



**NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
SPECIAL MEETING
HELD ELECTRONICALLY VIA GOTOWEBINAR**

**Wednesday
September 23, 2020**

**American Legion Auxiliary National Headquarters
3450 Founders Road
Indianapolis, Indiana**

MEMBERS PRESENT

National Officers

National President.....Nicole Clapp
National Vice President.....Kathy Daudistel
Central Division National Vice President..... -
Eastern Division National Vice President.....Carolyn Baranowski
Northwestern Division National Vice President.....Rhonda Larkowski
Southern Division National Vice President..... -
Western Division National Vice President.....Cheryl Park
National Chaplain.....Mary Anne Casadei
National Historian.....Peggy Monroe
National Secretary.....Linda Boone
National Treasurer.....Marybeth Revoir

Invited Guests

Executive Director.....Kelly Circle
Professional Parliamentarian.....Chris Dickey

Past National Presidents

Linda Boone
Virginia Hobbs
Jan Pulvermacher-Ryan
Desiree Stoy
Carlene Ashworth
Peggy Thomas
Nancy Brown-Park
Mary E. Davis
Diane Duscheck

National Executive Committee

Alabama.....Judy Daughtry
Alaska..... -
Arizona.....Cynthia Queen
Arkansas.....Patricia Murray
California.....Linda Workman
Colorado.....Ann Ritacco
Connecticut.....Debra Knickerbocker
Delaware.....Carol Feeley
District of Columbia.....Lauren Lloyd
Florida.....Michele DeGennaro
Georgia.....Jane Lawrence
Hawaii.....Alexis Stang
Idaho.....Toni Gimpel
Illinois.....Debra Lewis
Indiana.....Betty Slagle
Iowa.....Ann Crawford
Kansas.....Debra J. Haas
Kentucky.....Jerilynn Kabel
Louisiana.....Mary Cauthen
Maine.....Joan Caron (ALT)
Maryland.....Patti Lach
Massachusetts.....Donna Blattenberger
Michigan.....Deborah Williamson
Minnesota.....Raleen Tolzmann

Mississippi.....	Tina Hurst
Missouri.....	Marsha Mooney
Montana.....	Kathryn Long
Nebraska.....	Kathleen Mazur
Nevada.....	Glynis Seeley
New Hampshire.....	Carol Maynard
New Jersey.....	-
New Mexico.....	Cecilia Martinez
New York.....	Deborah Morris
North Carolina.....	Janice MacLeod
North Dakota.....	Tammy Ryberg
Ohio.....	Kathleen Heichel
Oklahoma.....	-
Oregon.....	Pam Seelye
Pennsylvania.....	Melissa Hrinia
Puerto Rico.....	Amanda Torres
Rhode Island.....	Karen Panzarella
South Carolina.....	Patricia Jarvis
South Dakota.....	Laura "Susie" Clyde
Tennessee.....	-
Texas.....	Christine Trahan
Utah.....	-
Vermont.....	Corrinna Colson
Virginia.....	Sallie Rossman
Washington.....	Eva Wallace
West Virginia.....	-
Wisconsin.....	Charlayne Kiesling (ALT)
Wyoming.....	Vicki Paddock

This special meeting of the 2019-2020 National Executive Committee was conducted electronically due to the COVID-19 pandemic, which prohibited assembly in person. The NEC assembled in a virtual meeting through the use of the GoToWebinar online platform. Attendance was verified by American Legion Auxiliary National Headquarters staff and the electronic sign-in records of the online platform. Voting was conducted through GoToWebinar's electronic polling platform with instant results on screen and verified by National Headquarters Staff.

NATIONAL VICE PRESIDENT KATHY DAUDISTEL: Good evening, everybody, and welcome to the National Executive Committee meeting. President Nicole is having a little bit of tech issues, so I'm gonna go ahead and get started for her. The National Executive Committee meeting will now come to order. Mary Anne, our National Chaplain, will now lead us in our invocation.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR KELLY CIRCLE: Mary Anne, I think you're muted.

EVENTS TEAM: Yeah, Mary Anne, you're self-muted, so if you could unmute yourself and try again.

NATIONAL CHAPLAIN MARY ANNE CASADIE: OK, hear me? Can you hear me now?

