



Department Minutes

**Spring Conference
3rd DEC Meeting
2021-2022**

Spring Conference
3rd Department Executive Committee Meeting
March 12, 2022

Call to order

Time 11:00 a.m.

Commander Bailey

Chaplain Coker-Bell

Invocation

Eternal God, please be merciful upon us and bless us. Cause your face to shine upon us and make your way known upon the earth in your saving strength among all people. Let the people be glad and sing with joy for you shall judge them righteously and govern the nations upon the earth. Especially now we pray that we may have your guidance to the end and that we may firmly uphold the very principles of this organization. Amen

Sr. Vice Cmdr Mitchell

Oath of Allegiance to the Flag

Adjutant Cox:

Mission statement

We are dedicated to a single purpose: empowering veterans to lead high-quality lives with respect and dignity. We accomplish this by ensuring that veterans and their families can access the full range of benefits available to them; fighting for the interests of America's injured heroes on Capitol Hill; and educating the public about the great sacrifices and needs of veterans transitioning back to civilian life.

A copy of the entire mission statement is on the department webpage.

Rules of the Conference

Will only read the first six rules of the 31 (A copy of the 31 rules are on the Dept. Website).

Rule 1: Robert's Rules of Order, revised, will govern except as hereinafter specifically stated, and when not in conflict with the Disabled American Veterans Constitution and Bylaws and the Rules of the Convention.

Rule 2: For the purpose of recognition, a member of the Convention must (a) address the chair as Comrade Commander; (b) state name and chapter or title; (c) proceed only after recognition from the chair.

Rule 3: Debate on any question shall be limited to five minutes for each speaker except by consent of two-thirds of the delegates present.

Rule 4: Not more than two (2) representatives from any one Chapter shall be permitted to discuss any one subject except by a two-thirds (2/3) consent.

Rule 5: Recognition shall be granted only once to any one speaker on any one subject. A rebuttal of not more than two minutes may be permitted. Additional recognition may be granted by two-thirds (2/3) consent.

Rule 6: No person who has spoken for or against any motion, resolution or report on the Convention floor shall be permitted to make a motion to table. A motion to table is not debatable and shall require a majority affirmation vote. A tabled motion may be taken from the table for reconsideration by a majority vote.

Adjutant Cox: Roll Call

Department Elected Officers:

	Present
Commander Bailey	X
Sr. Vice Commander Mitchell	X
1st Jr. Vice Commander Raborn	X
2nd Jr. Vice Commander King	X
Judge Advocate Combs	X
Chaplain Coker-Bell	X
Immed. Past Commander Simmons	X

Department Appointed Officers:

Adjutant Cox	X
Treasurer Cox:	X
Inspector Cottrill	X
Officer of the Day Early	X
Sergeant at Arms Giles	X

Past Department Commanders:

PDC Lisa Gregory	X
PDC Denice Williams	X
PDC James Procnunier	X
PDC John King	X
PDC Cynthia Madison	X
PDC Rita Aberegg	X
PDC Steve Perkins	X
PDC Robert Cox	X

Chapter DEC

Chapter 2, Irby Cotton II	X
Chapter 3, Perry Taylor	X
Chapter 5, Murphy Coleman	X
Chapter 6, Newth Smith	X
Chapter 7, Shawn Ware	X
Chapter 10, Tom Wendel	X
Chapter 13, Larry Brewer	X
Chapter 17, William Hill	X
Chapter 20, Dwayne Ramey	X
Chapter 21, Tanya Canty	X
Chapter 22, Larry Romaine	X
Chapter 26, Robert Mortensen	X
Chapter 27, Rodney Craig	X
Chapter 30, Wayne Godby	X
Chapter 31, Craig Smith	X
Chapter 34, Robert Monore	X
Chapter 35, Ronnie Robbins	X
Chapter 47, Issac Thomas	X
Chapter 48, Julie Hoyte	X
Chapter 50, Otis Royster	X
Chapter 56, Christine Honaker	X
Chapter 58, Mack McCallon	X
Chapter 60, Chris Cheney	X
Chapter 61, Robert Schofield	X

Adjutant Cox: Comrade Commander, we have a quorum.

