



**UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRONS®**  
**SAIL AND POWER BOATING**  
**DISTRICT 9**



**District 9 2011 Fall Council Meeting**

15 October 2011

MacRay's Banquet and Events Center – Harrison Twp, MI

**Minutes**

**Call to Order**

District Commander Mary Ann Jensen, N, called the meeting to order at 1005.

**D/C Mary Ann Jensen, N**

**Invocation**

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Welcome Comments**

**D/Lt Douglas R. Rocho, P**

**P/R/C Patricia A. Johnston, SN**

**D/C Mary Ann Jensen, N**

**Order of Business**

There being no objection, the District Commander announced that the order of the meeting may be altered to expedite the meeting.

**D/C Mary Ann Jensen, N**

**Introduction of National Officers and PDCs**

**D/Lt/C Linda J. LaLonde, P**

**National Officers**

P/R/C Patricia A. Johnston, SN

Stf/C, P/D/C John C. Bennett, SN

P/Stf/C, D/Lt/C Linda J. LaLonde, P

Stf/C, P/D/C Denise Samu, AP

**Past District Commanders**

1983 – P/R/C James C. Acheson, SN

1987 – P/R/C, P/N/F/Lt, P/D/C Dick Jarmon, SN

1990 – P/D/C James R. Leonard, SN

2001 – Stf/C, P/D/C John C. Bennett, SN

2005 – P/D/C James G. Knaggs, SN

2006 – Stf/C, P/D/C Denise Samu, AP

2009 – P/D/C Bryan L. Bartlett, SN

**Review of the Voting and Floor Privileges**

**D/Lt Laddie L. Hudson, Jr., SN**

**Determination of a Quorum**

The Secretary reported that a quorum was present.

**D/Lt/C H. Jay Stevens, SN**

**Approval of Minutes – 2011 Spring Council**

A copy of the minutes of the 2011 Spring Council was previously distributed.

**D/C Mary Ann Jensen, N**

**Approval of Minutes – 2011 Spring Council (contd.)**

Motion: It was moved and seconded that the minutes of the 2011 Spring Council be approved. The motion carried. The approved minutes are filed with the 2011 Spring Council Report.

**District Calendar**

**D/Lt/C Linda J. LaLonde, P**

The District Calendar was distributed in the seat packet. A copy is included the 2011 Fall Council report.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Report of the Audit Committee**

**D/Lt Mike Zaborowski, Sr., JN**

The Audit Committee had no report.

**Report of the Budget Committee**

**D/Lt Chester Dunbar, Jr., AP**

The Budget Committee had no report.

**Report of the Planning Committee**

**P/D/C Bryan L. Bartlett, SN**

The Planning Committee report was distributed in the seat packet. A copy is included in the 2011 Fall Council report. The Planning Committee is working on three issues for recommendation to Council.

Issue 1 – Timing of Council Meeting - The Chair reported that the Planning Committee is primarily working on one project right now – determining the timing of the Council meeting. The purpose of Council is to act as a clearing house for issues that may be coming before Conference, to prevent tying up the time of the full Conference. As presently constituted, we treat Council like a full business meeting. Consequently, there is a lot of duplication in reports made to Council and reports made to Conference. The only reports that are actually required are the Secretary's, and at one Council a year, the Treasurer's. In many instances, the business actually required to be presented to Council could be completed in fifteen minutes.

We are required only to schedule Council within 40 days prior to the Conference. There are three options for scheduling Council meeting:

- 1) As we presently schedule Council meeting – that is, several weeks before the Council meeting. The advantage is that there is time to get information about petitions circulated and to get feedback from the squadrons. The disadvantage is that it requires travel to a separate meeting, and we have had problems getting a quorum for Council.
- 2) Holding a separate Council meeting on Friday prior to the beginning of Conference weekend or on Saturday morning. The disadvantage is that there is not enough time to work through issues, and it ties up Friday or Saturday when other events are in progress.

- 3) Holding Council meeting at mid-day Saturday on Conference weekend, just prior to the business meeting. This option eliminates the conflict of tying up the weekend, and removes the duplication.

The Planning Committee is working on a recommendation that would in essence give the Commander, with the consent of the Counsel, the discretion to set Council meetings within 40 days of the Conference, but in the manner that most efficiently takes care of the District business. Revisions to the Standard Operating Procedure governing Council will be rewritten to allow that flexibility.

