THE AMERICAN LEGION
DEPARTMENT OF OKLAHOMA, INC.
SPECIAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (DEC) MEETING
August 16, 1420, HOURS
American Legion Post 12, 6101 NW 50th St, Warr Acres, OK 73122

Meeting Minutes

CALL TO ORDER:
COMMANDER Thomas

POSTING OF COLORS:
SEARGENT AT ARMS McPhearson

INVOCATION:
CHAPLAIN Stewart

POW/MIA EMPTY CHAIR:
COMMANDER Thomas

THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

COMMANDER Thomas

RECITE THE PREAMBLE:
COMMANDER Thomas: **"Please join me in reciting the Preamble to the Constitution of The American Legion."**

ROLL CALL:
COMMANDER Thomas: **"The Adjutant will now call the Roll."**

Position	Name	YES/NO
Department Commander	Steven Thomas	Yes
Senior Vice Commander	Shirley May	Yes
Vice Commander East	Karen Cruise	Yes
Vice Commander West	Lance Larson	Yes
Department Judge Advocate	Dale Haynes	Yes
Department Treasurer	Sam McPherson	Yes
Department Sgt-at-Arms	Ed Lager	No
Department NECman	Charles O'Leary	Yes
1A District Commander	Karen Ritter	Yes
1A DEC Rep	Debbie Gordon	Yes
1B District Commander	Andrew Fisher	Yes
1B DEC Rep	Ronald Bunch	Yes
2A District Commander	Kayla Rector	Yes
2A DEC Rep	Jim Quinn	Yes
2B District Commander	Open	
2B DEC Rep	Curtis Deer	No
3A District Commander	Gary Pierson	Yes
3A DEC Rep	David Seyler	Yes
3B District Commander	Jack Sikes	Yes
3B DEC Rep	James H. Akin	Excused
4 District Commander	Thomas Snodgrass	Yes
4 DEC Rep	John Bloxom	Excused
5A District Commander	Mike Harris	Excused
5A DEC Rep	Melvin Hopkins	No
5B District Commander	Eric Grubbs	Yes
5B DEC Rep	Danny Thomas	Yes
6A District Commander	Grant Brower / Michae Devin	No
6A DEC Rep	Don Kuntze	Yes
6B District Commander	James Rees	John McNeal
6B DEC Rep	Larry Watson	Yes
7 District Commander	Elmo May	Yes
7 DEC Rep	Doug Hale	Excused
8A District Commander	Joseph Kingery	No
8A DEC Rep	Tina Kilmer	Yes
8B District Commander	Wayne Flowers	Yes
8B DEC Rep	Jack Day	No

ADJUTANT: **"Commander, after having called the roll, I find that there are 25 voting members of the DEC present. A minimum of 20 members is needed to have a quorum."**

COMMANDER Thomas: **"I now declare a quorum present"**

NON-VOTING MEMBER / POSITION	NAME	YES/NO
Department Adjutant (No Vote)	Rick Redden	Yes
Department Historian (No Vote)	Wayne Flowers	Yes
Department Chaplain (No Vote)	Bobby Stewart	Yes
Alternate NEC man (No Vote)	Michael Taylor	Yes
Department Surgeon (No Vote)	John Loose	No
Department Rep to OK Veterans Commission (No Vote)	Brett Martin	Yes
All Past Department Commanders	Charle O'Leary Don Kunze Brett Martin Michael Taylor Jim Quinn Hayden Woods	

ADJUTANT: **"The following personnel are non-voting members of the DEC who still have the right to voice."**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

COMMANDER Thomas announced: "**We will not turn to the sole topic of this Special Meeting of the DEC, Consideration and Approval of the 2025-2026 Department budget. Because it is anticipated that actions affecting Department personnel will be discussed, I request a motion that the DEC enters Executive Session"**

Motion to enter Executive Session made by John McNeal and seconded by Debbie Gordan. Motion carried.

Executive Session

Motion to exit Executive Session was made by John McNeal and seconded by Debbie Gordon. Motion carried.

Resume Regular Meeting:

Motion by Andrew Fisher seconded by Lance Larson:

Moved that the 2025-26 Department budget recommended by the Department Finance Commission be amended as follows and be presented to the DEC for final approval via email.

1. The budget should reflect an expected membership total of 11,000 members.
2. The budget for Department Convention revenue and expenses be changed to reflect the actual amounts incurred for the July 2025 Department Convention.
3. That the budget for the salaries for the DSO and Assistant DSO be reduced to reflect the DEC decision to eliminate these positions

The motion carried.

COMMANDER Thomas: **"This concludes the Business of this DEC Meeting."**

COMMANDER Thomas: **"There being no further business to come before this Department Executive Committee, The Department Chaplain will close us in prayer."**

BENEDICTION:
Chaplain Stewart

RETIREMENT OF THE POW/MIA Chair Cover.

RETIREMENT OF THE COLORS: