



SOUTH DAKOTA VETERANS COUNCIL

The American Legion, Disabled American Veterans, Veterans of Foreign Wars,
Paralyzed Veterans of America, Vietnam Veterans of America
Military Order of the Purple Heart

**MINUTES OF THE SOUTH DAKOTA VETERANS COUNCIL MEETING (SDVC),
ROSALIES - 9 8th AVE E. – SISSETON
WEDNESDAY, 19 JULY 2023 - 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM CST**

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting of the South Dakota Veterans Council was called to order by President Connie Johnson at 11:00 a.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

President Connie Johnson led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. PRAYER:

Secretary/Treasurer Pennock led the group in prayer.

4. ROLL CALL:

Secretary/Treasurer Marty Pennock called the roll call showing the following members present:

American Legion (TAL): Courtney Steffen, C.P. Van DeList, and Fred Nelson

Disabled American Veterans (DAV): Christine Speirs, Marty Pennock, and Gene Murphy

Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW): Anna Arnold and Dan Klimisch

Vietnam Veterans of America Chapters 1054 and 959 (VVA): Jerry Denman (1054), Phil Braeger (1054) and Terry “Hawk” Mayer (959)

Military Order of the Purple Heart (MOPH): Connie Johnson, Bill Flippo, and Buck Underwood

North Central Chapter Paralyzed Veterans of America (PVA): Terry Paulsen

Official Officers Excused: (VFW) Derek Besler, (PVA) Mike Olson, (PVA) Lisa Cummings

There was a total of 29 present for the meeting (attached sign in roster).

5. WELCOME DISTINGUISHED GUESTS / VISITORS / ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENTS / ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Johnson welcomed members of the Council and Guests.

6. PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:

President Johnson called on Secretary-Treasurer Pennock to read the minutes from the April 19th, 2023, SDVC meeting.

On a motion by (VVA) Terry Mayer and seconded by (DAV) Gene Murphy to waive the reading of the minutes from the April 19th, 2023, SDVC meeting, and approve them as written as they were mailed to members of the council, posted on the website and provided to members prior to the July 19th SDVC meeting.
Discussion. Motion carried.

7. TREASURER'S REPORT:

President Johnson called on Secretary-Treasurer Pennock for a Treasurer's Report. Beginning Balance as of April 19th, 2023, was \$10,051.41, with deposits of \$1,000.00 and expenses of \$553.25 leaving a balance, as of July 19th, 2023, of \$10,498.16.

2023-2024 Membership Dues status given individually to organizations still needing to be paid for 2023-2024.

On a motion by (DAV) Gene Murphy and seconded by (VVA) Terry Mayer to approve the Treasurer's Report. Discussion. Motion carried.

On a motion by (DAV) Marty Pennock and seconded by (VVA) Terry Mayer to approve the expenditures of funds to cover the costs for beverages and food for the SDVC meeting at Rosalies, which resulted in the amount of \$90.82.
Discussion. Motion carried.

8. ENDOWMENT UPDATE:

Endowment Fund Balance Update – President Johnson provided an updated endowment fund summary (attached). Deputy Secretary Aaron Pollard indicated no funds have been removed from the fund to date.

9. STATE UPDATE:

South Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs Update: Secretary Whitlock

Secretary Whitlock reported on the following;

Current Census is 62 with 3rms vacant plus the 13rms of the neighborhood closed.

Independent living is 12 with 12rms vacant

Just received our newest resident on Monday, retired Air Force Veteran and teacher

Looking at onsite child daycare

Looking at remodeling the old Kern bldg. for staff apartments, there is a lot of potential there.

Researching possible grant opportunities

Possible partnering with Hot Springs HS for CNA program.

Legislative study on Long Term Care (LTC) in SD is going well and reviewing lots of information and discussion about Veterans needing care with the growing numbers of Veterans needing care, next LTC Study committee meeting is July 27 in Pierre.

Legislative visit at the SD Veterans Home (SDVH) in June was great.

Our message to legislators was the impact that temp staffing is having on long term care and specifically the SDVH. We emphasized that the majority of temp agencies are out of state (example given Omaha) and the staff working for these agencies are out of state.

We discussed staff housing and how it has helped retain staff. We emphasized how housing is critical now and historically in the Black Hills. We discussed limited affordable housing in Hot Springs and how it impacts recruiting staff. We feel we have some opportunities in possible funding to build staff housing.

We related staffing challenges to census.

We explained how census affects VA per diem and operational revenue. We emphasized how critical long-term care is to the medical model in the State.

We discussed becoming Medicare certified and how it will impact revenue and census management.

We discussed our recent bed reduction.

We explained the reason behind the decision. VA doesn't pay bed hold per diem of census is below 90%. Ability to offer housing to temps to eliminate paying an extra \$10 per hour for housing.

The committee received good information and were thoroughly educated on the current state of the SDVH.

We felt it went well and that we will hopefully receive increased support.

We have completed 7 fallen hero bridge dedications this year with 5 upcoming events, if you have not attended a dedication we encourage you to do so.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Jul 20—Rosebud Sioux Tribe Veterans Stand Down—Sinte Gleska University—(101 Antelope Circle)—

Mission—10:00 am (CT)

Jul 22—1st Annual Wings of Valor Poke Run—Wings of Valor—(45618 278th Street)—Parker—11:00 am (CT)

Jul 22—SD American Legion State President's Homecoming—Gregory American Legion Post—(223 Main Street)—

Gregory—11:30 am (CT)

Jul 22—SD American Legion Commander's Homecoming—Chester Community Center—(401 4th Street)—

Chester—2:30 pm (CT)

Jul 28-29—"Last Out" production—SD Military Heritage Alliance—(1600 W. Russell Street)—Sioux Falls

Jul 29-30—Sioux Falls Air Show

Jul 29—Korean War/Defense Veterans Appreciation Day—Brookings County Outdoor Adventure Center—

(2810 22nd Avenue S)—Brookings—9:00 am to 3:00 pm (CT)

Aug 6—American Legion Riders Post 71 Annual Fall River Freedom Ride—Begins at Michael J. Fitzmaurice State

Veterans Home—(2500 Minnekahta Avenue)—Hot Springs—9:00 am (MT)

Aug 8—VA PACT Act Benefits and Healthcare Drive—Armory at the SD Military Heritage Alliance—(1700 W. Russell

Street)—Sioux Falls—11:00 am to 1:30 pm and 4:00 to 6:30 pm (CT)

Aug 10-11—South Dakota Suicide Prevention Conference—Sioux Falls Convention Center

Aug 15—2nd Annual American Legion Auxiliary Unity 15 “Chip in for Vets” Golf Tournament—Elmwood Golf

Course—(2604 W. Russell Street)—Sioux Falls—Shotgun Start at 9:00 am (CT)

Aug 19—SFVAHCS Show and Shine

Aug 26—SD Fallen Hero Bridge Dedication—LTC Gordon J. Lippman—St. Rose of Lima Community Hall—

(305 Pine Street)—Hill City—2:00 pm (MT)

Aug 27—SD Fallen Hero Bridge Dedication—SP5 John P. Beckers—VFW (Main Street)—Burke—2:00 pm (CT)

Aug 28—Barrel House Day of Giving for Midwest Honor Flight

Aug 31—Veterans Day at the SD State Fair

South Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs Deputy Director: Aaron Pollard covered in detail the following. Deputy Director Pollard reviewed claims filed from January through June as 5,600. He reported the SDDVA Benefit School will take place at the Heritage Alliance in Sioux Falls, September 5th – September 7th. Legislation - Head setting stone fee \$200.00 private cemetery and \$100.00 for etching of government information in a private cemetery.

