



COUNCIL PRESIDENT, ED PETERSEN, CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 1000 AT THE NORMAN PUBLIC LIBRARY – CENTRAL, IN NORMAN, OK.

REPRESENTATIVES AND GUESTS WHO WERE INVITED AND ATTENDED THE MEETING:

| | |
|------------------------------|---|
| KEN BARTELS | PAST COUNCIL PRESIDENT |
| BARBARA BOWMAN | SURVIVING SPOUSE LIAISON |
| FLOYD BRANSON | CIMARRON CHAPTER PRESIDENT – ABSENT |
| DENNIS CLIPPINGER | COUNCIL 1ST VICE PRESIDENT – ABSENT |
| DON DURANT | SOUTHWESTERN OK CHAPTER PRESIDENT |
| PAT MCGAUGH | COUNCIL LEGISLATIVE LIAISON AND NORMAN CHAPTER, LEGISLATIVE LIAISON |
| ED PETERSEN | COUNCIL PRESIDENT |
| CHRIS SARTORIUS | COUNCIL 2 ND VICE PRESIDENT, SECRETARY, AND NORMAN CHAPTER PRESIDENT |
| MARK SEGOVIA | GREEN COUNTRY CHAPTER PRESIDENT |
| ALTA SEGOVIA | GUEST - GREEN COUNTRY CHAPTER PRESIDENT SPOUSE |
| JANET SKELTON | SOUTHERN OK CHAPTER PRESIDENT |
| JERRY WEST | PAST COUNCIL PRESIDENT |

ED PETERSEN LED THE COUNCIL IN THE INVOCATION AND THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

MINUTES: MEMBERS PRESENT REVIEWED THE NOVEMBER 2022 MEETING MINUTES. NO CHANGES WERE NOTED. THE COUNCIL APPROVED THE MEETING MINUTES.

TREASURER’S REPORT: ED PETERSEN SUMMARIZED THE TREASURER’S REPORT. THE BANK ACCOUNT BALANCE IS \$5,246,48 AS OF 20 JAN 23. NO CHANGES NOTED. THE COUNCIL APPROVED THE TREASURER’S REPORT.

CHAPTER REPORTS:

- CIMARRON CHAPTER - ORAL REPORT FROM KEN BARTELS – MOVING FORWARD WITH AFROTC SCHOLARSHIPS. NORMAN CHAPTER WILL PASS JEANIE FRAZER CONTACT INFORMATION TO KEN BARTELS TO FACILITATE JROTC MEDALS FOR ENID HIGH SCHOOL. 25 DUES PAYING MEMBERS. NO WRITTEN REPORT.
- GREEN COUNTRY CHAPTER - ORAL REPORT FROM MARK SEGOVIA. [CLICK ON THIS LINK TO VIEW THE WRITTEN REPORT](#). 27 DUES PAYING MEMBERS.
- NORMAN CHAPTER - ORAL REPORT FROM CHRIS SARTORIUS – DISCUSSED DECEMBER 2022 HOLIDAY PARTY AND VOTES TO RAISE ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES FROM \$25 TO \$35 AND TO REDUCE MEETINGS FROM NINE TO FOUR EACH YEAR (MAR/MAY/SEP/DEC). EXPLAINED FOCUS OF 2023 MEETINGS AND FINANCIAL STATUS OF THE CHAPTER. EXPLAINED OU ROTC SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM. NO WRITTEN REPORT. 9 DUES PAYING MEMBERS.

- SOUTHERN OKLAHOMA CHAPTER - ORAL REPORT FROM JANET SKELTON. [CLICK ON THIS LINK TO VIEW THE WRITTEN REPORT](#). 47 PAID MEMBERS.
- SOUTHWEST OKLAHOMA CHAPTER - ORAL REPORT FROM DON DURANT – INSTALLED NEW OFFICERS AT JAN MEETING. NEW MILITARY LIAISON OFFICER (ACTIVE-DUTY OFFICER FROM FT. SILL). \$11,000 IN CHECKING ACCOUNT. PROVIDED FUNDING FOR LOCAL VETERANS’ ACTIVITIES AND SCHOLARSHIPS AT CAMERON U. AND LOCAL JROTC PROGRAMS. NEXT MEETING MARCH 2023 AND MR. KINSEL FROM THE OK VETERANS COMMISSION WILL BE GUEST SPEAKER. MAY IS EVENING MEETING AND REP. TOM COLE IS SCHEDULED SPEAKER. RECOVERED WREATHS FROM FT SILL VETERAN’S CEMETERIES (WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA). DISCUSSED SPAGHETTI DINNER FUND RAISING EVENT WHICH GENERATED \$2000 IN REVENUE. NO WRITTEN REPORT. 138 MEMBERS/109 DUES MEMBERS AND 29 ASSOCIATED MEMBERS, 13 SURVIVING SPOUSE MEMBERS.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT’S COMMENTS:

ED PETERSON IS CONTINUING AS PRESIDENT UNTIL DENNIS CAN TAKE OVER IN MAY. ED WILL REPRESENT MOAA OKLAHOMA IN THE ADVOCACY IN ACTION AND WILL MAKE THE NECESSARY PREPARATIONS FOR TRAVEL IF ED IS UNABLE TO MAKE THE TRIP TO DC.