COMMUNICATIONS INTO THE DEPARTMENT

National Representative for the Annual Convention will be Joy Ilem National Legislative Director.

Testimonial Dinner for National Commander Marshall will be Saturday, April 16th at the Safety Harbor Resort and Spa located in Safety Harbor, FL. Room reservation cutoff is March 15th, 727-726-1161.

Dinner reservation forms can be obtained by contacting the Department of Florida, 352-331-0945.

We will be doing donations as we did at the Fall Conference. At 1:00 bring your donation/pledge forms to the registration area. Take your donation to the appropriate station. You need to complete a donation sheet for each donation.

I will announce the donations during the afternoon meeting.

Commander Bailey: Commander Appointments

Tellers of Election	PDC Aberegg
	PDC Steve Perkins
	Jeff Oglivie

Adjutant Cox: Department Minutes 2nd DEC Fall Conference 2021 (9 pages). The minutes were posted on the Department Website for review prior to this conference.

Commander Bailey: I will entertain a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes and accept the minutes as posted on the website.

Motion	<u>PDC Gregory</u>	Second	<u>DEC Julie Hoyte</u>
	Motion Passed		

DEPARTMENT OFFICER REPORTS:

The following reports were provided to the conference prior to convening:

- Commander
- Senior Vice Commander
- 1ST Junior Vice Commander
- 2ND Junior Vice Commander
- Judge Advocate
- Chaplain
- Immediate Past Commander
- Adjutant
- Treasurer/Financial

**State VAVS Chair
Inspector**

Each Officer will have an opportunity to provide an addendum to their report:

Commander	(Addendum)	No
Senior Vice Commander	(Addendum)	No
1ST Junior Vice Commander	(Addendum)	No
2nd Junior Vice Commander	(Addendum)	No
Judge Advocate	(Addendum)	No
Chaplain	(Addendum)	No
Immediate Pat Commander	(Addendum)	No
Adjutant	(Addendum)	No
Treasurer/Financial	(Addendum)	No
VAVS Chair	(Addendum)	No
Inspector	(Addendum)	No

Commander Bailey: I will entertain a motion to accept the Officer reports and addendums.

**Motion PDC Aberegg Second DEC Julie Hoyte
 Motion Passed**

DEPARTMENT COMMITTEE REPORTS:

The following reports were provided to the conference prior to convening:

- Department Service Commission**
- Awards Committee**
- Finance Committee**
- Audit Committee**
- Emergency Relief**
- Homeless Committee**
- Women’s Committee**
- Employment Committee**

Membership Committee

Incarcerated Veteran Committee

Legislative/Benefits Protection Team Leader

Joint Leadership Commission

Social Media Committee

Each Committee will have an opportunity to provide an addendum to their report:

Department Service Commission	(Addendum)	No
Awards Committee	(Addendum)	No
Finance Committee	(Addendum)	No
Audit Committee	(Addendum)	No
Emergency Relief	(Addendum)	Yes
Homeless Committee	(Addendum)	No
Women Veteran’s Committee	(Addendum)	No
Employment Committee	(Addendum)	No
Membership Committee	(Addendum)	No
Incarcerated Veteran Committee	(Addendum)	No
Legislative Committee	(Addendum)	No
Joint Leadership Committee	(Addendum)	No
Social Media Committee	(Addendum)	No

Commander Bailey: I will entertain a motion to accept the Committee reports and addendums.

Motion PDC Simmons Second DEC Grailing Carter
Motion Passed

Commander Bailey: The Time and Place Committee Chair PDC Madison will present the

Time and Place Committee Report:

Registered Attendance (DAVA)	<u>47</u>
Total Attendance	<u>198</u>
Past Department Commanders	<u>8</u>
Chapters	<u>23</u>
Units	<u>12</u>
Banquet Attendance	<u>136</u>

Commander Bailey: I will entertain a motion to accept the Time and Place committee report.