South Dakota State Veterans Cemetery Director: Erin Brown covered in detail the following. 592 burials completed at the cemetery with 1,900 pre-applications completed
190 phone calls and walk ins
36 burials in June
December – Wreaths Across America

10. INVITED GUEST SPEAKERS:

Dakota Regional Office Director: Shawn Bohn reviewed the following;

Handed out a PACT Act Benefits/VA Healthcare Drive flyer August 8th, 2023 (Distributed to the group on July 20 via email)

PACT Act Deadline August 9, 2023, submittal of claims for retroactive payments

Internet website, Monday Morning Workload Report, for VBA stakeholder to view claim data

[Detailed Claims Data - Veterans Benefits Administration Reports \(va.gov\)](https://benefits.va.gov/REPORTS/detailed_claims_data.asp)

https://benefits.va.gov/REPORTS/detailed_claims_data.asp

1,703 Claims with 84% grant rate and 1,318 pending and 7.55 million dollars paid out

Medical Center Director SFVAHCS: Sara Ackert covered in detail the following.

Business Office Update:

- Bene Travel – working on claims from 5/10/23
- Scanning – Working on documents from June 1st forward
 - There are currently 6 vacancies out of 11 total FTEE. One started this week, and 4 additional will be brought on between now and the end of August
- ROI – working on requests from February 7th.
 - There are currently 3 vacancies. One was filled this week, the other 2 are in the HR onboarding process.

Care in the Community Update FY23 Notable Metrics:

Incoming Consults: 40,589

Scheduled Consults: 39,542

Calls Handled: 45,151 (98.3%)

Call center number for questions: 605-333-6800/1-800-316-8387

Unique Veterans: 14,580

FED to 1st Scheduled: 10.4 Days (Nationally Ranked #7!)

Pending to Active in 2 Days or less: 95.8%

Recent Improvements:

Technology Utilization

Audio Care: automated system that dials out to Veterans, when Veteran accepts the call, they are brought to our Call Center to talk to a scheduler for scheduling their care

Veterans accepting the calls are at 54% thus far.

Vet Text: starting July 24th Veterans will also be reached out via a text message notifying them that we have a consult that needs to be scheduled and to call into our call center which is provided on the text.

Goals:

Reach out to an additional 100 Veterans per week.

Determine the best ways to reach our Veterans

PACT ACT Updates:

- Screened over 16,815, 40% claiming at least one exposure. 68% screened are over the age of 65.
- Held a PACT ACT outreach event in conjunction with VBA in the Dakota Dunes on July 11th.
- Holding another event in conjunction with the (CAV) Community Action for Veterans on August 8th at the Alliance

Rural Veteran Transportation Taskforce:

At the last meeting I recommended that a taskforce be assembled to discuss rural Veteran transportation.

A meeting was held on May 24th from 9:00-10:00am. At that meeting we discussed:

- Current Veteran Transportation Services – Audrey Ricketts provided a map that reflects transportation availability by county.
- VA staff provided information on VA Travel eligibility and services provided
- DAV provided an overview of the DAV program
- VA staff completed a Volunteer Driver Campaign that included a Dakota News Now Story, running a story in Empire Lifestyle Magazine, and a social media campaign.
- Change in Volunteer Driver Requirements: Crista Pick outlined her plan to streamline the onboarding process for Volunteer Drivers. She has ordered new equipment to print badges and has outlined a process where the new volunteer has to come to Sioux Falls once.
- VA has committed to apply for funding for a VTS driver and vehicle to be placed at the Watertown CBOC.
- Aaron Pollard shared that CVSO's are not required to manage driving programs such as the DAV.
- Follow-up meeting in 3 months (August/September)

VTS Updates:

The DAV Vehicle from Grant County (that was not being used) has been moved to Watertown CBOC.

