



Department of Missouri  
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War  
www.suvcwmo.org

## Minutes of Department Encampment 7 June 2025

**Open Meeting.** Commander Robert AuBuchon called to order the 30th Department of Missouri Encampment, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War at 10:00 am, Saturday, 7 June 2025 at Best Western, 1680 Fenton Business Park Center, Fenton, Missouri. Kansas Department Commander Kent Melcher gave the invocation. Patriot Instructor Randal Burd led the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Fifteen Brothers in good standing were present, meeting quorum: Commander Robert AuBuchon, SVC Mark Coplin (virtual), JVC Kevin Miller (virtual), Sec-Trea Dale Crandell, Council 1 Gary Scheel, Council 3 Glenn Alsop, PCinC Edward Krieser, PCinC Don Palmer, PDC Walter Busch, PDC Randal Burd, PDC Sumner Hunnewell, Br. Robert Mueller, Br. Ed Millinger, Joe Rainey, and Joe Gallen (virtual).

Guests attending: JVCinC Daniel Murray (National Representative), National Secretary Alan Russ, and Kansas Department Commander Kent Melcher.

2. Commander Robert AuBuchon appointed the encampment committees:
  - a. Officer Recommendations Committee: PCinC Don Palmer and PCinC Ed Krieser.
  - b. Resolutions Committee: PDC Gary Scheel and PDC Randel Burd, Jr.

### Greetings

1. Junior Vice Command-in-Chief Daniel Murray brought greetings from Commander-in-Chief Kevin Martin. He invited brothers to the 2025 Houston National Encampment and 2026 Gettysburg National Encampment.
2. Department Commander Kent Melcher brought greetings from the Department of Kansas. He shared John Hendrick's poem *When the Boys in Blue are Gone*.

**Minutes.** Encampment reviewed the minutes from the Department business meeting on 8 March 2025.

- *Motion by Dale Crandell, seconded by Gary Scheel, to approve the March meeting minutes. Approved.*

### Officer Reports

1. *Commander.* Robert AuBuchon provided a written report with no recommendations.
2. *Senior Vice Commander.* Mark Coplin provided a written report with no recommendations.
3. *Junior Vice Commander.* Kevin Miller provided a written report with no recommendations.

4. *Secretary*. Dale Crandell provided a written report with no recommendations.
5. *Treasurer*. Dale Crandell provided a written report with the 2025-2026 budget under new business.
6. *Assistant Secretary-Treasurer*. Walter Busch provided a written report with no recommendations.
7. *Patriotic Instructor*. Randal Burd had nothing to report.
8. *Chaplain*. Mark Coplin provided a written report with no recommendations.
9. *Quartermaster*. Walter Busch provided a written report with no recommendations.
10. *Grave Registration Officer*. Glen Alsop provided a written report with no recommendations.
11. *Signals Officer*. Walter Busch provided a written report with no recommendations.
12. *Historical Records*. Walter Busch provided a written report with no recommendations.
13. *Unionist Editor*. Randal Burd reported articles due by 24 June 2025 with summer edition out 30 June 2025. Commander asked to nominate the *Missouri Unionist* to for the Hope Award
14. *Eagle Scout*. Sumner Hunnewell provided written report with one recommendation referred to Officer Recommendations Committee.
15. ROTC. Sumner Hunnewell provided a written report with one recommendation referred to Officer Recommendations Committee.
16. *History Awards*. Randal Burd reported withdrawing from Missouri History Day. Committee tasked to provide recommendation on history essay competition by next encampment.

### **Camp Reports**

1. *Fletcher Camp*. Sumner Hunnewell's report included the Louis Volker memorial project.
2. *Grant Camp*. Sumner Hunnewell's report included the Grant Dinner and White Haven tour
3. *Lillie Camp*. Robert AuBuchon's report included the Merrill's Horse regimental flag returning to Missouri.
4. *Phelps Camp*. Dale Crandell's report included the Battle of Newtonia commemoration.
5. *St James Camp*. Provided written report. Bob Mueller spoke on the Perry County last soldier marker.
6. *Tiger Camp*. No report.
7. *Westport Camp*. Kevin Miller's report included the Medal of Honor Commemoration and GAR National Encampment historical marker.

8. *Wilhelmi Camp*. Glen Also's report included the camp's brag board of activities.
9. *McPherson Camp*. Joseph Rainey's report included the GAR cemetery.
10. *Murphy Camp*. Joseph Rainey's report included Little Rock color troops monument.
11. *Tarkington Camp*. Joseph Rainey's reported.
12. *Spradling Camp*. Joseph Rainey's report included JROTC presentations in Fort Smith.

### **Standing Committee Reports**

1. *Bylaws*. Provided a written report with one recommendation to amend the Department Bylaws. Mark Coplin reported committee members: Mark Coplin (chair), Sumner Hunnewell, Randal Burd, and Mark Raney.
  - *Motion by committee to adopt amendment to Bylaws, Article II, Section 1 (draft 4).*
  - *Point of Order by Dale Crandell, that brothers were not given 30 days' notice to draft 4.*
  - *Motion by Mark Coplin, seconded by Dale Crandell, to adopt proposed amendment to Bylaws, Article II, Section 1 (March business meeting draft).*
  - *Motion by Randal Burd, seconded by Glenn Alsop, to table. Approved.*
2. *Awards*. Mark Coplin reported committee members: SVC Mark Coplin (chair), PDC Robert Amsler, PDC Gary Scheel, and PDC Sumner Hunnewell. He announced the 2025 award recipients:
  - a. Meritorious Service Award: Randall Burd; presented with plaque.
  - b. Francis Blair Award: Robert AuBuchon; presented with plaque.
  - c. James Eads Award: Grant Camp, Fletcher Camp, and St. James Camp; each presented with flag streamer.
  - d. Nathaniel Lyons Award: St James Camp; presented with flag streamer.
  - e. Samuel Curtis Award: St James Camp; presented with flag streamer.
3. *Encampment Site*. Walter Busch reported on 2025 Department Encampment. 2026 Department Encamp is in Ste. Genevieve hosted by St. James Camp.

