

# **NATIONAL COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION MEETING**

**Springfield, Illinois**

**April 12, 2026**

## **Lincoln Death Day Minutes**

Call to Order – Commander in Chief Kevin Tucker at 8:01pm

Invocation – National Chaplain, Dexter Bishop

Pledge of Allegiance – Daryl VerStreate, National Quartermaster

Opening Comments, Commander in Chief, Kevin Tucker

Roll Call of Officers - James Crane, National Secretary

- Commander in Chief, Kevin Tucker - Present
- Senior Vice Commander in Chief, Daniel Murray - Present
- Junior Vice Commander in Chief, Robert Rob Payne - Present
- Michael Beard, National Treasurer - Present
- James Crane, National Secretary - Present
- Daryl VerStreate, National Quartermaster - Present
- PCinC Kevin Martin, Council Member - Present
- Shane Milburn, Council Member - Present
- Gary Gibson, Council Member – Absent, Excused
- David Hann, Council Member – Absent, Excused
- Robert Amsler, Council Member - Present
- Roderick Fraser, Council Member – Present

Non – Voting Members Present

PCinC & Banner Editor - Jim Pahl

Signals Officer - Jamie McGuire

## Appointed Officers and Guests

Ed Norris – National Counselor

Dexter Bishop – National Chaplain

Bobby Welch – Ass't Quartermaster

David Rish – Department Commander, Ohio

John Huffman, Jr. – Past Department Commander, Ohio

1. Approval of Minutes, Gettysburg, Pa. November 16, 2025  
Action : **Motion** by Council Member Fraser to add the Reports Packet to the Minutes. **Vote: Passed**
2. Recommendations to the CofA from the Reports Packet
  1. **Recommendation from the National Patriotic Instructor**
    - a) RECOMMEND that the NPI is no longer the Chairman of the Memorial University or in charge of the Memorial Certificates and pins. The issuance and presentations of the Memorial University certificates and pins should be accomplished by the Memorial University Committee. **Action: C&R Cmte.**
    - b) RECOMMEND the NPI has permission and given access to post on National Social Media sites. Action: **Failed – Only Social Media Chair & Signals Officer**
  2. **Recommendations from the Executive Director**
    - a) RECOMMEND on Form 22, to INCLUDE the following phrase “Attach Camp Roster to this report to the top of page 1 heading. **Action : P&P Cmte.**
    - b) RECOMMEND the appropriate committee consider enforcement of the international postage fee as indicated on Form 35. **Action : P&P Cmte.**
1. BROTHERS SUBJECT TO INTERNATIONAL MAILING ADDRESS SURCHARGE
2. Amount of Surcharge for International Mailing address
3. Multiply Line 43 times Line 44. This is the surcharge due.
4. **Currently mailing of the Banner to Canadian personnel the postage is \$5.75 each issue or \$23.00 annually; likewise the postage for personnel around the globe is \$8.75 each issue or \$35.00 per year.**
5. Current fee of \$5 does not begin to cover \$23 or \$35. We have had a least 3 semi-successful campaigns to offer the Banner electronically, however, there are still 20 mailings to Canada and overseas.

6. From the CC&R: The Banner may be delivered in electronic format to Brothers living outside the United States upon their request. Brothers of International Camps may be required to pay an additional fee for mailing the Banner. (CinC Martin, GO # 8, 136<sup>th</sup>, 379).
7. **Select a more appropriate fee other than the current \$5.00 for such personnel and enforcement procedures.**

### **3. Recommendations for the National Committee on Life Membership**

#### **Investment:**

- a) The Life Membership Investment Committee be deleted from the list of standing committees with the following change to the CC& R: **Action: C&R Cmte.**
- b) Article X Standing Committees Section 1. The Standing Committees of the National Organization shall be as follows: Program & Policy, Civil War Memorials and Monuments, Communication & Technology, Constitution & Regulations, Encampment Credentials, Encampment Site, Fraternal Relations, GAR Post Records, Graves Registration, History, Life Membership Investment, Lincoln Tomb Observance, Membership, Military Affairs, Civil War Memorial Grant Fund, and Ebay. **Action: C&R Cmte.**

### **4. Recommendation from the Department of New York**

- a) The Department of New York recommends National look into maximizing our Forms to be sent digitally. **Action: Failed, Sent to Communication & Technology Cmte.**

For example, the Camps are sending their Form 27's digitally and the checks by mail with a hard copy and Department the same. We are asking National to develop a procedure where we eliminate mailing Forms and send via email and those Forms requiring money, there is a method to send electronically to National. We are looking into how we can do the same between the Camps and the Department. This will save on paper, envelopes, and postage.

