

DEPARTMENT OF NEW MEXICO
COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION MEETING

JUNE 12, 2026 @ 09:00AM
Embassy Suites, Albuquerque
(written on JUN 22TH, 2026) Meeting

Opened at 09:00AM with pledge by and prayer.

Recognized Guests:

National Council Member from Colorado David Stone
National Council Member (NCM) Victoria Haddox
Western Conference Chairman Len Hampton
All Past NCM's
All Past State Commanders

Roll Call of Officers: 16 Present; Quartermaster Fouse Excused District 8 Absent, covers by Quartermaster R.E. Bartosiewicz

Roll Call of Posts: 18 Commanders present; 6 had a top 4 officer, 1 Post Excused and 9 Absent

Trustee Report: Report was read by PSC Vernon Luce

Minutes: Motion to forgo reading of the minutes by Adjutant V. Haddox due to the minutes were provided prior today's meeting. Motion was Duly Seconded, Motion Passed

Trustees Report of Audit: Report given by PSC Vernon Luce.

Committee Reports:

American: Comrade Mark Bowman Foster Patriotism. Captured through Community Service report and the numbers have increased.

Bataan: Comrade Rel Melon 5300 participants we signed up 57 total recruits. We were put in a bad location.

Employment and Homeless: Comrade Rel Melon, VFW Post 10124 and VFW New Mexico Foundation hosted a stand down in Las Cruces at 10124, the assisted 60 homeless both Men and Women. It's grown to the point of needing to relocate to Downtown and thanked everyone for their assistance on providing needed material.

Buddy Poppies: Comrade Don Frias stated as of today we have 31 VFW Post in New Mexico that have ordered, 38k poppies bought

Community Activity: Comrade Jason Burke Report 15,3003 hours have been reported, \$434,520 moneys donated which is an increase of 141% from last year. Combine the Department did 2,191,528 dollars worth of Community Service which is a 71.28% increase from last year.

Convention Chair: Comrade V. Haddox read the two bid, Embassy Suites was presented Motion to postpone to next C of A by V. Haddox. Discussion was had about why. Commander Haddox explained that they bumped us out of our office. They double our hospitality suite and kicked us to a smaller one which the room we were suppose to get was in the contract. For Dave's retirement we booked for 90 and they set up for 50 people and didn't provide us with \$1500 in food as contracted. Motion passed.

Legislative: Commander Jim Haddox asked who got the action alert for the "Take Care of Veterans" Act. We are against it because it cuts veteran's benefits. It's un president and has never been done. "Major Richard Starr" Act was objected by Senator Rand out of Kentucky. He continued the list of priorities from Nationals

State Legislative: Comrade Mack Dyer says there is a lot of people that are going to local meeting can you please

provided an email.

Loyalty Day Comrade Danny Cruz Gave the history of what Loyalty Day Stand for and why it's important to Celebrate it. Please document in the Community Service Dashboard

Membership- We made 101% Top Recruiter Tori is Number 1 and doesn't have to pay up on her \$50.

Gaming and Liquor- Reminder that all Club Licenses are coming due. Gaming sided they are getting stricter on the rules and wanted expenditures of what people used that donation for. There is currently some back and forth on if they are keeping this mandate.

POW MIA- Comrade M. Bowman gave the latest on the POW MIA recovery efforts and name some of the locals. 156 remains recovered for the 2026 year

Scholarships.: Incoming Chairman is Jamie Ferguson for the incoming year .

Safety – Chairman is on a fire.

Scouting- Comrade Terry Brown work with your local Scouts. We are one of the only departments that give out an award for first place.

Special Project- Chairmen are both Auxiliary, Amanda Silva and Jonette Martinez- Pacias, have to get with them.

VSO- Comrade Louis Rossi wasn't in attendance. Report was given by PSC Brian Ravak. Since Mid Winter brought in 171 claims 154 by VSO 17 given to the VA. 70 calls a month. Recommends the VSC to meet about a path forward on retention of our VSO

OLD BUSINESS:

- Adjutant V. Haddox to amend her earlier motion from first C of A to Special C of A to allow more time then the two days. Motion 2nd Motion passed
- Adjutant V. Haddox yes we are signed up for balloon fiesta. No, the contract hasn't been provided to us by IBFA. No, payment hasn't been made yet either.
- Adjutant V. Haddox talked about the Closure of Questa VFW Post 7688. We offered the building to village for a small fee. They declined. We have 2 pre offers.

NEW BUSINESS:

Comrade V. Haddox Motion to Sponsor the cornhole tournament at National Convention \$1500 Motion seconded. No discussion was has Motion carries.

M. Dyer Motion that we gift the cornhole boards from last years sponsorship to Commander Haddox for leading us to All American. Motion seconded. Motion carries.

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

National Rep defers to talking at a later time.

District 7: No Remarks

District 6: No Remarks

District 5: No Remarks

District 4: No Remarks

District 3: No Remarks

District 2: No Remarks

District 1: No Remarks

Chief of Staff: Nothing to report

Chaplain: Nothing to report

IMPSC: we closed 4 post in the last 3 years and we need to do better. State officers are here to support you. Let's get in front of it early. Question from the Audience Comrade C. LeMaire asked how many are absent. Ad V. Haddox 9 absent out of 37 post C. Martyn asked why did those post closed. Adj V. Haddox stated first post closed itself and didn't say anything. 2nd post closure there was bad contracts made. The 3rd one that was closed was a bar not a VFW and money went missing and was never accounted for, we kicked out 3 officers for money abuse. The last one was because they were participating in anything. National Suspended them and they did try to get in compliance but out of the 9 months they only had two meetings.

Foundation EO: Thank the post for the donations. We have provided multiple pass through grants and helps veterans in need. Working with Post 6917 Riders president to do a statewide ride for the foundation. details to follow

Judge Advocate: start looking at updating your bylaws. there are a lot of post with outdated bylaws.

Adjutant: Non negotiables are mandated from here on out to avoid suspension.

Junior Vice Commander: No Remarks

Senior Vice Commander: Bring a comrade with you to the next State Event

Next Meeting is tomorrows business session at 9am at Embassy Suites.

Closing Prayer by Chaplain Salute to the Colors

Meeting Adjourned 1024 hrs.

Attested By:



Victoria Haddox
State Adjutant

Approved By:



James Haddox
State Commander