

AMERICAN LEGION ILLINOIS PREMIER BOYS STATE
FALL MEETING AUGUST 13, 2016

The fall meeting was called to order by the Chairman at 10:30 August 13, 2016. The Department Chaplin led the board in a prayer with the pledge following. Department Commander Stanton spoke followed by Sr. Vice-Commander Henderson. A motion was made by Limey Nargelenas and seconded by Jimmy Nagel to approve the minutes from the spring minutes. The motion passed.

Wayne Wagner, treasurer, made his report. There were 14 no pays in attendance at this year's session. He also reported that the bench in honor of Tom Johnson was paid for with the extra moneys to be used to sponsor young men in the future. A motion to approve was made by Roy, seconded by Kevin Wilbur to accept the report. It passed.

The executive director made his report. He thanked everyone for their help during his first year on staff. To improve attendance the posts need to be more involved. He also commented on the need to stay on time for the assemblies.

The director of counselors spoke next. The direct care staff did an incredible job. There was enough staff. Have complied a list of potential junior counselors for next year.

The director of administration staff spoke of the need to increase the number of people in this area. This being his first year on staff, he learned a lot and enjoyed his time at the session. Looks forward to next year.

The tech report was given by Aaron Mowery. The purchase of new tech certainly helped during the session. In coming years there will need to be some rotation to keep current. Graham will continue to stream the session with an increase in streaming. It worked well this year. There was talk of producing a digital yearbook in the future, possibly a disc that could be sold. Graham will look into it.

Aaron reported on the exit survey. The participants that responded reported that the overall program was very good and beneficial. They felt the assemblies could be improved. There could be some improvement in the traditional education classes. They would highly recommend the program and would work to recruit for the 2017 session. This was the first year the staff participated in the survey. Almost 90% of the staff completed the survey. Most felt the program was working well and would return for the 2017 session.

There was a discussion about a schedule change for Saturday evening. It was determined that it would be best if the county meetings were held after super so the participants on late buses could be at the meetings.

The resolution to reduce the numbers on the board passed at the state convention. Over a period of time the board will be reduced nineteen.

Doug Howell reported that he had contacted four universities about hosting the program. The four were EIU, ISU, UICU and Lewis. Lewis said they could not handle our program. Doug had bids from each of the three remaining. After a lengthy presentation and discussion a motion was made by Paul Brown, seconded by Jimmy Hunter to remain at EIU and sign a contract for 10 years. The motion passed

A discussion centered on the cost of the 2018 session. Currently the cost of the program is \$267.00 per participant. We are not covering our costs. A motion was made by Clyde and seconded by Kevin to raise the sponsorship to \$300.00 starting in 2018. It passed.

Next was, what to do about refunding money. The general consensus was to refund money if cancellation happened 2 weeks before the start of the session. The sponsor would be given the chance to roll the money over to the next year or use it to sponsor a young man this year. This was put into a motion by Jeff Brown and seconded by Clyde. It passed.

Uniforms were discussed. The young men did not like the shorts because they did not have pockets.

Aaron said that Jim Aiu would like to purchase two laser printers for check-in. Also some other items that would not exceed \$1,000.00. A motion was made and seconded. It passed.

It was noted that lanyards and padfolios would be needed next year. Chris asked if the board would mind if some ads were placed on the back of the padfolio. No one objected.

The Boys State director's conference will be held in Indy on Sept. 23-25, 2016. Chris Jim, Dan, Joe, and maybe Jason Hill were approved to attend. Each would receive \$250.00.

Paul Brown thanked the board for creating a scholarship in his name.

At 12:59 the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by Interim Secretary Joe McCraith