

MINUTES  
NATIONAL SECURITY COMMISSION  
MEETING OF  
OCTOBER 5, 2024, at 1:00 P.M.  
Department Headquarters-Library

1. Call to Order 1:00 P.M.  
Chairman Buxton opened the meeting of the Department National Security Commission at 1:00 P.M.
2. Salute to the Colors  
The Colors were saluted.
3. Invocation by Tom Leach, 11<sup>th</sup> District Chairman.
4. Pledge of Allegiance  
Chairman Buxton led those present in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.
5. Roll Call: Christie White, Americanism and Children & Youth Coordinator

**Members present:**

Mike Kennedy, 1<sup>st</sup> District Chairman- PRESENT  
John Randolph, 2<sup>nd</sup> District Chairman- NOT PRESENT  
Bob Weiler, 3<sup>rd</sup> District Chairman- PRESENT  
Al Buxton, Department Chairman- PRESENT  
Ty Bowers, 5<sup>th</sup> District Chairman- PRESENT  
William Little, 6<sup>th</sup> District Chairman- PRESENT  
7<sup>th</sup> District Chairman- VACANT  
Donald Capps, 8<sup>th</sup> District Chairman- NOT PRESENT  
Samuel Swoger, 9<sup>th</sup> District Chairman- NOT PRESENT  
Douglas Russell, 10<sup>th</sup> District Chairman- PRESENT  
Tom Leach, 11<sup>th</sup> District Chairman- PRESENT  
Bernie Brogan, 12<sup>th</sup> District Chairman- PRESENT  
Richard Wright, 13<sup>th</sup> District Chairman- PRESENT  
Patrick Holland, 14<sup>th</sup> District Chairman- PRESENT

**Guests Present:**

Christie White, Americanism and Children & Youth Coordinator

6. Reading of Previous Minutes

Tom Leach, 11<sup>th</sup> District Chairman moved, seconded by Mike Kennedy, 1<sup>st</sup> District Chairman to approve the minutes of the last meeting.

**MOTION PASSED**

7. District Reports  
1-Working on membership. 1<sup>st</sup> district conference is tomorrow.  
2- Not present.

- 3- 4<sup>th</sup> Place in Membership.
- 4- doing alright. Fall Conference is next weekend.
- 5- No report. Fall Conference is next weekend.
- 6- District Conference is tomorrow. District Commander had a baby.
- 7- VACANT
- 8- Not present.
- 9- Not present.
- 10- District Conference is in 2 weeks. Having a hard time getting district to submit for the of the year awards.
- 11-District Meeting is tomorrow. POW/MIA monument was dedicated in Marietta on POW/MIA Day, September 20<sup>th</sup>. Jessica Lynch was present.
- 12- District is in 1<sup>st</sup> Place for Membership. His Post Queen of Hearts drawing is up to \$120,000 so that is a good way to grow membership.
- 13- District lost a member that was 106 years old and an 80-year member. District is also having a hard time getting submissions for the of the year awards.
- 14- Doing ok. Working on membership.

8. Unfinished Business

- a. Ralph Doll Award Information- Chairman Buxton still has no information on who Ralph Doll was. The Resolution will still be tabled until the Commission finds out more information. If the Commission is not able to find out who he is, they will probably end up changes the name of the award.

Ty Bowers, 5<sup>th</sup> District Chairman motioned, seconded by Richard Wright, 13<sup>th</sup> District Chairman to table the Resolution until next meeting.

**MOTION PASSED**

The tabled Resolution is as follows.

The American Legion  
Department of Ohio  
Held on July 12-14, 2024

Resolution 01-24: Establishment of the National Ralph Doll Award  
Origin: American Legion Department of Ohio  
Submitted by: National Security Commission  
WHEREAS, The American Legion Department of Ohio has established the Ralph Doll award; and  
WHEREAS, It is given to the Post with the best energy and conservation program in Ohio; and  
WHEREAS, It is a program that National should urge all Departments to have in place which supports energy and conservation; and  
WHEREAS, The Department of Ohio has program which can be used for a pilot program in place for other Departments to use for their program; and  
WHEREAS, We would assist any Department of the American Legion to begin a great program as this which helps the planet; Now be it  
RESOLVED, By the American Legion Department of Ohio in regular session assembled in Independence, Ohio on July 12-14, 2024 that National establish the Ralph Doll Award; be it further  
RESOLVED, That the Ralph Doll Award be given at National Convention to the Post with the best energy and conservation program throughout all Departments.

b. CPR Awards Packet

Bob Weiler, 3<sup>rd</sup> District Chairman moved, seconded by Douglas Russell, 10<sup>th</sup> District Chairman to approve the National Security Sections of the CPR Packets as well as adding the Ralph Doll Environmental Award criteria.