NATIONAL VICE PRESIDENT KATHY DAUDISTEL: Yes.

NATIONAL CHAPLAIN MARY ANNE CASADIE: Please join me in prayer. God is able to bless you abundantly so that in all things, at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work. 2 Corinthians 9:8. Dear God, you have blessed us abundantly. You let us do your most important work, you have blessed our organization, we're able to serve our military, our veterans, and those most in need in our communities. God, we thank you for the guidance in our work set forth in this meeting tonight. We thank you for the amazing leadership we will receive. We thank you for our wonderful President Nicole. She is a splendid example of your teachings. Bless this meeting so that we may continue to abound in every good work. Amen.

NATIONAL VICE PRESIDENT KATHY DAUDISTEL: Thank you, Mary Anne, and welcome to another virtual NEC meeting. Thank you to our voting NEC members for logging into the meeting early to do roll call, so that we can get right down to business. Now, I realize we all just participated in August's virtual NEC meeting, but let's just take a moment to review some meeting basics and run a test vote. Attendee microphones are automatically muted. I remind you that only members of the NEC may speak. If you need to make a motion, second a motion, or engage in debate use the Raise Your Hand feature to be recognized by the chair. Remember, the events team will recognize you first and you will still need to be recognized by the chair before you begin speaking. And once again, a reminder. The question tool is only for questions regarding NEC business. If we use it as a chat feature, we run the risk of missing important questions. Just like our meeting in August, when it is time to vote, a voting box will pop up on your screen. If you are in favor of the motion, you will click the Yes button. If you are opposed, you will click the No button. If you wish to abstain, simply do not click either button. The voting box will automatically disappear when voting is closed. Even though a voting box will appear on

every attendee's screen, I remind you that voting is only for the voting members of the NEC. The voting members of the NEC consist only of the 52 NECs, one from each department, and the 11 national officers. So, if you're not one of these people, please do not vote. In case you are wondering, yes, we can tell if someone votes who is not a voting member. So please, if you are not a voting member of the NEC, do not vote. OK, on to our test. If you attended all three virtual NEC meetings, please click the Yes button. If not, please click the No button. *[pause]* All right? Has everyone voted? Voting is now closed. Techs, please show the results. *[pause]* 89% of you are third-time attendees, so that's awesome. Thank you! A big thank you obviously to all who have made it to all three NEC meetings. If there are no objections, the debate will be limited to two minutes for each speaker. No person shall speak on the same question more than twice without the consent of this body. I also remind you that we do have a timer here to fairly enforce this rule. Are there any questions, and if there are, please raise your hand to be recognized. *[pause]* I don't see any hands and I do see our president back, so are you ready to take over, Pres? Nope, now, I will continue.

EVENTS TEAM: MADAME VICE PRESIDENT: We did have a hand from Patti Lach.

NATIONAL VICE PRESIDENT KATHY DAUDISTEL: OK? The chair recognizes Patti Lach.

NEC [MD] PATTI LACH: Hi, um, this question has to do with the answers we received today on questions that were previously asked. And it was Question 9 regarding the deficit budget and how long will we be able to keep taking from reserves before we have a problem? And Kelly indicated, there was a study completed and conducted, and they can put that together and make it available, and I'm just asking that they do that.

NATIONAL VICE PRESIDENT KATHY DAUDISTEL: Kelly, can you answer her question please?

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR KELLY CIRCLE? You betcha. It's actually—it's actually not a study. It's a, it's a spreadsheet algorithm, if you will, that just and it's, um, the membership dues and if we--how long we can use membership dues, I believe. So yes, we will send that out.

NEC [MD] PATTI LACH: Thank you.

NATIONAL VICE PRESIDENT KATHY DAUDISTEL: Are there any other questions?

EVENTS TEAM: We do have another hand raised. Mary Cauthen.

NATIONAL VICE PRESIDENT KATHY DAUDISTEL: The chair recognizes Mary Cauthen.

EVENTS TEAM: Mary, you'll need to unmute yourself to ask a question.

NEC [LA] MARY CAUTHEN: I'm sorry, but I hit that button by accident.

NATIONAL VICE PRESIDENT KATHY DAUDISTEL: It's quite alright. Thank you. Are there any other questions?

