

**AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY**  
**Department of Nebraska**  
**District 11 Executive Board Meeting**

**Date:** January 25, 2020  
**Place:** Tobias, Nebraska

Number of Officers Present: 5  
Number of Chairmen Present: 1  
Number of County Officers Present: 4

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The Executive Board of the American Legion Auxiliary of District 11, Department of Nebraska, met on Saturday, January 25, 2020, at 1:00 p.m. at American Legion Post #311 in Tobias, Nebraska, with nine members in attendance. District Officers and Chairmen present were President Arlis Hohl, Secretary-Treasurer Loree Hendrickson, Historian Alice Vieselmeyer, Chaplain Judy Bartels, Parliamentarian Bonnie Dumler, and Poppy Chair Donna Schweer. County Officers in attendance were Saline County President Doris Galbraith, Thayer County President Donna Schweer, York County President Wendy Wait and Jefferson County Secretary-Treasurer Marla Furrow.

President Arlis Hohl called the meeting to order. Chaplain Judy Bartels first led us in prayer; then in memory of our dead, we stood in silence. Everyone saluted the flag and recited the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by one stanza of *The Star-Spangled Banner*. The American Legion Auxiliary Preamble was recited.

A copy of the meeting agenda, the last Executive Board meeting minutes, and a Treasurer's report were distributed to each member. Everyone then went around the room and introduced themselves, stating the office each holds within District 11. Alice Vieselmeyer moved to dispense with the reading of the minutes, and that the minutes should be approved with no corrections. Motion was seconded, no discussion. Motion carried.

Secretary-Treasurer Loree Hendrickson then gave the Treasurer's Report, showing a current balance of \$2,135.92. The Treasurer's Report will be placed on file for audit. President Arlis presented a bill that will be submitted for payment at the District 11 Convention in February; Loree stated that she was already in possession of two bills which had been presented at Fall Round-Up in October.

Under New Business, the 2020 District 11 Convention will be held on February 16 at Beatrice Legion Post #27. There will be a 9:00 a.m. church service, with registration beginning at 9:30 and the meeting at 10:00. The registration fee for the day will be \$15, which includes \$3 for the meeting and \$12 for the cost of the noon meal. The deadline for the Prayer, Publicity and History contest submissions to be sent to their respective Chairs is February 1. Poppy centerpieces are to be at the District Convention for judging by 9:15 a.m. President Arlis stated that for the Poppy Centerpiece contest, units are to follow the rules under the Junior Activities section of the ABC Book; however, Department of Nebraska President Elizabeth Paes' theme, "Looking to the Future with Pride in the Past," is to be used. Pages are needed for the Convention, and Parliamentarian Bonnie Dumler agreed to line up volunteers for this responsibility.

District 11 will once again be holding a live auction during the noon meal with the proceeds to be split between the District 11 Legion Commander and Auxiliary President's respective projects. President Arlis announced that she had won a wall hanging at the Department of Nebraska's Mid-Year Conference in January and will be donating it to either be sold at the auction or raffled off, with the proceeds to go

towards her President's Project, which is Quilts of Valor. After some discussion, it was determined the wall hanging would raise more funds if sold at the auction. As the District 11 American Legion Auxiliary is currently without a Vice President to line up assistance with the auction, Arlis asked for volunteers. Judy Bartels and Doris Galbraith will help with this. An auctioneer is also needed, and Arlis will see if the Beatrice unit can recommend someone local who would be willing to volunteer his/her services.

Donations from District 11 American Legion Auxiliary were then discussed. Loree Hendrickson reported that in 2019, a total of \$850 was donated by District 11 as follows: \$100 to the Central Nebraska Veterans' Home; \$100 to the Eastern Nebraska Veterans' Home; \$100 to the Norfolk Veterans' Home; \$100 to the Western Nebraska Veterans' Home; \$100 to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs/Nebraska-Western Iowa Health Care System's Grand Island Division; \$50 to the National President's Project; \$50 to the Department of Nebraska President's Project; \$50 to the Department of Nebraska Honorary Junior President's Project; \$50 to the District 11 President's Project; \$50 to the Children's Miracle Network; \$50 to the Auxiliary Emergency Fund; and \$50 to the Little Red Schoolhouse program. Before any motion was made to recommend these donations for 2020, President Arlis asked whether the group should consider including a donation for Fairview Manor in Fairmont, Nebraska, as it is an approved Veterans Administration nursing home housed within District 11. Donna Schweer moved to recommend \$950 in donations, which would include the same \$850 donated last year, plus \$100 to Fairview Manor. Motion was seconded, no discussion. Motion carried.