Motion DEC Grailing Carter Second DEC Julie Hoyte
Motion Passed

Commander Bailey: Any unfinished business?

Adjutant Cox: No

Break for Lunch.

Reconvene for donations at 1:00 and DEC meeting at 1:30.

New Business:

Commander Bailey: In accordance with Article IV, Section 4-7, Para 3 Nominating Committee, Para 3.1 reads "Shall be elected by the DEC during the DEC Meeting of the Spring Conference. The committee will consist of five (5) members and two (2) alternates from different chapters.

I now open the floor for nominations for the Nominating Committee:

Are there any nominations?

The following nominations were made: Newt Smith (6); Steve Perkins (29); Tom Wendel (10); Tanya Canty (21); Chris Cheney (60); Shawn Ware (7); Denice Williams (22); Lisa Oliphant (3); Cynthia Madison (27).

Are there any other nominations?

Are there any other nominations?

Hearing None, nominations are closed.

Adjutant Cox: Since there are nine nominations we will have a roll call vote. Tellers need to move to the table.

When you cast your vote please do so in the following order: Smith; Perkins; Wendel; Canty; Cheney; Ware; Williams; Oliphant; Madison.

The Roll Call Votes:

Line Officers

Cmdr. Bailey: Smith, Perkins, Wendel, Canty, Cheney, Ware, Williams
Sr. Vice Mitchell: Smith, Perkins, Wendel, Canty, Cheney, Williams, Madison
1st Jr. Vice Raborn: Perkins, Wendel, Canty, Cheney, Williams, Oliphant, Madison
2nd Jr. Vice King: Smith, Perkins, Wendel, Cheney, Ware, Williams, Oliphant,
Chap. Coker-Bell: Smith, Perkins, Wendel, Canty, Ware, Williams, Madison
JA Combs: Perkins, Wendel, Canty, Cheney, Ware, Williams, Madison
Immed. Past Simmons: Smith, Perkins, Wendel, Canty, Cheney, Ware, Williams

PDC's

PDC Gregory: Perkins, Wendel, Canty, Cheney, Ware, Williams, Madison
PDC Williams: Smith, Perkins, Wendel, Canty, Cheney, Ware, Williams
PDC Procnier: Perkins, Wendel, Canty, Cheney, Ware, Williams, Madison
PDC King: Smith, Perkins, Wendel, Canty, Cheney, Williams, Madison
PDC Aberegg: Perkins, Wendel, Canty, Cheney, Ware, Williams, Madison
PDC Perkins: Smith, Perkins, Wendel, Canty, Cheney, Ware, Williams
PDC Cox: Perkins, Wendel, Canty, Cheney, Ware, Williams, Madison

Chapters

Chapter 2: Smith, Perkins, Wendel, Canty, Ware, Williams, Madison
Chapter 3: Smith, Perkins, Wendel, Cheney, Ware, Williams, Oliphant
Chapter 5: Wendel, Canty, Cheney, Ware, Williams Oliphant Madison
Chapter 6: Smith, Perkins, Wendel, Canty, Ware, Williams, Madison
Chapter 7: Perkins, Wendel, Canty, Cheney, Ware, Williams, Madison
Chapter 10: Perkins, Wendel, Canty, Cheney, Ware, Williams, Madison
Chapter 13: Smith, Perkins, Wendel, Canty, Cheney, Ware, Williams
Chapter15: Smith, Wendel, Canty, Cheney, Ware, Oliphant, Madison
Chapter 19: Perkins, Wendel, Canty, Cheney, Ware, Williams, Madison
Chapter 20: Smith, Perkins, Wendel, Canty, Ware, Williams, Madison
Chapter 21: Perkins, Wendel, Canty, Cheney, Ware, Williams, Madison
Chapter 22: Smith, Wendel, Canty, Cheney, Ware, Williams, Oliphant
Chapter 26: Smith, Perkins, Canty, Cheney, Ware, Williams, Madison
Chapter 27: Perkins, Wendel, Canty, Cheney, Ware, Williams, Madison
Chapter 33: Smith, Perkins, Wendel, Cheney, Ware, Williams, Madison
Chapter 34: Smith, Wendel, Canty, Cheney, Ware, Williams, Madison
Chapter 47: Smith, Canty, Cheney, Ware, Williams, Oliphant, Madison
Chapter 48: Wendel, Canty, Cheney, Ware, Williams, Oliphant, Madison
Chapter 50: Smith, Perkins, Wendel, Canty, Cheney, Ware, Oliphant
Chapter 58: Smith, Perkins, Wendel, Canty, Cheney, Ware, Oliphant
Chapter 60: Perkins, Wendel, Canty, Cheney, Ware, Williams, Madison
Chapter 61: Smith, Perkins, Cheney, Ware, Williams, Oliphant, Madison

