

DEPARTMENT OF NEW MEXICO  
BUSINESS SESSION MEETING  
JUNE 1st, 2025 @ 09:00AM  
Sheraton Airport, Albuquerque  
(written on JUN 12TH, 2025)

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

**Recognized Guests:**

National Commander in Chief Al Lipphardt  
Past National Commander in Chief B.J. Lawance  
National Council Member (NCM) Victoria Haddox  
Western Conference Vice Chairman Len Hampton  
All Past NCM's  
All Past State Commanders  
MOCA Incoming Commander Mary Tutza

**Roll Call of Officers:** 17 Present; District 8 Absent, covers by Quartermaster R.E. Bartosiewicz

**Roll Call of Posts:** 15 Commanders present; 7 had a top 4 officer there and 3 had a member present and 12 Absent and 1 suspended.

**OLD BUSINESS:** NONE

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Disclosure of Conflicts, Whistleblower and Sexual Harassment Policies signed and returned before leaving today.

Need Copies of DD214 & Contact info on newly elected Council Members and District Sr/Jr Vice Commanders

- Motion to retain the Service Officer and Claims Consultant by JA Lawrence Duly 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion passed.
- Motion to retain salaries at the same level By IMPSC Ravak, 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion passed.
- Motion to set the Adjutant pay at 24000 by d6 Pearce, second, Motion passed.
- Motion to allow VMS Fundraisers during Department events by ADJ V. Haddox 2<sup>nd</sup>, Motion passed.
- Motion to keep the DAL membership fee the same at \$45.00 by JA Lawrence, second, Motion passed.
- Motion to keep the Department Delegate fees at current rate of \$5.00 by IMPSC Ravak, second, Motion Passed.

- Motion to reimburse Officer-of-the-Day travel expenses by QM Fouse, second. Motion passed.
- Motion to reimburse Department Photographer travel expenses by QM Fouse, second. Motion Passed.
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Brief on Budget by QM Fouse New Line Items was related to the Balloon Fiesta.

Motion to accept the budget as presented by JA Lawrence, second. Discussion was had about the effects of Post 3015 affecting us going forward until sold or surrendered to city. That there is not much more cost going out, hope with the sale of items that were in the building and the building itself, we should break even. Motion passed.

### **GOOD OF THE ORDER:**

Stressed the importance of having a Post email account; to receive essential National & Department correspondence, and processing memberships through OMS. Suggest not using personal email accounts for business.

Annual requirements

QM Bonds expires August 31<sup>st</sup> forms on Dept Website

Poppy Orders; New Form in book & on Dept Website

VMS Donations are to be made through the link in the National Dashboard

Minutes & Audits

District meeting dates/times & places

Pass out Commander's books.

(Commander review books with Council)

Commander books that were not picked up

Post 3370 4243 are with District 2 Commander

Post 3242 are with District 3 Commander

Post 1389, 3317, 12008 are with District 4 Commander

Post 1131, 1547, 1793, 3272 are with District 5 Commander

Post 3259 7688 are with District 6 Commander

District 8 and Post 2528 are with District 8 Quartermaster.

Review of Commander Book.

IMPSC Ravak made a correction that the MOC Liaison should be Mary Tutza and recommended Jamie Ferguson as Student Veteran's Chairperson.

QM Fouse says you don't need post approval to pay for Bonds; they are mandated by the by laws.

Present the Past State Commander's Pin to by Brian Ravak.

**Statewide Training Day** is October 24<sup>th</sup> @ Post 401, Homecoming/ C of A is on October 25<sup>th</sup> @ American Legion 13 at 10am.

**Commander In Chief Comments:** Moved National Convention July 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2026, to July 30<sup>th</sup>, 2026. From Salt Lake City to Reno.

**Council Comments:**

JA Lawrence: Today is day one, do better be better, Stay of the radar. Do the inspection correctly, make sure your bylaws are good.

IMPSC Ravak every post can make it to All American. There is no cap to "AIM HIGH."

QM Fouse Don't be afraid to reach out we would rather help you when its smaller and training. then when it is a suspension.

ADJ V. Haddox I will answer weird hours but except the same back from me. I am willing to help and listen to a sober person. Keep that in mind when reaching out.

JR Vice: Ya blessed as a chaplain, but I am stepping up my game. Call me if you need me or if you need help personal or otherwise. I am here for all of you!

Senior Vice: My email is wrong it is [mack.dyer@gmail.com](mailto:mack.dyer@gmail.com) the dot between my names was missed. Get stuff in early. Your donations and reports before they start piling up.

Commander: We are all working for you, I work nights so I'm available to you at night and if you need to talk, I'm available. Email from me will come out at weird hours.

My motto is Do better; Be better, because we all have failed, me more than most. But if you get up and try to be a little bit better that day, and the next day and the next, eventually you will be better. It is all about continuing to move forward, even when it is hard. Looking at all our new events, I am looking forward to the Balloon Fiesta and the Roswell Air Races. Other cool stuff, we want to up our social media with our Special Project with QR Code and Website sponsors. Please be "Brilliant on the Basics;" We have requirements you have in the manual, do those. I get life but communicate. I am asking you to do what you stood up for, you took the position, and you are the representative of your post, and your members honor them. Thank the CIC and PCIC for their guidance.

**Closing Prayer by Chaplain**

**Salute to the Colors**

**Meeting Adjourned 1003 hrs.**

**Next Meeting will be at the Fall Conference on October 25, 2025 @ 10:00AM, American Legion 13**

Attested By:



Victoria Haddox

State Adjutant

Approved By:



James Haddox

State Commander