Is to be moved to the courthouse for VSO to utilize

Construction:

- Work is progressing on the 10-bed Hospice Cottage – Spring 2024
- New Prosthetics department on the 4th floor – end of the calendar year
- Work continues on the EHRM project despite the rollout being put on pause

OTHER:

Periodically the Hospital Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (HCAHPS) surveys patients that have recently been an inpatient in VA and non-VA facilities. Some of the things they ask about in the survey is communication with nurses and physicians, understanding of medications, care transitions, cleanliness, willingness to recommend. The maximum rating is 5-stars. I am proud to say that Sioux Falls VA inpatients have rated us the maximum of 5-stars. Our two local private sector hospitals are rated 4-stars and 3-stars.

Show and Shine: The Sioux Falls VA will be hosting the 21st Annual Show and Shine Car Show on Saturday August 19th from 10:00-4:00pm. No need to pre-register your cars. Check it out on our Facebook page.

Creative Arts Competition: August 9th from 10:00am to 2:00pm we will be holding the Creative Arts Competition. This event will be open to Veterans and Employees who are interesting showcasing their art, creative writing, drama, dance, or musical selections. The winners will be forwarded on to the National Veterans Creative Arts Competition.

Medical Center Director BHVAHCS: Lisa Curnes covered in detail the following.

PACT Act Updates

Toxic Exposure Screens (TES) clinical reminders for Nurses and Providers are in place for the assessment of Veterans for their exposure to toxins. Toxic Exposure Screens are being offered through your Primary Care Team. TES is also being done in some Specialty Care areas as well and we continue to expand these screens into other areas of the healthcare delivery system.

- VABHHCS has screened over 12,000 veterans with 35% endorsing at least 1 exposure concern.
- 0 Veterans waiting over 30 days for follow-on care.
- PACT ACT Claims Clinic in partnership with VBA- HS July 13th
- PACT ACT VetFest in partnership with VBA and State of SD, at the 83rd Annual Sturgis Rally August 4-12, 2023, 9am-4pm at the Armory, 1089 Main St., Sturgis, SD.

VA Black Hills Census

- Community Living Centers: 43 available beds, HS and FM have a census of 38.
- HS DOM: 60 available beds, Census of 44 as of 7/14/2023. Once the new employees are trained (it will take 2-3 weeks to full caseload) we will be at 48. We are still actively recruiting RRTP employees.

Care In the Community

- Black Hills has 1232 unscheduled consults.
- There are no unscheduled consults >30 days with no activity.
- No consults aged >180 days
- Average days to schedule are 11.7 days, less than VISN (18.1 days) & National average.

Home Health Program

VA medical staff including Physician Assistants, Registered Nurses, Dietitians, Occupational Therapists, Psychologists, and Pharmacists travel to the homes of Veterans in rural communities.

- 0% readmission rate for all veterans using home-based primary care at VA Black Hills.
- Reduced inpatient days by 94.3%.

Masking Update

Mask are required in the following areas when caring for Veterans:

- CLC
- ED and Urgent Care
- Dialysis
- Chemotherapy

Masking is not required in different locations unless asked by a Veterans or Caregiver.

On-Boarding Events

- Event was held in Fort Meade on July 12th. 43 perspective employees attended. Offers were made on the spot to RNs, LPNs, and CNAs.
- The Focus is on high-need positions, such as: Providers, Nurses, EMS, N&FS workers, Social Workers, and Medical Support Assistance (MSAs).
- Next event will be in Hot Springs in August.

Travel Claims

Background: A previously used system was recently discontinued, and all claims must be entered in BTSSS. Paper claims are still being accepted but must be manually entered into BTSSS by VA staff.

- BTSSS Backlogs have exceeded 3900. Oldest claim in review in from the first week of June.

Plan to address backlog:

1. Fill remaining vacant benefit travel staff positions.
2. Continue to train 4 new staff on BTSSS, bring them up to speed, and train future staff. Anticipating improvement in backlog in 4 to 6 weeks. We are seeing a decrease in backlog as these new staff come on board.
3. Process claims to reduce the backlog to the 10-day standard.
4. Team will try to prioritize claims from Veteran requests that have a specific need/circumstance so they may continue to seek needed health care services.
5. Provide training to Veterans on how to complete claims electronically.

