



# **Department Minutes**

**Spring Conference  
3<sup>rd</sup> DEC Meeting  
March 2023**

**Spring Conference**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Department Executive Committee Meeting**  
**March 18, 2023**

Call to order

Time 11:00 a.m.

Commander Mitchell

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 King

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.**

**Roll Call****Present****Elected Officers:**

Commander Mitchell	X
SVC King	X
1 <sup>st</sup> JVC Lehmann	X
2 <sup>nd</sup> JVC Ramey	X
Judge Advocate Combs	X
Chaplain Patricia Coker-Bell	X
Immed. Past Commander Bailey	X

**Appointed Officers:**

Adjutant Cox	X
Treasurer Cox	X
Inspector Alicea-Diaz	X
Officer of the Day Early	
Asst. Sergeant at Arms Cuff	X

**Department Commanders:**

John Simmons	X
Lisa Gregory	X
Denice Williams	X
John King	X
Cynthia Madison	X
Rita E. Aberegg	X
David Cuff	X
Dan Miller	X
Stephen D. Perkins	X
Robert D. Cox	X

**Chapter DEC:**

2 Vincent Remson	X
3 David Raborn	X
5 Murphy Coleman	X
6 Newt Smith	X
7 Rob Reese	X
10 Anna Lutz	X
13 Timothy Valentine	X
15 Edward J. Ortiz	X
17 William B Hill	X
20 Earl Bailey	X
21 Marcia Stewart	X
22 James Smith, Jr.	X
26 Mark A. Moten	X
27 Kimberly Barkley	X
28 Michael L. Bagley	X
30 Wayne Godby	X
33 Delton L. Everton	X
34 Charles L. Morris	X
48 Julie Hoyte	X
50 Jack Bolan	X

58 Mack McCallon X  
60 Christopher Cheney X  
61 Thomas Riley X

Adjutant Cox: Comrade Commander, we have a quorum.

#### COMMUNICATIONS INTO THE DEPARTMENT

National Representative for the Annual Convention will be National Chaplain Debra Varner.

Testimonial Dinner for National Commander Joe Parsetich will be Saturday, May 20th at the Hilton Garden Inn located in Kalispell, Montana. Room reservation cutoff is April 10th, 406-756-4500. Updates on dinner reservations can be found at [dav.org/events](http://dav.org/events)

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 Mitchell: Commander Appointments

Tellers of Election PDC Aberegg 7  
PDC Steve Perkins 23  
James Smith 22

Commander Mitchell: I will entertain a motion to accept these appointments.

Motion Commander Mitchell Second PDC Miller  
Motion Passed

Adjutant Cox: Department Minutes 2<sup>nd</sup> DEC Fall Conference 2022 (9 pages). The minutes were posted on the Department Website for review prior to this conference.

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

Motion PDC Cuff Second PDC King  
Motion Passed

#### Commander Mitchell: DEPARTMENT OFFICER REPORTS:

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

Commander  
Senior Vice Commander  
1<sup>ST</sup> Junior Vice Commander  
2<sup>ND</sup> Junior Vice Commander  
Judge Advocate

**Chaplain**  
**Immediate Past Commander**  
**Adjutant**  
**Treasurer/Financial**  
**State VAVS Chair**  
**Department Inspector**

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

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

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

**Motion**     **PDC Miller**                     **Second PDC Cuff**  
**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:**

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

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

**Motion      Chaplain Coker-Bell                      Second      PDC King**  
**Motion Passed**

**Commander Mitchell: The Time and Place Committee Chair PDC Madison will present the Time and Place Committee Report:**

<b>Registered Attendance (DAV)</b>	<b><u>125</u></b>
<b>Registered Attendance (DAVA)</b>	<b><u>40</u></b>
<b>Total Attendance</b>	<b><u>165</u></b>
<b>Past Department Commanders</b>	<b><u>10</u></b>
<b>Chapters</b>	<b><u>22</u></b>
<b>Units</b>	<b><u>13</u></b>
<b>Banquet Attendance</b>	<b><u>125</u></b>

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

**Motion**     **PDC Cuff**                     **Second**     **Julie Hoyte**  
**Motion Passed**

**Commander Mitchell: Any unfinished business?**

**Adjutant Cox: No**

**Break for Lunch.**

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

**New Business:**

**Commander Mitchell: 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:**

**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 following have been nominated for the Nominating Committee.

1. Steve Perkins (23)
2. Anna Alicea-Diaz (13)
3. Cynthia Bailey (20)
4. Denice Williams (22)
5. Chris Cheney (60)
6. Alt. Kim Barkley (27)
7. Alt. James McIntyre (26)

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

Motion PDC Cuff Second PDC Madison  
Motion Passed

Commander Mitchell: I will now install the elected nominating committee members and any DEC member or appointed/elected position who were not installed at the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 Mitchell: Please return to your seats (Rap the Gavel 1 time)

Commander Mitchell: Adjutant Cox will present proposals for the 2025 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 MITCHELL: I WILL NOW ACCEPT A MOTION FOR THE SITE FOR THE 2024 SPRING CONFERENCE.**

**James Smith (22): I make a motion for the Hotels by Marriott Chesapeake**

**Motion     James Smith                          Second     Julie Hoyte  
                Motion Passed**

**Adjutant/Treasurer Cox: Unfortunately we have had to revoke the Charter from Chapter 29 and have had to make repairs to their building in order for it to be sold. Total of the repairs has been     . The Department Board of Directors met on January 31, 2023 to discuss the repairs that needed to be done in order for it to be sold. IPDC Bailey made the motion that we should make the needed repairs and 1<sup>st</sup> JVC Lehman second.**

