

# STAR OF THE NORTH CHAPTER

## United States Army Warrant Officers Association



### MINUTES MONTHLY CHAPTER MEETING

February 27, 2017  
American Legion, Post #435  
Richfield, MN



1. The meeting was brought to order by Ms. Podratz, President at 18:01 hours at the American Legion Post #435 in Richfield, Minnesota. Ms. Podratz led the members in the Pledge of Allegiance and confirmed that a quorum was available to conduct business. There were eight (8) members present, in order to conduct business, at least five (5) members need to be present or available by proxy.

2. The following members were in attendance:

CW4 Tina Podratz	President
CW2 David Bendickson	Vice President
CW4 Brent Jensen	Treasurer
CW2 Jessica Campbell	Secretary
CW5R Marilyn Anderson	Member
CW4(R) Robert Gunderson	Member
CW2(R) David Nelson	Member
WO1 Eric Gustafson	Member

3. Chapter Secretary's Report:

a. The minutes from the January meeting were reviewed and approved. A motion was made by Mr. Bendickson and seconded by Mr. Gunderson to approve the minutes as written. No one being opposed, the minutes were approved.

4. Chapter Treasurer's Report:

- a. Balance in checking/savings accounts as of 27 February 2017 Financial Statement: \$778.18
- b. The financial statement was reviewed. Ms. Podratz tabled the approval of the February Financial Statement to March.

5. Announcements:

- a. Ms. Podratz welcomed Eric Gustafson, a new member to USAWOA. He served on active duty for 10 years and has been in the Army Reserves for the last three or so years. He recently became a warrant officer and currently drills with a unit at Ft. McCoy.

- b. Ms. Podratz reminded the group that last month Mr. Nesheim had notified the group that the Star of the North Chapter was presented with its 15-year active membership ribbon for the chapter flag.

6. Reports of Officers:

- a. Membership:
  - a. Ms. Campbell reported there was one member loss in the last month. This was a member in Minnesota at large and not a chapter member. However, there were two gains to the chapter.

7. Unfinished Business:

- a. Mr Fridlund was not present and therefore, no update on the bean toss boards fundraiser was given. However, the group discussed possibly making the boards on a Saturday meeting. Mr. Fridlund returns after May 2<sup>nd</sup> and we hope to continue discussing our options then.
- b. NGAMN State Conference:
  - a. Mr. Jensen provided an update on the conference for the group and highly encouraged attendance.
- c. A motion was made and approved to move to quarterly meetings and/or events for future years of the Chapter's existence. The tentative schedule is as follows:
  - a. One meeting and one event per quarter.
  - b. The rest of the calendar year looks as follows:
    - January - March: Veteran's StandDown Event (January) and a host meeting (March)
    - April - June: Volunteer to serve meals at the Ronald McDonald House (May) and host a meeting before the event (May)
    - July - September: Support the MNARNG WOCS ruck march and host a meeting (July) and support the golf outing at the annual MNARNG WOPD (August)
    - October – December: The USAWOA Annual Meeting of the Members (October), Feed My Starving Children (November), and possibly Toys For Tots (December)

8. New Business:

- a. Volunteering at the Ronald McDonald House:
  - a. Ms. Anderson provided information to the group regarding volunteering at the Ronald McDonald House located at Abbott Northwestern Hospital on May 22<sup>nd</sup>.
  - b. We need 8-10 volunteers to prepare and serve meals for upwards of 100-110 people.
  - c. Our group has to come up with our own menu and purchase the food to make the meal ahead of time.
  - d. The group will decide on a menu at the March chapter meeting.
- b. Recruitment:

- a. The group discussed some recruitment ideas to get more members to attend meetings and events.
- b. Ms. Anderson will look into recruiting members at the Army Reserves at Fort Snelling, MN.
- c. Ms. Podratz will work in making a poster to hang in armories.

9. Next Chapter meetings/events will be:

- a. Monday, March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2017 – American Legion Post #435, Richfield, MN
- b. Monday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2017 – Ronald McDonald House, Abbott Northwestern Hospital,  
Minneapolis, MN
- c. Saturday/Sunday, July 2017 – Camp Ripley Training Center (WOCS Ruck March)

10. There being no additional business at 18:48, a motion was made by Ms. Bendickson, seconded by Mr. Gunderson and unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

*S/ Tina Podratz*  
Tina L. Podratz  
Chapter President

*S/ David Bendickson*  
David Bendickson  
Chapter Vice President