Construction update – Hot Springs

- PACT AREA UPGRADE- Renovate Bldg. 12 for PACT (HS) to increase the size of the PACT Area- A study has been completed identifying a potential space layout.
- EHRM projects are in progress to upgrade all OIT closets across the health care system in preparation for the new electronic health record.
- DOM UPGRADE- The Dom Renovation to add semi-private rooms in Building 8 received no bids which will delay the project as the contract package will be resubmitted to a larger pool of possible contractors for bids. Once the renovation starts it is scheduled to take one year to complete.

Construction updates – Fort Meade

- Renovate Inpatient 113 will consolidate inpatient care (ICU, Med/Surg, and sleep lab) for staffing efficiency and modernize patient rooms. Anticipated completion in September 2024.
- The Upgrade MH Lock Ward project will correct several MHEOC deficiencies including ceiling height, hard ceilings, windows, and handrails. The project has been awarded, with an anticipated start in September 2023 and completion in September 2024.

Rapid City CBOC - Opening August 14, 2023- Grand Opening Aug. 17th

The new clinic is located at 2165 Promise Road in Rapid City.

- Approximately 120 FTEE will be located at the new facility.
- Zero-graded incline entrance for ease of access for wheelchairs.
- Covered drop-off location to protect from weather elements. New benches constructed around covered location for Veterans to sit at while family/friends park.
- This clinic allows for more PACT teams in the space as we see more newly enrolled Veterans. Currently will have 5 PACT teams that will be located here.
- Increase in Mental Health exam rooms to include cutting-edge technology via biofeedback services that provide evidenced-based treatment to Veterans experiencing PTSD and Military Sexual Trauma (MST).
- Addition of Women's Health Services specializing in providing comprehensive care across the spectrum to treat and provide prevention services. Enrolled Women Veterans have increased from 2021 to the present by 16%. Women Veterans make up the largest growth in the VA and we are ready to care for them.
- We ensured there would be access to Veterans with the need for Physical Therapy in this location by incorporating a PT gym and staff.
- Multiple specialty services to include Audiology, Physical Therapy, Chiropractor, Oncology, Dermatology, Podiatry, Urology, Nephrology, Endocrinology, Rheumatology, Neurology, Orthopedics, Gynecology, TECs program, etc.
- Laboratory services will allow Veterans to receive their lab results at their clinic appointment with their clinician.
- Radiology services include X-ray, Mobile CT, and MRI exams with the potential to expand to include mammography services in the future.

Congressional Delegate Update form Senator Rounds Office: Bob DeJong covered the following.

- NDAA – 886 billion \$ FY24
 - Ellsworth AFB 395 million construction for B2
 - Readiness Center 5 million construction in Sioux Falls
 - Prioritization of Cyber Defense – Dakota State University and Army Cyber Command – DOD Cyber Operations – Mexican Organized
- NAIV Federal Charter going to the Senate floor

Congressional Delegate Update form Senator Thune Office: Judy Vrchota covered the following.

- Gave background as Area Director
- Reaffirmed NDAA
- NAIV Co-Sponsorship

11. RECOGNITION OF CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS:

President Johnson recognized and thanked Vice President Kevin Hempel and Secretary-Treasurer Pennock for their work the past two years on the SDVC for their work.

PVA Terry Paulson recognized and thanked President Johnson for her work as President the past two years on the SDVC.