Total Vote per Role Call: Smith- 22 Votes
Perkins- 30 Votes
Wendel- 33 Votes
Canty- 32 Votes
Cheney- 32 Votes

Ware- 33 Votes
Williams- 33 Votes
Oliphant- 12 Votes
Madison- 25 Votes

The following have been nominated for the Nominating Committee.

1. Steve Perkins (29)
2. Tom Wendel (10)
3. Tanya Canty (21)
4. Denice Williams (22)
5. Chris Cheney (60)
6. Alt. Cynthia Madison
7. Alt. Shawn Ware (7)

Entertain a motion to accept the nominations for the nominating committee.

Motion PDC Proconier Second DEC Julie Hoyte
Motion Passed

Commander Bailey: I will now install the elected nominating committee members and any DEC member or appointed/elected position who were not installed at the 2nd DEC meeting.

Please come forward to be installed.

Please Rise (Rap the Gavel Three Times)

Raise your right hands and repeat after me:

I, State your name Upon my word and honor, as a member of the Disabled American Veterans, in the presence of almighty God and my comrades, and before the flag of my country, accept the office to which I have been elected, I promise to perform the duties of such office, to the best of my ability. I promise to conduct myself in such a manner, at all times and places as will only affect the good of the order, I promise to sustain and enforce, the constitution and Bylaws of this organization. When my successor has been duly elected or appointed, and installed, I promise to surrender to him or her, all the property of this order, in my possession, all of which I now affirm.

You may lower your hands

Commander Bailey: Please return to your seats (Rap the Gavel 1 time)

Commander Bailey: Adjutant Cox will present proposals for the 2024 spring conference.

Hotel	Date Offered	Room Rate	F&B Min
Delta Hotel by Marriott Virginia Beach	20-Mar-2024 to Sun, 24-Mar- 2024	\$119.00	\$8,000

Delta Hotels by Marriott Chesapeake Norfolk	20-Mar-2024 to Sun, 24-Mar-2024	\$96.00	\$8,000
Hotel Madison & Shenandoah Valley Conference Center	20-Mar-2024 to Sun, 24-Mar-2024	\$96.00	\$8,500
DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Charlottesville	20-Mar-2024 to Sun, 24-Mar-2024	\$149.00	\$9,000
No Response from RFP			
Four Points by Sheraton Richmond Airport	RFP sent have not responded or submitted a proposal.		
Holiday Inn Charlottesville-Univ Area	RFP sent have not responded or submitted a proposal.		

COMMANDER BAILEY: I WILL NOW ACCEPT A MOTION FOR THE SITE FOR THE 2024 SPRING CONFERENCE.

Sr. Vice Mitchell made a motion the 2024 Spring Conference be held at the Hotel Madison & Shenandoah Valley Conference Center.

Motion **Sr. Vice Mitchell** **Second** **PDC Gregory**
 Motion Passed

Commander Bailey: I'm going to turn the podium over Adjutant Cox to obtain possible DEC approval for a land purchase.