### **Special Committee Reports**

1. *JROTC Selection*. Sumner Hunnewell reported no applicants (yet) for 2026 JROTC Outstanding Cadet competition.
2. *Programs*. Donald Palmer reported committee members: Donald Palmer (chair), Gary Scheel, and Mark Coplin; and committee aids Walter Busch and Dale Crandell. He reported

on Union Victory in Missouri and four events: Pilot Knob, Jefferson City Symposium, Battle of Westport, and Battle of Newtonia.

Camps attending all four events were presented with flag streamer: Fletcher Camp, Phelps Camp, and Grant Camp. Members attending all four events: Don Palmer and Robert AuBuchon.

## **Encampment Committee Reports**

1. *Officer Recommendations.* Committee reported on officer recommendations:

- *JROTC Coordinate recommends splitting the Department's stock of ROTC supplies, 50-50, with the new Department of Arkansas. Committee concurs, approved without objection.*
- *Eagle Scout Coordinate recommends splitting the Department's stock of Eagle Scout supplies, 50-50, with the new Department of Arkansas. Committee concurs, approved without objection.*

2. *Resolutions Committee.* Committee reported on resolutions:

- *Committee motion to adopt the Resolution Supporting Changes to the Constitution and Regulations Concerning the Job Description for Camp, Department, and National Officer. Approved.*
- *Motion by Randal Burd, seconded by Walter Busch, to adopt the Resolution for Organizational Efficiency. Approved.*
- *Committee motion to adopt with changes the Resolution Supporting Rescinding General Order #4 (Series 2024-2025): Council of Administration Meetings – Attendance and Participation. Approved.*
- *Committee motion to adopt Michigan version with changes the Resolution Supporting Changes to the Constitution and Regulations to Allow Brothers to Attend and Observe National Council of Administration Meetings. Approved.*
- *Committee motion to adopt the Resolution Supporting Dale Crandell for National Secretary. Approved.*
- *Committee motion to adopt the Resolution Supporting Robert J. Amsler, Jr. for Council of Administration. Approved.*

## **New Business**

1. *Kansas City National Encampment.* Dale Crandell reported on a visit to the Department of Kansas Encampment.

- *Motion by Dale Crandell, seconded by Gary Scheel, to co-host a future National Encampment with the Department of Kansas and forward a letter of intent. Approved.*

2. *Department of Arkansas.* Joe Rainey reported the Department of Arkansas organizing meeting is scheduled for 10:00 am, June 21, 2025, at Potts Inn Museum, Pottsville, Arkansas.
  - *Motion by Joe Rainey, seconded by Randal Burd, to authorize the four Arkansas-based camps to separate from the Department of Missouri to form the Department of Arkansas. Approved.*
3. *Arkansas Gift.* Mark Coplin suggested seed money to support the new Department of Missouri.
  - *Motion by Mark Coplin, seconded by Walter Busch, to donate \$500 seed money, a Department Commander Badge, and Arkansas state flag to the new Department of Arkansas. Approved.*
4. *PCinC Shirt.* Dale Crandell reported the CoA approved the Department's Merchandise License to produce and sell the PC-in-C's yellow shirt (twinkie shirt) and agreement for Cher Petrovic to continue to produce the shirt at \$45.
  - *Motion by Dale Crandell, seconded by Sumner Hunnewell, to purchase a PC-in-C shirt at \$45 as the Department's gift to the outgoing C-in-C Kevin Martin. Approved.*
5. *2025-2026 Department Budget.* Dale Crandell reviewed the treasurer's proposed budget.
  - *Motion by Dale Crandell, seconded by Gary Scheel, to approve the Department Budget. Approved.*
6. *Show Me Spirit Award.* Encampment discussed recognizing efforts to fund Merrill's Horse Regiment flag project.
  - *Motion by Randal Burd, seconded by Ed Krieser, to award the Wayne Sampson Show Me Spirit Award to project's fund raiser. Approved.*

## **Elections**

1. *Secretary-Treasurer.* Dale Crandell resigned as Department Secretary-Treasurer.
2. *Nominations.* Commander Robert AuBuchon opened the floor for nominations:
  - a. Commander: Robert AuBuchon.
  - b. Senior Vice Commander: Mark Coplin.
  - c. Junior Vice Commander: Kevin Miller.
  - d. Secretary: Gary Scheel.
  - e. Treasurer: Walter Busch.
  - f. Council 3: Ed Millinger.
  - g. Delegates: John Palmer (Grant), Kevin Miller (Westport), Mark Coplin (Grant), Joe Rainey (Murphy), Travis Cummings (Murphy), Michael Croy (Murphy), Ronald Fuller (Murphy), Cary Glisson (Murphy), and Anthony Shane Lind (Murphy).
  - h. Alternates: all brothers in good standing.
  - *Motion by Walter Busch, seconded by Sumner Hunnewell, to vote by acclamation for the slate of nominees. Approved.*

3. *Officer Installation.* JVCinC Daniel Murray installed the elected officers.

**Close Meeting.** Commander Robert AuBuchon closed the Department Business Meeting at 4:00 pm. Kent Metclev gave the benediction.

Prepared by,

Dale Crandell, PDC  
Department Secretary