12. UPDATES FROM EACH VSO:**VFW:**

- Sign up for PACT Act
- National Convention July 21-27 AZ
- Fundraising for Big Paws Canine July 1- June 30 Commander Raffle – Dave Baumiller
- Complaints Revolve Around Travel Vouchers with the VA
- Could Use Support from the SDVC at the Fall Conference October 6-8

TAL:

- Similar Issues to other VSOs / Doing Well
- Worked with MN Legion – Grants
- Two Resolutions State Convention – Hypertension and Government Issued Markers
- National Convention End of August in Charlotte

DAV:

- Transportation Across State Biggest Issue
- Standdown Support Both East and West River
- Fund Raising Events Ongoing with Raffles
- FMN – August 4th – 9th
- DAV National Convention August 4-8, 2023, Atlantic City, NJ
Kim Hubers – 2023 Disabled American Veteran of the Year
- 727 Poker Run – Sept 2nd, 2023 - Brookings
- July – Sept 23 Quarterly Bulletin
- New Vehicle – 1 BHHCS ready for pick up at National DAV
- DAV Dept SD Fall conference – Oct 6 -7 – Sioux Falls
- Next SD Department Convention – April 26-27, 2024 – Deadwood – SDVC Support

VVA:

959 – Terry Mayer

- National Convention August 24-26th Orlando
- POW Recognition Event 15 September 6:30p.m. Veterans Park Sioux Falls
- \$50.00 Membership

1054 – Phil Braeger

- School Program Reached Out – 20 Schools
- Elk Hunt Ticket Raffles \$ Going to Needy Veterans – Gift Cards to be Issued by VSOs

MOPH:

- National convention Baton Rouge 14-18 August
- Air Show Support 29-30 July
- Bruce – Purple Heart City
- Viola Drive
- Volga Next Purple Heart City
- White and Rapid City Possible Purple Heart Cities
- American Legion will be Hosting Gold Star Even in DeSmet on August 7th
- Tiny Home Tour – Five Homes Built

PVA:

- Membership Free for Spinal cord or disease
- National Convention has been Completed in May
- Fund Raising is Ongoing
- Pizza Day with DAV
- Fishing Event – May – Great Event

13. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**2024 Chet Sorenson Award:**

Chet Sorenson Award: President Connie Johnson stated that each organization needs to vote for one award per organization. Ballots were handed out to each organization and returned to the leadership for counting. The Following Organizations Nominated the Following Veterans Dr. Martin Christensen, Robert Frink, Gary Murra, James Wosje, Mark Wolf, and Derek Besler

Dr. Martin Christensen was selected as the 2022-2023 Chester “Chet” Sorenson Veteran Award.

On a motion by (DAV) Marty Pennock and seconded by (VFW) Anna Arnold to purchase a plaque to be presented to Dr. Martin Christensen, as the Veteran of the Year, at the SD State Fair on August 31st, 2023, in Huron, SD, on Veterans Day. Discussion. Motion carried.

Legislative 2024 Discussion:

DAV provided a list of resolutions that it would support(attached).

VFW discussed introducing legislation to support a bill increasing the amount of money reimbursed from the state to pay for CVSOs from 25% to 50% for full time employees.

Discussion took place on 2023 legislation and the status of nursing home care for veterans.

It was decided that another meeting would be warranted to further discuss possible 2024 legislation. A date will be sent out in the near future.

14. NEW BUSINESS:

Gov. Noem Establishes the America 250th South Dakota Commission

Governor Noem signed Executive Order 2023-11 to establish the America 250th South Dakota Commission. The purpose of this commission is to prepare for the celebration of the 250th anniversary of the United States of America in 2026.

“Our United States of America is the greatest nation to ever exist in the history of the world. In less than three years, we’re turning 250. This momentous occasion deserves a year-long celebration worthy of our great country,” said **Governor Noem**. “I am looking forward to working with the America 250th South Dakota Commission to commemorate our history. Together, we will cherish our founding principles and celebrate our Freedoms.”

The America 250th South Dakota Commission will plan, encourage, develop, coordinate, and promote observances and activities to be held in South Dakota in honor of the 250th anniversary of our nation’s beginning.