Adjutant Cox: The department Board of Directors has been looking into the possibility of opening a new thrift store at some point. We had feelers out for property and found a 3.5-acre plot located at 4361 George Washington Memorial Highway, Yorktown. Our current thrift store management company, who has years of experience, and has done an excellent job managing the current thrift stores has done in-dept research on the property.

The property was listed for \$695,000. We made an offer of \$600,000, which was a low-ball offer. They came back with a counter offer of \$690,000.

We made a counter of \$650,000 (cash) which they accepted. The initial letter of intent, dated 1/14/22, per a review by our law firm, was altered to reflect the change. The due diligence period began with a completion date of 3/20/22. There are costs associated with meeting the requirements of the due diligence.

Mike long met with his attorney, who specializes is commercial real estate. He advised we would have to have an environmental study completed. The good point is, there is a grant available to do this study. The application has been completed and we don't anticipate any problems. We have made contact with the property owner to have the due diligence date moved to 4/15/2022 to allow for this study to be completed. I was notified yesterday the request to change the due diligence date to 4/15/22 was approved by the property owner.

I want to make this clear, this is just purchase of land as a potential site for a thrift store. If we would decide to go further with the building of a thrift store, it would have to come before and be approved by the DEC. Then the department would have to seek approval of the National Executive Committee.

The current assessed value of the land is \$801,600 so we are in the good to start out. The most recent sell of vacant commercial property zoned general business was on 8/20/21 at 2420 George Washington Memorial Hwy at the price of \$1,400,000.00 for 4 acres.

This not is a good time to build anything due to the price of building materials and the difficulty getting building materials.

A good example, I have told you that the Holiday Inn – Tanglewood was going to be completely renovated by the time of our 90th annual convention. Unfortunately, that will not happen. Everything has been approved, the contactor ready to go, but cannot start because of the delay in getting building materials. Their new start date is now October.

The Board of Director's approved the purchase and submitted the letter of intent which does not obligate the department until the due diligence date and with the approval of the DEC.

This was brought before the Finance Committee on Friday. David Cuff, chair was not able to attend the finance meeting due to family issues but ran the meeting via the phone.

A motion was made by Mike Giles second by Tanya Culbert to approve the purchase of the land.

The motion passed unanimously.

As a PDC and member of the DEC, I make a motion that the DEC approve the purchase of the above 3.5-acre plot located at 4361 George Washington Memorial Highway, Yorktown.

Commander Bailey: We have a motion made by PDC Cox to purchase the land. Do i have a second?

motion PDC Cox Second PDC Simmons
Motion Passed

Adjutant/Treasurer Cox: As stated above David Cuff, chair was not able to attend the finance meeting due to family issues but ran the meeting via the phone.

I brought before the finance committee, for consideration, a change to the current budget guidelines, section 2: General Guidelines, #3, 1st sentence which reads: official travel mileage shall be reimbursed at the rate of .42 cents per mile.

Due to the current gas prices, i recommended that official travel mileage be reimbursed at a rate of .50 cents per mile.

A motion was made by Steve Perkins second by Tanya Culbert to approve to change the mileage reimbursement rate to .50.

The motion passed unanimously.

Commander Bailey: Since the budget guidelines are approved by the DEC during the 4th DEC meeting it requires the approval of the DEC to make this change.

Do I have a motion to amend the current budget guidelines to changes the reimbursement rate changed to .50 cents per mile (effective immediately)?