### **5. Recommendations from the National Committee on Graves Registration:**

- a) Because the Graves Registration Management System (GRMS) project is significantly behind schedule the frequent unavailability of the selected RFP bidder, the Committee strongly presents two options for your consideration:
  - i. That a search be undertaken immediately to find an SUVCW Brother/Volunteer with the skills and dedication to complete the Graves Registration upgrade if necessary and to maintain it in the future.
  - ii. That additional funding be made available to vet and contract a freelance developer:

- a) Initial engagement to scope the remaining work and develop a price
- b) Based on budget approval to engage then to complete the project.

**Action: Council Member Amsler to review and advise**

**6. Recommendations from Council Member Shane Milburn**

- a) Recommendation # 1: Let the voting members consider and debate the Motions. Following the Discussion, non-voting Members of the Council of Administration can offer input before a vote is taken. **No action taken**
- b) Recommendation # 2 : Until we have a funding mechanism to pay for refreshments and snacks at the Civil war ball in Gettysburg, stop including them. **Action: Deferred to # 9 Recommendation**

**7. Recommendation of Brother Bobby Welch**

- a) Adoption of a revised rendition of the SUVCW Coat of Arms as Official image replacing the current version. Action: **Motion** by Council Member Fraser to replace the logo and Coat of Arms of the order: **Passed**

**8. ROTC Awards Process**

- a) Issues with distribution of previous Awards
- b) Discussion of revised distribution process and potential updates
- c) Failure to implement revised process
- d) Resignation of Ken Jacobsen and appointment of Brother Roger Leturno
- e) Currently out of Medals and certificates
- f) Cost of continued issues with distribution
- g) Presenter: CinC Tucker & QM Daryl VersStreate. **Action: None taken**

**9. Original Civil War Ball**

- a) Status update
- b) Discussion on new Committee for Remembrance Day
- c) Presenter, CinC Tucker

**Action: None taken**

**10. Henry Rifle ordering Process**

- a) Allied orders discount  
**Action : Motion** made by Council Member Fraser that the discount code be available to the members of Allied Orders. **Motion failed.**  
**Henry Rifle Motion** – The Brother seeking to purchase the rifle must contact the National Special Committee on Fundraising to request a discount code and pledges on his honor as a member of the Sons not to

disclose the special code to anyone. The Committee will verify that the Brother is in good standing, by either consulting the Executive Director or by referencing a current membership list. Upon completion of these steps, the Committee will issue the discount code to the Brother. The Brother may purchase more than one rifle. **Motion: Passed**

### **P&P Recommendations**

- a) Review and approval of updated forms 40, 41, & 42 Action: **Passed**
- b) Job Descriptions Action: **C&R Cmte.**
- c) Licensing application Form Action: **return to P&P Cmte**
- d) Spirit of Fraternity Award

### **11. GAR building in Ohio**

- a) Discussion on the proposed location of the H.G. Frost No. 142 building by the Townsend Camp NO. 108
- b) Review of historical documentation regarding ownership  
**Action: Motion** by Council Member Fraser to approve having the Townsend Camp # 108 in Ohio to proceed with the move. **Action: Passed**

### **12. Memorial Day Parade \_ Washington D.C.**

- a) Jay Cribbs
- b) Special message # 13
- c) Planning and participation updates
- d) Presenter: CinC Tucker **Action: None taken**

### **13. President Ulysses S. Grants 204<sup>th</sup> Birthday observance, New York city**

- a) Sunday, April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2026
- b) Need for a CinC Representative – **Council Member Amsler to attend**

### **14. Installing Officer needed (CinC) Representative**

- a) Iowa Encampment April 25, 2026 – **Bobby Welch to attend**

### **15. Memorial Day at Arlington**

- a) CinC on May 25
- b) PCinC Martin on May 30
- c) GAR Memorial?? **No action taken**

### **16. Discussion by Bobby Welch & QM VerStreate**

- a) Discussion on cost of Charters increase fee to \$50.00 Action: **C&R Cmte.**

### **17. Recommendation from National Special Cmte. on Headquarters Planning**

Recommendation : This Special Committee should be made a Standing Committee, as there will always be a need for the fine tuning and continued stabilization of the SUVCW National headquarters and its future. **Action : Sent to the C&R Cmte.**

**18. Any other New Business**

- Council Member Amsler requested that there be an accounting of the Remembrance Day funds of the SVR. **No action taken**

**19. Good of the Order**

- Secretary Crane announced that the department of Indiana is filing an application for a new Camp. Also states that new Camp in Ohio has been signed by the CinC, and that he hopes to have a few more by the National Encampment

**20. Benediction – Dexter Bishop, National Chaplain**

**21. 20 Adjournment by CinC Tucker at 10:10pm**

**Attested:**

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "James T. Crane".

**James T. Crane**

**National Secretary**

**Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War**