EVENTS TEAM: I do not see any other hands raised.

NATIONAL VICE PRESIDENT KATHY DAUDISTEL: OK, then we will go on. Before we move to the consent agenda, I would like to recognize, well, myself, I'm Kathy Daudistel, your National Vice President. I would like to also recognize our Executive Director, Dr. Kelly Circle. And behind the scenes, we have our trusty, professional parliamentarian Chris Dickey ready to help us work through all of today's business. So thank you all, and especially for Chris, and welcome to all of our national officers, past national presidents. Thank you, all, again for participating in today's meeting.

NATIONAL PRESIDENT NICOLE CLAPP: Kathy, can you hear me?

NATIONAL VICE PRESIDENT KATHY DAUDISTEL: Yes, yes, I can.

NATIONAL PRESIDENT NICOLE CLAPP: Hi!

NATIONAL VICE PRESIDENT KATHY DAUDISTEL: Are you ready to take over?

NATIONAL PRESIDENT NICOLE CLAPP: Yes, small town Iowa. I'm sorry, everyone, but thank you, Kathy. That's why you have a great vice president for. So let's keep our fingers crossed and let's keep this train moving. So, yes, the consent agenda, I want to thank everyone, and, as usual, by using the consent agenda, the information was sent out prior to the meeting, and there was one item on the consent agenda and that was the national appointment change that came in after we had our NEC meeting in August. And so that's a change on the Junior Activities committee. Allison--Alyssa Duncanson is being replaced with Jenny Gump at her request. So, is there anyone wish to remove an item from the consent agenda? If so, please raise your hand and we'll give the techs a few moments to start that process to recognize you. Any hands raised, staff?

EVENTS TEAM: We just had a hand raised by Deborah Morris.

PRESIDENT NICOLE CLAPP: Go ahead, Debbie. Hi to New York this evening.

NEC [NY] DEBORAH MORRIS: Hi. Debra Morris, New York. I moved to accept the consent agenda.

PRESIDENT NICOLE CLAPP: Is there a second?

EVENTS TEAM: I saw Jerilynn Kabel first.

PRESIDENT NICOLE CLAPP: Jerilynn? From Kentucky?

NEC [KY] JERILYNN KABEL: I second.

PRESIDENT NICOLE CLAPP: OK, there's no discussion and we're ready for the vote. Those in favor of the consent agenda, please select Yes, those opposed No and/or abstain. Voting is now open. *[pause]* OK, technicians, Can we see the results? 100% in the affirmative. Thank you very much, everyone. We will now move on to their main reason we are having the call this evening, and that is to start our 2021 year off, and I now recognize Sharon Conatser, National Chairman of the Finance Committee, to present the 2021 fiscal budget. Sharon?

FINANCE CHAIRMAN SHARON CONATSER: Thank you, Madam President and members of the NEC. Your Finance Committee has worked diligently to present this budget for your approval. Members of the Finance Committee are as follows: Paula Rainy, Department of

Texas; Past National President Peggy Thomas, Department of Virginia; Past National President Virginia Hobbs, Department of Kentucky; and Past National President Nancy Brown-Park, Department of California. Last night you received a corrected budget. I would just like to tell you what those two lines were. They occurred after the call, a question and answer session on Monday. The one you received—[unintelligible] budget 131 listed under revenue. There was no need for those because those two revenue lines were used during the Americorp Grants, which was cut out and was ended in 2017. So that is why those were not on your budget you received last night. Thank you for that question. Also, under Expense, under 101, there was just some typing changes. Under National Officers instead of National Secretary, it should say Executive Director, and we no longer have a Future Focus Committee, and that should be removed also. So those were wording changes only on that. So I wanted to bring those to your attention. In the narrative you read, I want to emphasize that membership directly impacts our bottom line. We cannot continue to lose membership yearly. Retention continues to be the big problem. Remember, we all have a veteran in our life that gave us our eligibility to belong. We all have something to offer our organization, make them feel welcome, for what they can offer. COVID has changed the FY 20 and the FY 21 budgets. Even if we had finished this year normally without COVID and had our National Convention, we would have finished in the black. Thank you to staff and volunteers for their due diligence and protecting our budget and our organization. I want to remind you that a budget is only a guideline, and even if adopted as a deficit does not mean the year will end that way, as just seen in the FY 20 budget. In the narrative, you were given a list of items removed from the budget for this, for this year. Many of these items we expect to be brought back in the next budget cycle. There, again, due to COVID some of those changes were made. Your finance committee voted unanimously to accept this budget. So, at this time, at the direction of the Finance Committee, I move the acceptance of the FY 21 budget.

