

## **The Fighting Sixth**

Manitowoc  
Calumet  
Winnebago



Fond du Lac  
Green Lake  
Marquette

### **Sixth District Department of Wisconsin The American Legion**

#### Minutes of the March 19, 2008 DEC Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by Commander Robert Krause at Post 75 in Fond du Lac.

A roll call of the Executive Committee was conducted. Sergeant at Arms Jerry Opperman, Adjutant Marcus Oksa and Immediate Past District Commander Bill Stiefvater were excused. Calumet County Commander Dan Daul and Manitowoc County Commander Jon Jindra were absent. There currently is no District Service Officer. 12 of 18 committee members were present.

Minutes of the fall 2007 District conference were discussed. It was pointed out by several members that the minutes were more in the form of an outline or notes rather than completed minutes. Vice Commander Romnek noted that neither the spring 2007 conference minutes nor the fall DEC meeting minutes were approved by District delegates as neither was available at the fall conference. He noted as well that no reference is included as to presentation of a District finance report.

Fond du Lac County Commander Farley indicated his health is not improving as well as anticipated and he feels the need for a new commander to be elected at the next county council meeting. He reported County Government Day will be held April 23.

Green Lake County Commander Polly reported one Post is encountering problems and may have to surrender its charter.

Winnebago County Commander Pitz reported they are investigating a change to their County Government Day proceedings to offer more student participation.

Commander Krause reported the District presented a \$500 grant and one year American Legion membership to a disabled veteran at the Omro Care Center February 24 on behalf of The American Legion.

Vice Commander Zietlow reported on the planning of the District spring conference to be held at the Chilton Eagles Club. Announcement letters with registration information as well as forms for listing of deceased Post members for the annual memorial service should be mailed out soon. Vice Commander Romnek reported having been contacted by past District adjutant/finance officer Al Keck asking that recognition of past commanders be included at the conference. He was directed to provide a handout for all delegates listing all past District commanders.

Vice Commander Romnek reported there was an article in the latest issue of the Appleton Post Crescent stating that past King state veterans home employee Rich Calcut

has been charged and acknowledged being guilty of embezzling about \$260,000 from veterans home funds.

Vice Commander Barke amplified on the report of Green Lake Commander Polly and indicated age is beginning to have a detrimental effect on the various activities of Posts within the District.

Chaplain Jezeski indicated he needs names of deceased members by April 15 to allow ample time to prepare information for the memorial service April 27 He also provided information relative to the funeral honors training at Princeton High School Saturday April 12.

Commander Krause reported that 162 persons attended the 2008 District Americanism banquet in Ripon. County Commander Farley suggested we return to the practice of pointing out some of the accomplishments of the Legionnaire of the Year when presenting his/her award.

It was announced Montello Post 351 will be making a bid for the 2008 fall District conference and that Green Lake and Marquette counties will be making a joint bid for the 2009 District Americanism banquet. Both will be awarded at the spring conference.

The proposed 2008-2009 budget submitted by the District finance officer was discussed and recommended for approval, as printed, by the District delegates to the spring conference.

It was announced the three District vice commanders will judge the elementary school coloring contest entries from the counties prior to the District spring conference.

Vice Commander Romnek pointed out the need for all Posts to submit IRS Form 990 regardless of income and stated he was advised using the online form for incomes less than \$25,000 is extremely simple to do. He questioned whether county councils and the District must also file.

It was pointed out the staff holding the District colors is broken and needs to be replaced. Commander Krause is aware of the matter and will see it is replaced.

Vice Commander Romnek expressed dismay at the lack of information made available to Posts regarding the District website training scheduled at the Fond du Lac library April 1 and 8. Recognizing it will impact participation, it was decided to cancel the April 1 session and schedule the April 8 training for the DEC. It was recognized as well that the training session information must be disseminated to all Posts.

It was announced the District was to appoint a person as District National Security chairman. This is a result of the Department National Security Committee taking on the task of assisting active duty military families having needs of various forms of assistance. The District chair will be responsible for trying to locate help for such cases within the District upon notification by Department. Fred Barke agreed to accept that responsibility.

There being no further business to conduct, the meeting was closed in due form at 9:45 PM.

Jim Romnek  
Acting adjutant