Motion Mack McCallon (58) Second PDC Lisa Gregory
Motion Passed

Donations and Pledges

DSC: Chapter 50, \$500; Chapter 2, \$200; Chapter 27, \$1000; Chapter 34, \$500; Chapter 3, \$100; Chapter 3, \$100

Pledges DSC: Chapter 22, \$1000, Chapter 26, \$50; Chapter 13, \$100, Chapter 21, \$250; Chapter 33, \$100

Social Media: Chapter 34, \$500, Chapter 58, \$500

Pledges: Chapter 26, \$50; Chapter 21, \$100; Chapter 33, \$100, Chapter 13, \$100

Winter Sports Clinic: Chapter 34, \$500

Pledges: Chapter 26, \$50; Chapter 21, \$100; Chapter 33, \$100; Chapter 13, \$100

Wheel Chair Games: Chapter 34, \$500

Pledges: Chapter 26, \$50; Chapter 21, \$100; Chapter 33, \$100, Chapter 13, \$100

Golden Age Games: Chapter 34, \$500

Pledges: Chapter 26, \$50; Chapter 21, \$100; Chapter 33, \$100; Chapter 13, \$100; Chapter 5, \$400

Incarcerated Veterans: Chapter 34, \$500

Pledges: Chapter 26, \$50; Chapter 21, \$500; Chapter 33, \$100; Chapter 13, \$100; Chapter 5, \$400; Chapter 7, \$100

Women Veterans Program: Chapter 27, \$500; Chapter 34, \$500; Chapter 3, \$100; Chapter 2, \$200; Chapter 19, \$100; Chapter 17, \$50

Pledges: Chapter 26, \$50; Chapter 21, \$500; Chapter 33, \$100; Chapter 13, \$100; Chapter 5, \$400

Employment Committee: Chapter 27, \$500; Chapter 34, \$500; Chapter 3, \$100; Chapter 2, \$200

Pledges: Chapter 26, \$50; Chapter 21, \$500; Chapter 33, \$100; Chapter 13, \$100; Chapter 7, \$100

Homeless Committee: Chapter 27, \$1000; Chapter 34, \$500; Chapter 3, \$100; Chapter 19, \$100; Chapter 17, \$50; Chapter 2, \$200

Pledges: Chapter 5, \$400; Chapter 26, \$50; Chapter 21, \$500; Chapter 33, \$100; Chapter 13, \$500

Emergency Relief: Chapter 58, \$500; Chapter 2, \$200; Chapter 27, \$1000; Chapter 34, \$500; Chapter 3, \$100; Chapter 19, \$100

Pledges: Chapter 5, \$400; Chapter 26, \$50; Chapter 13, \$500; Chapter 21, \$200; Chapter 33, \$100

Commander Bailey: Good of the order

Opportunity to announce intentions to seek a department office.

PDC Madison announced that she will be running for National Office and requesting the support of the Department of Virginia.

PDC Cox made a motion that the department go on record documenting at their 3rd DEC Meeting (Spring Conference) the DEC voted to send a letter to the National Nominating Committee supporting PDC Cynthia Madison for National Office. Motion was second by PDC Gregory.

Commander Bailey: We have a motion made by PDC Cox to officially go on record the Department of Virginia supports the nomination of Cynthia Madison for National Office and second by PDC Gregory.

Motion	PDC Cox	Second	PDC Gregory
	<hr/>		
	Motion Passed		

**Will King (Chapter 7) announced his intention to run for higher office.
Stephen Combs Chapter 7) announced his intention to run for Judge Advocate.
Patricia Coker-Bell (Chapter 22)2 announced his intention to run for Chaplain.
Vincent Remson (Chapter 2) announced his intention to run for higher office.
Dwyane Ramey (27) announced his intention to run for higher office.
Richard P. Lehmann (50) announced his intention to run for higher office.
Grailing Carter (15) announced his intention to run for higher office.
Per Adjutant Cox, Francis Mitchell will run for higher office.**

Adjutant Cox: Announcements

Dinner/Banquet – Doors open at 6:25 for those with assistive devices and 6:30 for other members.

Commander Bailey: Closing prayer

**Chaplain Coker-Bell : May the peace of God which passes all other standards keep our hearts and minds and the knowledge and love of God and now to the eternal and all-wise creator of the universe and preserver of our nation be honored in glory forever and ever.
Amen**

Commander Bailey: Salute to the flag

Adjourned