National Conference the hot topics were free TriCare Reserve Select for guard members and DD 214 for service in the NG. On the state side, the recommendation for 100% tuition assistance is still being worked on the avenue of a Governors' Bill. Filed as presented.

By laws report was presented by Bruce Anderson. The biggest change discussed at the National Conference was the war clause and web meetings change in the By Laws to allow the association to continue business during times when we can't meet in person. Filed as presented.

Resolutions report was presented by Courtney Tyrrell. There was very good discussion at the national conference and the report can be viewed at <https://eangus.org/2021-conference-files/> Report attached. Filed as presented.

Publications was discussed by Derek Jaeger. The ECHO has not been completed recently. It was proposed that we go back to mailing it out as well as digital publications. We need to look into the US Postal System and possibly free mailings with our 503c status. We discussed possibly reaching out to a few people to help complete the ECHO, as well as updating the SOP. Deadline to submit to the ECHO is 15 October 2021. Filed as presented.

BHVM report was presented by Kayleigh Cihak. This very well could be the last event because Josh Wermers is stepping down as the chair. The committee members are pretty burnt out and needs more volunteers. It was suggested that we send out the BHVM meeting info to all of the executive council. Filed as presented.

Ways and Means report was presented by Kayleigh Cihak. We need to continue to push the great opportunities within this association. Report attached. Filed as presented.

OLD BUSINESS

National Conference recap was presented by Derek Jaeger. Our highlight was Don and Marlys List's attendance because this was their 50th conference! The committee meetings were very productive and we were very happy to be meeting in person again. We pre-registered 10 delegates for next year's conference in Little Rock, AR.

NEW BUSINESS

2022 State Conference update was presented by Neil Harris. This conference will be 21-23 April 2022 co-located with the Officers at the Best Western in Rapid City, SD. The registration form will be sent out in October. Report attached. Filed as presented.

Bob Aiken suggested that we need to look into retiree committee member duties. Specifically someone to contact new retirees to talk to them about the association.

Neil Harris discussed pre-registration forms for the National Cemetery and State Veterans Cemetery. There has been an influx and this form could elevate some of the stress of this process. He asked that we share this information.

Nate Hedin made a motion to allocate \$500 for Community Involvement, specifically Trunk-or-Treat booths, \$250 for East River and \$250 West River. Kayleigh Cihak seconded. Rick VandenHoek spoke about the one planned in Sioux Falls through the ANG Family Readiness, and Kayleigh Cihak spoke about the Rapid City event. Motion carried.

Kayleigh Cihak discussed a need to change our association logo and she presented options. Our current logo is great but it does not print well when shrunk down. This will need to be voted on at the State Conference.

Courtney Tyrrell proposed a 10% off coupon for online membership 1 October – 1 December 2021. Josh O’Dea seconded the proposal. After discussion, the executive council voted and the proposal failed. Last year we did not see an influx when presenting this coupon and the main reason last year was because of possible COVID financial strains.

Derek Jaeger presented a donation request from The Club Board. Courtney Tyrrell made a motion for a donation to The Club and Mark Jensen seconded. Discussion included the fact that we did not donate to the Coyote Den when they asked for money. We also discussed different ways that they could raise money to help them. After discussion, the executive council voted and the proposal failed.

Future State Conferences:

21-23 April 2022 – Co-located in Rapid City, SD

2023 – Brookings

2024 – Chamberlain

Future National Conferences:

7-10 Aug 2022 – Little Rock, AR

2023 – Rochester, MN

2024 – TBD (Detroit, MI or Indianapolis, IN)

Thank you to Shelley Reeder for volunteering as our historian since Mark Jensen is moving to membership co-chair.

ADJOURNMENT

The date and time of the next Executive Council Meeting will be at The Ramkota Convention Center in Pierre, SD on 03 Feb 2022 at 1400 hours.

With nothing further to discuss, Shelley Reeder motioned for adjournment and Bob Aiken seconded. The meeting adjourned at 1810 hours.