JERRY WEST IS OUR NEW TREASURER PENDING TRANSFER OF BANK SIGNATURE CARDS AND OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION FROM DENNIS CLIPPINGER.

CHRIS SARTORIUS IS OUR NEW SECRETARY.

NEW CHAPTER PRESIDENTS – MARK SEGOVIA (GREEN COUNTRY), DON DURANT (SOUTHWEST OK CHAPTER)

THE COUNCIL EXECUTIVE BOARD REQUESTED DAVID ELLENBERG STEP DOWN AS THE INCOMING PRESIDENT.

THANKED ADM HULL AND PHIL BROWN FOR THEIR PAST SERVICE AS STATE COUNCIL OFFICERS.

DISCUSSED THE NEW PACT BURN PIT LAWS AND THE PROCESS FOR VETERANS TO APPLY FOR VA BENEFITS BASED ON THIS LEGISLATION.

MOAA IS THE ONLY OFFICER VETERAN SERVICE ORGANIZATION (VSO). OUR NATIONAL ADVOCACY ENCOMPASSES NOT JUST OFFICERS BUT ENLISTED MEMBERS AND FAMILIES. ADVOCACY IN ACTION IS WORKING UP TOP AGENDA ITEMS FOR THIS YEAR’S EVENT.

NEWSLETTERS – PLEASE SEND CHAPTER NEWSLETTERS TO ALL THE OTHER CHAPTERS IN THE STATE.

SEN MARKWAYNE MULLIN – ONLY REPRESENTATIVE TO MEETING WITH THE OK ADVOCACY IN ACTION DELEGATION IN 2022.

PAT MCGAUGH AGREED TO BECOME OUR NEW COUNCIL LEGISLATIVE LIAISON.

OK VETERANS COUNCIL REPORT: NO REPRESENTATIVE PRESENT TO MAKE A REPORT.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE: PAT MCGAUGH DISCUSSED THE FOLLOWING.

RETIRED MILITARY PAY – TAX YEAR 2022 IS THE FIRST YEAR FOR THIS TAX EXEMPTION.

PAT MCGAUGH READ A VFW LETTER CONCERNING THE ISSUES ASSOCIATED WITH THE CONTROVERSY AROUND THE APPOINTMENT OF OK VETERANS COMMISSION MEMBERS. SENATE BILLS 1080 AND 1054 (GOVERNOR'S BILL) PENDING TO CHANGE HOW THESE MEMBERS ARE APPOINTED.

[PLEASE SEE THE LEGISLATIVE LIAISON WRITTEN REPORT](#)

SURVIVING SPOUSE LIAISON: BARBARA BOWMAN ENCOURAGED EVERYONE TO REGISTER ON THE OK VETERAN'S REGISTRY. THIS WILL FACILITATE SPECIAL VETERAN'S TAX EXEMPTIONS. THIS IS A REQUIREMENT TO RECEIVE THE OK SALES TAX EXEMPTION AND MUST BE ACCOMPLISHED PRIOR TO 1 JULY 2023 TO CONTINUE RECEIVING THIS BENEFIT.

SEE A VSO ABOUT VETERANS BENEFITS BEFORE SEEING A LAWYER. VSOs CAN ASSIST FOR FREE WHILE LAWYERS CHARGE FEES FOR VETERAN-RELATED SERVICES. TAPS IS A GOOD ORGANIZATION FOR SURVIVING SPOUSES AND CHILDREN. THERE IS A MOVEMENT TO PRIVATIZE THE STATE'S VETERAN'S CENTERS.

TRANSITION LIAISON: NOTHING TO REPORT

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: NO UNFINISHED BUSINESS WAS DISCUSSED.

NEW BUSINESS:

PAST PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS: KEN BARTELS – DISCUSSED THE IMPORTANCE OF VSOs IN HELPING INDIVIDUALS WITH VA BENEFITS.

COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS:

NEXT MEETING DATE: 6 MAY 2023, 1000-1200, NORMAN PUBLIC LIBRARY – CENTRAL, 103 WEST ACRES ST, NORMAN, OK 73069

ADJOURNMENT: ED PETERSEN ADJOURNED THE MEETING AT 1120.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY:

CHRIS SARTORIUS
COUNCIL SECRETARY
MOAA / OKLAHOMA COUNCIL OF CHAPTERS