No action was taken on this issue.

Issue 2 - D9 SOP Revisions – The second issue that the Planning Committee will be working on over the next year and a half is to examine the District Standard Operating Procedures to identify and revise outdated sections.

Issue 3 – Quorum Requirements for Council – The third issue before the Planning Committee is to evaluate the current quorum requirements for Council and present a recommendation. We have had a struggle reaching a quorum at the last few Council meetings. The real problem is the fact that we have 23 Past District Commanders, all of whom are voting members of Council. One solution might be to specify that only the immediate past nine Past District Commanders and the three Past District Lt. Commanders are voting members of Council. Other Past District Commanders would still be voting members of Conference.

Following discussion, the Commander referred the issue of the determination of a quorum to the Rules Committee.

#### **Report of the Rules Committee**

**D/Lt Laddie L. Hudson, Jr., SN**

The Rules Committee report was distributed in the seat packet. A copy is included in the 2011 Fall Council report. The Rules Committee is looking at the new set of model bylaws from National. As we have learned, bylaws changes can be difficult to get through National. There are some changes we already know we should make. The bylaws require the Budget Committee to report before Fall Council. That should be changed to a report before Spring Conference. On the issue of active members who are counted toward a quorum, all Past District Commanders who are members of District 9 squadrons are active members, regardless of where they are located.

The Rules Committee is soliciting any suggestions for changes in bylaws.

#### **Report of the Conference Coordinator**

**P/D/C Michael J. Rachuk, SN**

The District Conference Coordinator's report was distributed in the seat packet. A copy is included in the 2011 Fall Council report. The District Commander reported on behalf of the Conference Coordinator that the Fall District Conference would be at Shanty Creek Resort, 28-30 Oct 2011.

**Report of the 2012 Governing Board District Committee Chair**

**Stf/C Denise C. Samu, AP**

The District Conference Coordinator's report was distributed at the Council meeting. A copy is included in the 2011 Fall Council report. The Fall Governing Board Meeting will be in Detroit in 2012. The dates are 2 Sept - 9 Sept. The last Governing Board meeting held in Detroit failed to meet the room night and meals commitment, so it's important that we have good attendance from our local squadron members. D9 squadron members are encouraged to take advantage of meals and rooms at the Marriott.

The Governing Board meeting is not just for leadership, it's for all USPS members. We have a full social program, starting out on Tuesday with the Cleveland Indians vs. the Detroit Tigers baseball. On Wednesday we have a tour on the Detroit Princess. A professional tour company is putting together a "Best of Detroit" tour for Thursday. Thursday night will be Motown evening, with a dinner show. For Friday, we're working on an additional tour. Following the Saturday business meeting, on Saturday night we have scheduled a band that performs tributes to the singers of 60s and 70s.

Raising Money – To fund the various social programs and reduce the costs to attendees, we are working on a variety of fund raising efforts, including 50-50 raffles at meetings, a picture raffle at the Fall Conference, and a gift raffle. We also have a number of volunteer donors making cash contributions.

Support Staff - We will need support staff and local squadron volunteers throughout the meetings. We will be talking more about staffing in the Spring.

**Report of the Nominating Committee**

**P/D/C Bryan L. Bartlett, SN**

P/D/C Bartlett reported on behalf of the Nominating Committee. Interviews are underway. If anyone has recommendations on nominations, please forward them to P/D/C/ James Draper, JN.

**Spring Conference 2012**

**P/C Frederick J. Hoitash, SN**

Dearborn will be hosting the 2012 D9 Spring Conference in Bay City. Flyers highlighting the conference venue were handed out. The hospitality theme for the conference is "Hollywood." Squadrons are encouraged to pick something from the movies that were released in the year the squadron was chartered. The Saturday night entertainment will be a bit different this year. A show at the local planetarium is being booked.

**Educational Cruise**

**D/C Mary Ann Jensen, N**

In past years we have shared the revenue from the Educational Cruise with the Coast Guard and the Coast Guard Auxiliary. Half was given to Coast Guard for their Crew Morale Fund, with the remainder split between D9 and the Coast Guard Auxiliary.

Although we have a budget line item for educational cruise income and a line item for educational cruise expense, we have no line item for sharing the net revenue. This year we collected \$2170.00, with expenses of \$401.03, leaving net revenue of \$1768.97. The District Commander proposed turning over \$880 to the Coast Guard, \$440 to the Auxiliary, and the balance would be retained by District 9. This would require that a recommendation be forwarded to the Budget Committee for a Committee recommendation to Conference.

