

**Minutes of the  
DEPARTMENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE Meeting  
May 18, 2021**

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m.

**MOTION** by Barbara Nath (Unit 20) and seconded by Sue Caswell (Unit 35) to dispense with all opening ceremonies.

The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

**ROLL CALL**

**PRESENT:**

*NATIONAL OFFICERS*

National Executive Committee Member Penny Mazonna  
Alternate National Executive Committee Member Sue Diaz

*OFFICERS*

President Jane Larson  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Anarene Robinson  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President April Sinclair  
Secretary Barbara Nath  
Treasurer Diana Estrada  
Sgt.-at-Arms Lori Fruhwirth  
Chaplain Colleen Newman  
Historian April Sinclair

*STANDING COMMITTEES*

Alaska Girls State Lori Fruhwirth  
Audit Sue Diaz  
Children and Youth April Sinclair  
Community Service Debbie Ervin  
Constitution and ByLaws Sue Diaz  
Distinguished Guests Penny Mazonna  
History April Sinclair  
Leadership Sue Caswell  
Legislative Penny Mazonna  
Membership Anarene Robinson  
Poppy Marge Blankenship  
Public Relations Beverly Eads  
Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation April Sinclair

**ROLL CALL (continued)**

**PRESENT:**

*UNITS*

Jack Henry Unit 1  
Dorman H. Baker Unit 11  
George H. Plumley Memorial Unit 20  
Peters Creek Unit 33  
Susitna Valley Unit 35  
C. Russell Huber Unit 57

*PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENTS*

Marge Blankenship  
Susan Caswell  
Sue Diaz  
Penny Mazonna  
Sue Waldhaus  
Lisa Williamson

**EXCUSED**

*STANDING COMMITTEES*

Americanism Kathy Moore

*PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENTS*

Linda Schmitt            Barbe Wolkoff

**ABSENT:**

*OFFICERS*

Executive Committee Member Frances Bedel  
Executive Committee Member Zona Gregg

*STANDING COMMITTEES*

Auxiliary Emergency Fund Zona Gregg  
Education and Scholarship Lisa Boyles  
Finance Debbie Lowndes  
Junior Activities Margaret Clausen-Grimm  
National Security Frances Bedel  
Past Presidents Parley Debbie Lowndes  
Public Relations Beverly Eads

## **ROLL CALL (continued)**

### **ABSENT:**

#### *UNITS*

Joseph T. Craig Unit 3  
Seward Unit 5  
Merlin Elmer Palmer Unit 6  
Lynn Canal Unit 12  
Sitka Unit 13  
Matanuska Valley Unit 15  
General Bucker Unit 16  
Robert G. Blair Unit 17  
Ninilchik Unit 18  
Spenard Unit 28  
Muldoon Unit 29  
Con Miller Unit 30  
Chappie James Unit 34  
Gladys M. Heintz Memorial Unit 27  
Peter Heyano Unit 442

#### *PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENTS*

Ruth Brown	Betty Bumala	Laverne Kearns
Evelyn Oliver	June Haas	Lori FitzSimons
Betty Porter	Lavonne Collier	Eva Aulston
Jean Clayton	Etta Singleton	Carolyn Null
Wilma Stokes	Rehta Foster	Jean Shandy
Jill Pawson	Francisca Guilford	Lynn Bash
Beverly Eads	Sharon Cherrette	Debbie Lowndes

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

There was no Unfinished Business to come before this meeting.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Alaska Girls State Director Lori Fruhwirth explained that there were concerns with the ability to hold the 2021 Alaska Girls State. While at this time, there were enough applicants, many of those were from Ketchikan. Ketchikan is experiencing a rise in the number of Covid-19 cases. If the community was locked down before Alaska Girls State, or if applicants tested positive for Covid-19, we would not be able to hold the 2021 Alaska Girls State. The Board of Directors had approved adopting our applicants out to programs in other states. Lori has contacted a number of states and two of them (Nevada and Hawaii) had indicated the possibility of having the applicants attend their virtual Girls State.

It was reported that they will still be eligible to apply for the Samsung Scholarship, as well as Alaska's scholarships. In addition, they can be elected to Girls Nation.

**MOTION:** by Penny Mazonna (Unit 35) and seconded by Diana Estrada (Unit 35) to approved adopting the Girls State applicants out to other states regardless of location.

The applicants will not be flying to their adopted states, but will instead join their virtual meetings.

Alaska will staying be paying fees, however it is significantly less at approximately \$50 to \$150 per person. We will be saving approximately \$500 per person as we will have not airline travel costs.

Lisa Williamson (Unit 57) recommended that we make every attempt to have the adoptive state be within the Western Division.

The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the DEC, the meeting was adjourned at 6:20 p.m.