**COMMANDER MITCHELL: I WILL NOW ACCEPT A MOTION FOR THE REPAIRS MADE TO THE CHAPTER 29 HOME IN ORDER TO BE ACCEPTABLE FOR SALE**

**Motion     PDC Madison                          Second     PDC Aberegg  
                Motion Passed**

**Commander Mitchell: I will now turn the podium to Adjutant Cox for DEC approval on a Chapter merger.**

**Adjutant Cox: On November 12, 2022 members of Chapter 11 and 2<sup>nd</sup> JVC Ramey met to discuss the future of the Chapter. Due to lack of leadership and no members were willing to step up and take positions they voted to merge with Chapter 48. On January 14, 2023 Chapter 48 met along with IPDC Bailey, SVC King and 2<sup>nd</sup> JVC Ramey to discuss a merger. It was brought to the floor for a vote and passed. To finish the merger it must be brought to the DEC for a vote and if approved the Department will send to National for NEC consideration.**

**COMMANDER MITCHELL: I WILL NOW ACCEPT A MOTION FOR THE MERGER OF CHAPTERS 11 AND 48**

**Motion**      PDC Miller                      Second PDC Cuff  
**Motion Passed**

**Commander Mitchell: Adjutant Cox will now read the donations received**

**Adjutant Cox: Donations**

**Winter Sports Clinic:**

**Donations: Chapter 34, \$100; Chapter 13, \$100; Chapter 20, \$500; Chapter 33, \$100**

**Pledges: \$0**

**Total                      \$800                      \$0**

**Emergency Relief:**

**Donations: Chapter 13, \$500; Chapter 27, \$1000; Chapter 34, \$100; Chapter 20, \$500; Chapter 33, \$100**

**Pledges: Chapter 22, \$2000; Chapter 5, \$500; Chapter 6, \$100; Chapter 26, \$500; Chapter 21, \$500**

**Total                      \$2200                      \$3600**

**Employment Committee:**

**Donations: Chapter 27, \$500; Chapter 13, \$100; Chapter 34, \$100**

**Pledges: Chapter 21, \$250**

**Total                      \$700                      \$250**

**Wheel Chair Games:**

**Donations: Chapter 13, \$100; Chapter 34, \$100; Chapter 20, \$200; Chapter 33, \$100**

**Pledges: \$0**

**Total                      \$500                      \$0**

**Golden Age Games:**

**Donations: Chapter 13, \$100; Chapter 34, \$100; Chapter 20, \$500; Chapter 33, \$100**

**Pledges: Chapter 26, \$500**

**Total                      \$800                      \$500**

**Homeless Committee:**

**Donations: Chapter 27, \$1000; Charles Bohlinger, \$20; Chapter 34, \$100; Chapter 13, \$500; Chapter 20, \$500**

**Pledges: Chapter 5, \$500; Chapter 6, \$100; Chapter 26, \$500; Chapter 21, \$500; Chapter 17, \$50**

**Total                      \$2120                      \$1650**

**Incarcerated Veterans:**

**Donations: Chapter 13, \$100; Chapter 34, \$100; Chapter 20, \$200**

**Pledges: Chapter 21, \$250**

**Total                      \$400                      \$250**

**Social Media:**

**Donations: Chapter 13, \$100; Chapter 34, \$100; Chapter 58, \$250; Chapter 20, \$200**

**Pledges: Chapter 6, \$100; Chapter 21, \$250**

**Total                      \$650                      \$350**

**Department Service Commission:**

**Donations: Chapter 13, \$100; Chapter 27, \$1000; Chapter 34, \$100; Chapter 20, \$500; Chapter 58, \$250; Chapter 33, \$100**

**Pledges: Chapter 5, \$500; Chapter 22, \$1000**

**Total                      \$2050                      \$1500**

**Other Donations: Chapter 13, \$100 to Disaster Relief; Chapter 20, \$250 Disabled Vets for Life; Chapter 2, \$400 to Higher Office**

**Other Pledges: Chapter 27, \$1000 to Higher Office; Chapter 21, \$250 to Membership**

**Total                      \$750                      \$1250**

**Total Program Donations Received \$10,970**

**Total Pledges Received \$9,350**

**Commander Mitchell: Good of the order**

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

***Call PDC Madison forward to announce her intent to run for National Higher Office***

**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 .**

**Commander Mitchell: 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 higher Office and second by .**

<b>Motion</b>	<b><u>PDC Cox</u></b>	<b><u>Second</u></b>	<b><u>PDC Cuff</u></b>
	<b>Motion Passed</b>		

**Commander Mitchell: This is now the opportunity for those interested to announce their intentions to seek a department office.**

**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) announced her intention to run for Chaplain.**

**Dwyane Ramey (27) announced his intention to run for higher office.**

**Richard P. Lehmann (50) announced his intention to run for higher office. James Smith (22) announced is to run for department office. Vincent Remson (2) announced his intentions to run for higher office. Marcia Stewart (21) announced her intention to run for higher office.**

**Adjutant Cox: Announcements**

**Department Email changes: [davadjutantva@gmail.com](mailto:davadjutantva@gmail.com)**

[davtreasurerva@gmail.com](mailto:davtreasurerva@gmail.com)  
[vadavom22@gmail.com](mailto:vadavom22@gmail.com)

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

**Commander Mitchell: 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 Mitchell: Salute to the flag**

**Adjourned**