Motion – it was moved and seconded that a recommendation be forwarded to the Budget Committee that \$880.00 of the net proceeds from the Educational Cruise be turned over to the Coast Guard's Crew Morale Fund, and that \$440.00 of the net proceeds be turned over to the Coast Guard Auxiliary. Following discussion, the motion carried.

## DEPARTMENT REPORTS

### **Treasurer's Department**

**D/Lt/C Dawn L. Flynn, JN**

The Treasurer's report was distributed in the seat packet. A copy is included in the 2011 Fall Council report. We currently have available funds of \$87,441.84 split between our three accounts. All of our accounts balance with the bank's records. Our Income through end of Sept is \$97,405.00, mostly from squadron assessments. Expenses are about 52% of budget, and we're about halfway through year, so we're on target.

### **Secretary's Department**

**D/Lt/C H. Jay Stevens, SN**

The Secretary's Department report was distributed in the seat packet. A copy is included in the 2011 Fall Council report. We have two staff changes in the works. Our *Interlaker* Editor has resigned, and our Webmaster has advised he will not be able to continue as webmaster. D/Lt Julian S. Fiander, JN, will be taking over the Webmaster position. We are currently seeking a replacement for the Interlaker Editor position.

### **Administrative Department**

**D/Lt/C William A. Stano, JN**

The Administrative Officer's report was distributed in the seat packet. A copy is included in the 2011 Fall Council report.

Ops Training – National has revised the Ops Training manual. Among the revisions are revisions to the job descriptions

Doing it Right Award – Squadrons should download the criteria from the Doing it Right Award from National web page. It's a good way to help squadrons look at strengths and weaknesses.

Member Benefits – Squadron members should be encouraged to check the member benefits page. There are a number of new benefits available to members and squadrons.

### **Education Department**

**D/1<sup>st</sup>/Lt Duane Carlson, SN**

The Education Department report was distributed in the seat packet. A copy is included in the 2011 Fall Council report.

BOC – We have made a request to have the USPS BOC boat at the governing board in September. Any squadron that wants to do BOC certifications should contact Stf/C Denise Samu, AP.

### **Executive Department**

**D/Lt/C Linda J. LaLonde, P**

The Executive Department report was distributed in the seat packet. A copy is included in the Fall Council report.

**Executive Department Report (contd.)**

Merit Marks – Squadron commander merit mark information should be submitted to the District Commander as soon as possible.

Vessel Safety Check PFD Report – The Vessel Safety Check chairs need to send the report on the number of USCG PFDs in the squadron's custody as soon as possible. This is a required annual report.

**Commander's Department Report**

**D/C Mary Ann Jensen, N**

The District Commander's Department report was distributed in the seat packet. A copy is included in the 2011 Fall Council report.

Governing Board representation – Every squadron is member of the Governing Board and has representation. If a squadron commander will not be attending the Governing Board, the commander can give a proxy to another member of the squadron attending, or to the District Commander. Thirteen squadrons did not give proxies to anyone for last Governing Board. National will accept an email proxy. It does not have to be on the form provided. If you are not attending, please send proxies.

**Unfinished Business**

**D/C Mary Ann Jensen, N**

Chet Dunbar will not be at Conference. Bill Stano will be responsible for transporting the equipment. We will need someone to handle equipment and set it up.

**New Business and Resolutions**

**D/C Mary Ann Jensen, N**

No new business or resolutions received.

Annual Non-Profit Organization Report – P/D/C James R. Leonard, SN, reported that as a non-profit organization, we are required to file an update to the state of Michigan. That update has been filed.

**For the Good of the District**

**D/C Mary Ann Jensen, N**

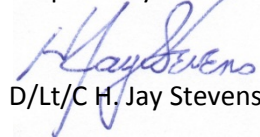
The District Commander asked for any items for the good of the district. In response to a question from the floor about access to District DB2000 information, the District Commander advised that the user password for the District can be distributed to USPS members. The District Commander will send out the D9 user password to all squadron commanders.

**Adjournment**

**D/C Mary Ann Jensen, N**

The meeting was adjourned at 1125.

Respectfully submitted,



D/Lt/C H. Jay Stevens, SN