

MINUTES

TEXAS FEDERATION EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

Sep 16, 2019

Electronic “Go To Meeting”

The original pages of these minutes, other meeting documents including the printed agenda, notes and other materials that were distributed for this meeting; written reports, etc. are available for review in the Office of Federation Secretary, 9211 Standing Creek Lane, San Antonio, Texas, 78230-4040. (Note: Distribution of these minutes may not include all stated attachments as some may have been previously furnished.

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TEXAS FEDERATION EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
Electronic “Go To Meeting”
SEP 16, 2019

1. President John Creswell called the meeting to order at 1:38 pm.
Executive Board Members present were John Creswell, Charles Graffam, Jim Ploen, Fran Hiner, Dora Benavides, Bob Cooper, Rudy Carr, Johnny Ortiz, and James Bowlin. Also in attendance were Dorothy Creswell (GoToMeeting Organizer) and Marshall Richards (Region VI VP) joined us around 3:00 pm.
(Note: Meeting is being recorded for the secretary to prepare minutes at a later date.)
2. **Secretary: Approval of Minutes of April 24th EBM.** No corrections offered. Minutes stand approved as written. Approval of Minutes (Electronic) 18 June 2019. No changes offered. Minutes stand approved as written.
3. **Welcome to our new North AVP Larry Bowlin.** Hi thanked everyone for welcoming him. Larry then gave us history of his employment history.
4. **Officer Reports:**
 - **EVP Charles Graffam:** _negative report
 - **NE AVP Johnny Ortiz:** One new DR Judith Cuthbertson. We have 13 Chapters in NE.Area. Chapter Collin County 559 & 654 Paris at risk of merger or closure.
 - **SAVP Dora Benavides:** We have one new DR Carol Wetz (replacing Dorothy Creswell). Mid-Valley-Harlingen & Brownsville merged this summer). Chapter 91 is electing officers this year. We have 6 chapters in Dist 12 and Dist 14 has 3 chapters. Dorothy Creswell has developed relationships with USPS Education Svcs Center and Alamo Federation Executives which has resulted in great recruitment opportunities.
 - **WAVP Bob Cooper:** Bob now has internet. DR11 Connie Neely has agreed to continue. We now have four chapters in the West Area – two in El Paso, Midland, and Amarillo.
 - **SEAVP Rudy Carr:** Thanked new Waco Chapter President Bradford for keeping WACO from becoming a statistic. FAA only offered Q&A session at end of their event. Don’t think it’s worth our time and effort when we get only one or two M2’s.
 - **Secretary** – updated TF-10 & mail to all recipients. Bylaws still pending signature of National Secretary. F7 updated to add NAVP & Nominating Committee Chair. Keep getting calls from people referred to me by Lackland. Don’t feel this should continue as I don’t think I’m a “Federal Benefits Expert.” I’ve found a great location for 2021 TX CONFERENCE.
5. **Current TFR Status – Jim Ploen:**
 - **Verbal contract with Whitney Publishing (our free publisher has discontinued publishing after current issue).** Changes will be in effect Jan 2020 with 1st bill from Whitney publishing.
 - Discussion previously tabled motion to increase per capita dues to increase from \$2 to \$4. Additional detailed discussion on options other than increasing per capita dues. Conclusion: there are funds that have been budgeted that will not

be used and can be used to cover most of the cost of the TFR for the rest of the budget year.

- **MOTION:** To increase the per capita dues from \$2 per month per member starting Jan 1. Vote by attendees: **Motion rejected.**
- **MOTION:** Jim Ploen moved that the Federation replace the salaried position of Federation Editor with an appointed position of “TFR Coordinator” starting January 1, 2020. The new coordinator position be paid at the rate of \$75 per published TFR issue (\$300 per year, \$450 for the 2019-2021 budget cycle. Seconded. Discussion followed. Vote by attendees: **Motion passed.**
- **MOTION:** Jim Ploen move that the Treasurer add an amount of \$10,500 to line 24, TFR, in the 2019-2021. Seconded: Discussion followed. Vote by attendees: **Motion passed.**
- **MOTION:** Jim Ploen moved that the Treasurer adjust the approved 2019-2021 Federation Budget to reflect the motions approved today by the Executive Board. Seconded. Vote by members: **Motion passed.**
- **MOTION:** Jim moved that the Federation Per Capita Dues payment terms be changed to total payment is due within 90 days after the date of the Dues statement.” Seconded: Vote by members: **Motion passed.**

John Creswell REMINDER: 4th of October absolute deadline for input for TFR.