**MOTION PASSED**

9. New Business

a. 911 Dispatcher of the Year Resolution

RESOLUTION No.: 24-02

ORIGIN: Department of Ohio National Security Commission

SUBJECT: Creation of a Department 911 Dispatcher of the Year Award

---

WHEREAS The Preamble of the Constitution of The American Legion includes as one of the objectives "...to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state, and nation,"; and

WHEREAS, The American Legion has always strived to be active and supportive in the local communities; and

WHEREAS, The Department Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Award is a fitting support and recognition of 'America's Finest,' the Department Fire Fighter of the Year Award is a fitting support and recognition of 'America's Bravest,' and a Department Civilian Life Saver of the Year Award is a fitting recognition of 'America's Boldest;' and

WHEREAS, a department 911 Dispatcher of the Year award would be fitting recognition of 'America's Calmest'; and

WHEREAS, the National Security Commission commits to finance the award from the sale of pins; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the Department Executive Committee of The American Legion Department of Ohio in regular meeting assembled in Delaware, Ohio, on December 7, 2024, hereby establishes The American Legion Department of Ohio 911 Dispatcher of the Year Award.

Doug Russell, 10<sup>th</sup> District Chairman motioned, seconded by Richard Wright, 13<sup>th</sup> District Chairman to approve the Resolution.

Discussion was had.

Bob Weiler, 3<sup>rd</sup> District Chairman motioned, seconded by Richard Wright, 13<sup>th</sup> District Chairman to modify the motion to amend the resolution to say.

RESOLUTION No.: 24-02

ORIGIN: Department of Ohio National Security Commission

SUBJECT: Creation of a Department 911 Dispatcher of the Year Award

---

WHEREAS The Preamble of the Constitution of The American Legion includes as one of the objectives "...to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state, and nation,"; and

WHEREAS, The American Legion has always strived to be active and supportive in the local communities; and

WHEREAS, The Department Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Award is a fitting support and recognition of 'America's Finest,' the Department Fire Fighter of the Year Award is a fitting support and recognition of 'America's Bravest,' and a Department Civilian Life Saver of the Year Award is a fitting recognition of 'America's Boldest;' and

WHEREAS, a department 911 Dispatcher of the Year award would be fitting recognition of 'America's Calmest'; and

WHEREAS, the National Security Commission commits to finance the award from their budget; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the Department Executive Committee of The American Legion Department of Ohio in regular meeting assembled in Delaware, Ohio, on December 7, 2024, hereby establishes The American Legion Department of Ohio 911 Dispatcher of the Year Award.

## **MOTION PASSED**

- b. Law Officer of the year
  - i. D1- Captain Matthew Krill
  - ii. D2- Chief Ryan Burkholder
  - iii. D3- Officer Seth Victor
  - iv. D4- Detective Tara Smith
  - v. D11- Trooper David Handschumcher

Bob Weiler, 3<sup>rd</sup> District Chairman motioned, seconded by Douglas Russell, 10<sup>th</sup> District Chairman to allow the entire Commission to vote on the of the Year Awards, but each District cannot vote for their own submission.

## **MOTION PASSED**

The Commission discussed all the law officer of the year applications.

D1- Abstain  
D3- D11  
D4- Abstain  
D5- D11  
D6- D11  
D10- D11  
D11- Abstain  
D12- D11  
D13- D11  
D14- D11

William Little, 6<sup>th</sup> District Chairman motioned, seconded by Ty Bowers, 5<sup>th</sup> District Chairman to accept David Handschumacher as the Law Officer of the Year.

## **MOTION PASSED**

- c. Firefighter of the Year
  - i. D4- Daric Homan

Douglas Russell, 10<sup>th</sup> District Chairman motioned, seconded by Bob Weiler, 3<sup>rd</sup> District Chairman to accept Daric Homan as the Firefighter of the Year.

**MOTION PASSED**

- d. Civilian Lifesaver of the Year Award
  - i. Akelius- Lotoya-Chayce

Mike Kennedy, 1<sup>st</sup> District Chairman motioned, seconded by William Little, 6<sup>th</sup> District Chairman to accept Akelius, Lotoya and Chayce as the Civilian Lifesavers of the Year.

**MOTION PASSED**

10. Good of the Legion- Christie White, Department Americanism and Children & Youth Coordinator notified the Commission that they will be having a new Coordinator starting on Monday.

11. Benediction. Benediction was given by Tom Leach, 11<sup>th</sup> District Chairman

12. Adjourned. Meeting adjourned at 2:27 P.M.