PRESIDENT NICOLE CLAPP: It is moved to adopt the 21 budget as presented. This motion comes from a committee, so it does not require a second. Is there any discussion? Please raise your hand and be recognized by our staff.

EVENTS TEAM: I do not see any hands raised.

PRESIDENT NICOLE CLAPP: OK, with seeing no hands raised will our technicians proceed with a vote. Alright, thank you, everyone. We have a unanimous 100% in favor of the budget for 2021. Thank you very much. I will now move on to the next item on the agenda, which is in related-fashion, it is the FY 2021 foundation budget, and that will be Dorie Hammeke, our Foundation president presenting the budget. Good evening, Dorie.

ALA FOUNDATION PRESIDENT DORIE HAMMEKE: Good evening, Madam President, and thank you for letting me take a minute tonight to talk about the Foundation's budget. I hope that everyone was able to review the documents that were shared for this meeting, I thought I would take a minute to talk about a few key highlights of it to make it easy for everyone to understand. So, first of all, when we talk about the revenue for that, for the foundation, the revenue comes from really four key areas. One is contributions that come from ALA National Headquarters and this covers the salaries of staff, taxes, benefits, et cetera. The second source would be investment income. A third is subgrants from businesses and organization, and the fourth is those important contributions that come from individuals, from members, from units, departments, etcetera. And these are oftentimes the result of direct mail

campaigns, your direct marketing efforts by our development team, things like Giving Tuesday, et cetera. So the Total Revenue is projected at \$481,000. And that's based on historical and kind of best guess estimates based on sort of how we're trending and so forth. The second area would be expenses. And expenses are all pretty much tied to what it costs us to drive that revenue in. So again that includes that main category of the staff, the personnel that assist us in that effort; professional fees to manage the investments; the cost of all of our direct marketing campaigns or fundraising activities; and then, finally, and perhaps most importantly, the cost of all the grants that we award. So, the total expenses are projected about \$476,000. If you compare the budgets from Fiscal Year 20 to Fiscal Year 21, and there's a slight increase in both revenue and expenses, and, again, this is predominantly tied to the fact that we did add one additional personnel person in the Development department, and that individual works for both the ALA and the Foundation in terms of supporting those fundraising efforts. And then we're also looking at a little bit of additional direct marketing efforts to drive in some of that. So, that's, um, pretty much the gist of what you're seeing in the budget information that's provided. So, Madame President, that concludes the ALA Foundation's presentation.

PRESIDENT NICOLE CLAPP: Thank you, Dorie. We appreciate the detail. The chairman will now entertain a motion to approve the Foundation's FY 21 budget as presented.

NATIONAL FINANCE CHAIRMAN SHARON CONATSER: Madam President, the National Finance Committee, previously reviewed and accepted the ALA Foundation Budget. So on behalf of the National Finance Committee, I move the adoption of the ALA Foundation Budget as presented.

PRESIDENT NICOLE CLAPP: Since this motion comes from the committee, it does not require a second. Is there any discussion on the foundation budget?

EVENTS TEAM: Deborah Williamson has her hand up.

PRESIDENT NICOLE CLAPP: Are there any hands? Yes, go ahead.

NEC [MI] DEBORAH WILLIAMSON: Sorry. It must have been a mistake.

PRESIDENT NICOLE CLAPP: No problem. Let's see. That's OK, you keep us on our toes. That's what we need. All right, are there any other hands raised in discussion of the Foundation's upcoming year budget?

EVENTS TEAM: I do not see any hands raised.