6. TX 2021 Conference Location & Date Update (Fran Hiner):

- Previously we had selected La Quinta at the Medical Center, 7 – 9 Apr 2021.
- **New Location: Airport Hilton - 12 – 14th April 2021**
- **Room Rates: \$114 per night (+ taxes & fees)** includes breakfast for two (to be setup in meeting room so attendees don’t have to contend with other diners).
- **Room Amenities:** King or Two Double Beds, Fridge, Coffee Maker, Microwave, free WI FI, a safe and free covered parking. (The need for 4 – 5 ADA rooms has been annotated.)
- **Reservation Deadline: March 26th 2021.** Call and specify **NARFE Conference.**
- **Meals scheduled are:** Breakfast, light lunch and Plated Dinner for March 13th and Breakfast on March 14th.
- **Three days before & after – same rate if people wish to stay for Fiesta.**

7. Assignment of responsibility for maintaining I-9 Homeland Security Employment Eligibility Verification Form. Forms will be required for James Ploen and Frances Hiner and they will be maintained by our Treasurer, James Ploen.

8. Region VI Vice President Marshall Richards: Marshall reported on Region VI Membership as of Sep 14, 2019: Total membership for Region VI, 14,926. 40% are National only members (6,063). Percentage of National Only members has increased 10% over the last 2 years. Since Aug 2017, Region VI membership has declined by 1,759 – 10.54% and there are 103 chapters. Texas has 4,415 Chapter Members and 3,795 National Only Members. Total Membership 8210.

AMS has problems. NARFE has hired a consultant to help NARFE explain to ProTech (the vendor) what the system needs to do. Marshall submitted his top 6 items of importance to the Region Federations. Be patient – we WILL get this fixed.

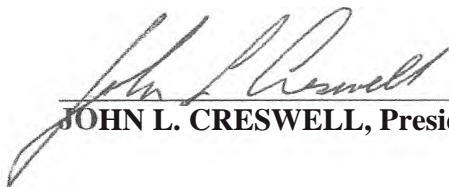
9. **James Ploen Treasurer:** reported that he received Treasury books and absolutely no instructions or guidance. He has just prepared and published a guide entitled "Federation Treasurer's Reports & Procedures." It has been posted on a web page for viewing. Printed copies will be provided to the Treasurer, President, Executive VP, Secretary and Auditor.

10. **AMS — Dorothy Creswell:** Four months after roll-out, HQ asked for input from the field. Access is a BIG problem.
Login MUST be your email and a secure password.
They have fixed A FEW things — identified Key Officers (Chapter & Federation President, Secretary, Secretary/Treasurer, Membership Chair, Federation Executive VP, Chapter P^t VP).
Activity Reports — they have no reports. Only the W101 is current. Download the chapter lists using Excel and work with the data to help you accomplish reports. There is a "test data base" finally where they are doing testing before releasing future updates.
It is your responsibility to report loss of access rights. Send an email to HQ IT it@anarfc.ortz . Be sure to send a copy to Dorothy Creswell creswell@sbglobal.net. We've asked for improvements on screen displays.
Basically, you must use Excel and download data for good reports. (Everything is default to "portrait" for print and display.)
Only recently did in-house IT Staff get access to help fix problems. They are working LONG hours and PROTEC is still plodding along.
MARSHALL reported that PROTEC has an "incentive now" — they will get no more money until they get it right.
MARSHALL reported they have hired an expert to oversee things and hopefully get things going in the right direction.

11. **Next Executive Board Meeting:** at Airport Hilton for April 21, 2020, 1:30 — 5:00.
Members who must come in the day before, and your stay will be at the cost negotiated for the conference (\$114 per night).

12. Marshall reminded us to vote on National Bylaw changes before end of month.

13. Meeting Adjourned: 4:30 pm.


JOHN L. CRESWELL, President


FRANCES HINER, Secretary