A discussion was then held regarding what invitations should be extended to attend the District 11 Convention. Wendy Wait moved to extend invitations to the following individuals: Department of Nebraska President Elizabeth Paes; Department of Nebraska Honorary Junior President Allison Wiles; National Education Chair and Past Department of Nebraska President Debra Albers; Department of Nebraska Secretary-Treasurer Lisa Moore; Department of Nebraska Historian Vicki Ozenbaugh; Department of Nebraska Education Chair Sharon Brozovsky; Department of Nebraska Junior Activities Chair Karen Wiles; and Department of Nebraska Membership Chair Kimberly Gurley. Motion was seconded, no discussion. Motion carried. A discussion was then held as to whether corsages needed to be provided to our honored guests. The Executive Board determined by mutual consent that the hosting unit, Beatrice Unit #27, would determine whether they wished to provide corsages.

President Arlis reported that she had received mid-year reports from all County Presidents. York County President Wendy Wait said that she would like to add to her official report and will get it to Arlis soon.

According to official reports, District 11 is currently in third place for membership, behind Districts 13, 1 and 2, respectively. An increase of just 1.24% in membership would move District 11 into third place.

A lengthy discussion was held regarding the District 11 American Legion Auxiliary supporting our own project to assist Nebraska's veterans. President Arlis proposed that our district join with District 10 to raise funds to buy furniture and household items for veterans moving out of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs/Nebraska-Western Iowa Health Care System's Grand Island Division facility (hereafter referred to as the Grand Island VA) into their own apartments. Much of the discussion centered on how District 11 would pay for such a project. Bonnie Dumler moved that the Executive Board recommend to the Convention that each unit in District 11 be asked to hold a fundraiser or make a donation to support buying furniture and household items for these veterans. Motion was seconded. After further discussion, motion carried.

Proposed changes to the District 11 Constitution and By-Laws were then discussed. Donna Schweer moved to recommend to the Convention that we amend Article V, Section 2, Subsection a. of the

By-Laws to increase the reimbursement amount for attending National Convention from \$100 to \$200. If passed, the language of this subsection would read as follows:

The District President shall be allowed expenses for postage, stationery, and mileage of thirty-five cents (\$.35) per mile to attend District meetings and two Executive meetings and her first official visit to each County to attend County meetings. Counties receiving a second visit will pay the mileage for that visit. Two hundred dollars (\$200.00) shall be given to the District President or District Vice President to attend the National Convention. In the event the District President or District Vice President does not attend the National Convention, the \$200.00 shall be given to the representative representing District Eleven if she is from District Eleven.

Motion was seconded. After some discussion, motion carried.

It was noted that in accordance with Article V, Section 2, Subsection e. of the By-Laws, "the District shall pay \$10.00 to all Department Chairmen who are members of the District attending Department Convention." The following individuals will need to receive these funds for attending the 2019 Department Convention: Department of Nebraska Past Presidents Parley Chair Debra Albers and Department of Nebraska Junior Activities Chair Carol Capek.

Judy Bartels then moved for the Executive Board's support of Department of Nebraska Historian and past District 11 President Vicki Ozenbaugh in her candidacy for the office of Department of Nebraska Vice President. Motion was seconded, no discussion. Motion carried.

President Arlis has been proposing at the various County Meetings that units in District 11 donate Husker items to the Grand Island VA. Bonnie Dumlér proposed that these items be handed out at the summer picnic in July. The first Veterans Creative Arts Festival in Nebraska is also being held at the Grand Island VA in February, with judging on February 22 and an open house on February 25 from 4:00-6:30 p.m. President Arlis then passed around a flier with the design for the District 11 t-shirts that were proposed at various County meetings last fall, as well as the District 11 Fall Round-Up. Orders will be taken throughout February.

American Legion Auxiliary Unit #352 of Deshler will be hosting the Memorial Service at the District 11 Convention. The names of members who have passed on since the 2019 District 11 Convention should be sent to Unit President Vicky Fleming.

It was announced that Junior Law Cadet Orientation would occur on March 29 at 2:00 p.m. in Cortland and Boys and Girls State Orientation would be held on April 26 at 2:00 p.m. in Wilber. End-of-year reports are due to Department by April 20, and Department Convention will be held from June 25-28 at the Ramada Inn in Kearney.

There being no further business, Chaplain Judy Bartels gave the closing prayer. The meeting was adjourned. Brownies with coffee, water and tea were then served by Judy Bartels and Arlis Hohl.

Submitted by



Loree Hendrickson

District 11 Secretary-Treasurer