

July 28, 2016

## NDVCC MINUTES

### **OPENING:**

Chairman Russ Stabler called the meeting to order at 1 PM at the Comfort Inn in Bismarck for the purpose of reorganization. Chairman Stabler led the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silence for our Troops overseas.

Gary Maddock called the roll call with 8 members present, the VFW were excused as their members were attending their National Convention. Rod Olin represented the DAV for Warren Tobin, Bud Goldsmith represented Orletta Kilen for the American Legion, Jim Nelson represented Murray Strom for the AMVETS. Dave Johnson of the American Legion was absent as he was on vacation.

The minutes were handed out and Rod Olin moved to accept them as written and Gary Himmerich seconded the motion and they were approved.

Guests present were Katie Wolff and Erin Obin representing the tobacco coalition and some members of the ACOVA.

Katie Wolff and Erin Obin reported on the tobacco tax bill and said that 22900 signatures had been collected and turned in to the Sec. of State. We only needed 13470 signatures. August 11, 2016 the verification was to be done. They said big tobacco was ready to fight the measure and would spend many dollars to fight it. They also said that the GNDC opposed the measure.

It would take 2/3 of the legislators to take over the control of the tax as the measure is now written.

Some of the discussion on the tax was how will the tax be spent. The ACOVA will have a committee set up to form a strategic plan on how the money would be spent. It was said this committee would have a Veteran from each veteran organization represented.

Bruce Sailer will be meeting with the Chamber of Commerce to represent the NDVCC on this matter next week.

Some questions that were brought up were "why can't booze tax be raised" already is.

Why such a large increase? Average from other States surrounding us is \$2.20.

Any letters to editors can be helped from Erin.

Anyone interested in being a spokesman should contact Katie or Erin.

Other States are watching us to see what happens.

Jim Nelson gave a report on gaming taxes. There are 53 gaming organizations in the state that are Veteran. The AMVETS Post 9 went from 64% to 11% that we could use for our organization. If we can get the law changed these organizations that run gaming operations could get 100% of proceeds for eligible users. Deb Daniels has agreed to help write the bill to change the code and Sen. Dever will sponsor the bill and Jim said that they would seek the support of the VCC on such a bill.

We took a recess then to join the ACOVA to listen to their speakers and resumed our meeting at 2:35PM.

We went into election of officers. The first position was for Vice President. Gary Maddock nominated Joe Hall of the DAV. Dan Stenvold seconded the nomination.

Keith Peterson moved to close nominations and Bud Goldsmith seconded the motion and nominations were closed.

Sec./Tres. Was the next office and Bill Tuff of the VFW was nominated Dave Vareberg seconded the nomination.

Larry Young moved to cast a unanimous ballot, Bruce Sailer seconded the motion and it was approved.

Gary Maddock gave the treasure report and stated that we had \$8346.32 in the checking account. Rod Olin moved to accept the treasure report and Dave Vareberg seconded the motion and it carried.

For new business we are to keep contacted with the tobacco coalition.

Good of the Order: Chairman Stabler thanked Gary Maddock for his service on the VCC.

Chairman Stabler closed the meeting with honors to the Colors.

Submitted by  
Gary Maddock, Sec.