Children & Youth Commission

Fall Meeting October 3, 2026
Department Headquarters

Meeting called to order 1032

Salute Nations Colors

Attendance:

1st Wade Hudson
2nd David E. Johnson(chair)
3rd Leslie Arbuckle
4th Mark Young
5th Chris Schoo(v-chair) Temp Secretary
Sue Johnson ALA Chairman C&Y Guest

Visit from Department Commander Celeste Latham and Adjutant Josh Thielen.

Dave & Sue attended Children & Youth National Conference 9-26 Indianapolis.

Children & Youth National Chairman Stacey Cope has been moved and her replacement has not been named yet.

TFA-Temporary Financial Assistance:
TFA: Temporary Financial Assistance, newer claim form must be filled properly out, and all avenues for assistance must be touched. County has programs and must also be contacted for help. This is a one time $2,500 assistance with the National Adjutant making the final decision. A face to face meeting is a must and can be done in a neutral area, if its a female needing the assistance, then a female should accompany, and the same for a male if its a female Legion member filing the paperwork. Money is used for child under 17 and not car payments, etc. This will be a two party check to insure the intent of money. Just recently added is the Coast Guard and the Sons for eligibility. If the person is not a Legion member then pay his dues to help. All bills listed must be within 30 days of visit and must have copies.

We will have a zoom call on how to fill out the paperwork for TFA.

Other programs are National Guard Military Children, Open doors to local Guard units to see if we can help; Food Pantry's, Christmas gifts. Talk to the SSRG Soldier Family Readiness Group.

Home schooled children could need help with Civics, like flag etiquette.

Child Welfare is now Child Well Being.

The Whole Child Magazine has been updated along with Children & Youth Department Chairman program Guide, Child Well Being Foundation, Veterans & Children Foundation.

The Child Well Being will be giving out 15 applicants Scholarships and must be in by July 15th.

Special Olympics will be June 11,12 2027

Thursday starting at 0830 with picking up donations from local establishments (looking for 2-3 volunteers) then at 1400 will be setting up prep and food area.
Friday 0900 starting prep day and feed the athletes.
Saturday starts 0900 with prep, feed the athletes then tear down and pack the trailer.

We had a great turn out on Friday this year with 50 volunteers only 5 showed up for Saturday. Our Commission needs to email earlier, get all District reps involved and track days and time of volunteering.
Anyone reserving hotels rooms do it early and DO NOT mention the American Legion or the Special Olympics the hotels will raise your rate.

Tennis games on Saturday were cancelled for weather but were able to resume on Sunday.

Christmas Gifting the AL SAL and AUX share the cost of gifts for the Children under 17.

Looking at a new program like 4H but using 4R.

Meeting was adjourned at 1214.