Governor Noem may appoint as many members as she deems necessary to carry out the directives of the commission. This will include:

- Cabinet Secretaries, or their designee;
- Director of the State Historical Society, serving as chairperson;
- The State Librarian;
- Representative(s) from the Board of Regents;
- Representative(s) of the Historical Society Foundation;
- Members appointed by the governor representing the geographic and cultural diversity of the state;
- Representative(s) and senator(s) of the state legislature;
- Representative(s) of local history organizations; and,
- Any other interested representative(s) deemed necessary by the governor.

The America 250th South Dakota Commission will complete its work and be dissolved and repealed on March 31, 2027, with a prior report to the governor that will be maintained in the State Archives for a potential tricentennial commission to use in preparation for its work in 2076.

Proposed Future SDVC Meetings:

September 20th, 2023, Rapid City Post #1273, 9:00 am – 12:00 pm (MT)

November 15th, 2023, DAV, Sioux Falls, 9:00 am – 12:00 pm (CST)

January 10th, 2024, The American Legion Post 8, Pierre, 2:00 pm – 5:00 pm (CST)

Legislative Reception January 10th, 2024, The American Legion Post 8, Pierre, 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm (CST)

Legislative Roundtables

November 15th Sioux Falls – DAV, 12:00 pm -1:30 pm (CST)

November 16th Northeast – VFW - TBD

November 17th - The American Legion Post 8, Pierre

November 18th - The American Legion Post 22, Rapid City

2023-2025 Officer Elections

Judge Advocate – (DAV) Gene Murphy made a motion and seconded by (PVA) Terry Paulson to nominate (VVA) Terry Mayer as SDVC Judge Advocate. Motion carried.

(DAV) Gene Murphy made a motion and seconded by (PVA) Terry Paulson to cast a white unanimous ballot for (VVA) Terry Mayer as SDVC Judge Advocate and to cease nominations for SDVC Judge Advocate. Discussion. Motion carried.

Secretary-Treasurer – (DAV) Gene Murphy made a motion and seconded by (MOPH) Buck Underwood to nominate (DAV) Marty Pennock as SDVC Secretary-Treasurer. Motion carried.

(DAV) Gene Murphy made a motion and seconded by (VFW) Anna Arnold to cast a white unanimous ballot for (DAV) Marty Pennock as SDVC Secretary-Treasurer and to cease nominations for SDVC Secretary-Treasurer. Discussion. Motion carried.

Vice President – (DAV) Gene Murphy made a motion and seconded by (VFW) Dan Klimisch to nominate (VFW) Anna Arnold as SDVC Vice President. Motion carried.

(DAV) Gene Murphy made a motion and seconded by (PVA) Terry Paulson to cast a white unanimous ballot for (VFW) Anna Arnold as SDVC Vice President and to cease nominations for SDVC Vice President. Discussion. Motion carried.

President – (PVA) Terry Paulson made a motion and seconded by (VFW) Anna Arnold to nominate (MOPH) Connie Johnson as SDVC President. Motion carried.

(MOPH) Bill Flippo made a motion and seconded (DAV) Gene Murphy to cast a white unanimous ballot for (MOPH) Connie Johnson as SDVC President and to cease nominations for SDVC President. Discussion. Motion carried.

15. Swearing in of New Officers

All four Officers were sworn in.

16. Next Scheduled Meeting

Date: Sept 20, 2023

City: Rapid City, SD

Venue: VFW Rapid City Post #1273

Time: 9:00 am to 12:00 pm (MT)

17. Good of the Order

President Johnson gave an overview on the usage of the SDVC website in the past six months with 220 visitors.

18. Closing Comments and Adjournment

With no other business before the council, Secretary -Treasurer Pennock led the council in the benediction followed by a salute to the colors from President Connie Johnson.

On a motion by (MOPH) Bill Flippo and seconded by (VFW) Anna Arnold to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 2:46 pm.