PRESIDENT NICOLE CLAPP: OK, thank you. Seeing no hands raised, we will proceed with the vote. All those in favor of adopting the ALA Foundation FY 21 Budget please vote Yes in the affirmative or vote No and/or abstain if preferred. Voting will now begin? *[pause]* OK, voting has concluded. And again, thank you for your 100% support of our efforts for the Foundation and the upcoming year. Now, as we are before we close with the benediction this evening, I want to draw attention to an e-mail that many of you should have received yesterday from the National President, National Secretary's e-mail and that contained information regarding for you to sign your compliance documents. And you may be wondering why do we have to do that again, because we did that are in the spring of 2019? Yes, we did, but it is an annual requirement. And so, I would ask that you please proceed with the online electronic signatures. It has been streamlined. So we shouldn't have the issues we had in the

years past. And so we are the lucky ones. As this is a continuation here, we get to do everything one more time. So please check your spam or your junk e-mail, just in case you have not seen that e-mail, that came out about mid-day yesterday. And if you do, cannot find it, please reach out to National Secretary. It's NATLSECY@ALAforVeterans.org for the e-mail and that is just for the committee members. Now, NEC members, yours will be coming at a later date. So, don't think you missed it. Yours hasn't been sent as of yet. And thank you, again, Vice President Kathy. There's a reason we make a good team. A lot of nonverbals can go a long ways when you can't actually communicate what you need to. So, thank you for your assistance this evening. Thank you, Kelly, Chris Dickey, everyone, and everyone that's on the call and so, now I would like to hear our National Chaplain, since I did not get to hear her invocation. Now I can hear the benediction. Mary Anne?

NATIONAL CHAPLAIN MARY ANNE CASADEI: Dear Lord, thank you for this opportunity to get together with our friends. It has been a very difficult few months, and we look forward to the time when we can get together, join hands, and sing your praises. For now, we are happy just to share this time together. Continue to bless each of us and bless our brothers and sisters who are facing adversity now. Let us enjoy harmony, peace, and goodwill. Let us spread our love for our country, and please protect us and take away any angst and anxiety, heal our nation, and bring us together again. Amen.

PRESIDENT NICOLE CLAPP: Amen. Thank you, everyone. Thank you, staff, for the technical support behind the scenes this evening. And everyone, enjoy fall. It has arrived as of yesterday. And looking forward to seeing many of you in the next few months. And thank you, NEC, and this will conclude our meeting tonight. It is adjourned. Thank you, and goodbye, everyone, thank you.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 7:25 pm

Submitted by Linda Boone, National Secretary

Minutes Approved by Minutes Approval Committee – January 12, 2021

- *NEC [FL] Michele DeGennaro*
- *NEC [MS] Tina Hurst*
- *NEC [KY] Jerilynn Kabel*

* Indiana Code 23-17-15-1(c) permits non-profit directors to participate in regular or special meetings by any means of communication in which all directors can simultaneously hear each other. A director participating in a meeting by this means is considered to be present in person at the meeting.

APPENDIX A



**MOTIONS/RESOLUTIONS
ADOPTED OR REJECTED**

September 23, 2020

**American Legion Auxiliary
National Headquarters
3450 Founders Road
Indianapolis, Indiana**

**2019-2020 NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
SPECIAL ELECTRONIC MEETING**

**American Legion Auxiliary
National Executive Committee 2019-2020
Electronic Meeting
September 23, 2020**

Summary of Motions/Resolutions Adopted/Rejected

M/S/C = Moved/Seconded/Carried/Rejected

M/S/C Motion made by NEC [NY] Deborah Morris to approve the items on the Consent Agenda as circulated in advance in the NEC packet emailed on September 17, 2020:

- Junior Activities Committee Eastern Division Chairman
Changed from Alysia Duncanson to Jenny Gump (Department of Indiana)

Yes: 48 No: 0

M/C Motion by National Finance Committee Chairman Sharon Conatser on behalf of the National Finance Committee to adopt the proposed Fiscal Year 2021 American Legion Auxiliary budget, as circulated in advance in the NEC packet emailed on September 17, 2020.

Yes: 48 No: 0

M/C Motion by National Finance Committee Chairman Sharon Conatser on behalf of the National Finance Committee to adopt the proposed Fiscal Year 2021 American Legion Auxiliary Foundation budget, as circulated in advance in the NEC packet emailed on September 17, 2020.

Yes: 47 No: 0

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