



Homeland  
Security

U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary  
District 11 Northern Region  
*Serving Northern California, Nevada, Utah*



District 11NR Board & Staff Meeting Minutes  
Saturday 12 September, 2020 1000 PDT  
Webinar

**Call to Order:** 1001 hours by DCO Mary Kirkwood

**Roll Call:** By Georgie Scheuerman. Present were: CDR Paige Keenan, BOSN2 Dustin Finkelson; COMO Mary Kirkwood, DCO; Dean McFarren, DCOS; COMO Wally Smith, IPDCO, DNACO PACAREA; Randy McCormick, DCAPT; Jerry Edelen, DCAPT; Jim Losi, DCAPT; Nancy Marion, DCDR; Russ Kaiser, DCDR; Alan Stanton, DCDR; Lew Derfuss, DCDR; Chuck Cobery, DCDR; Paul Custance, DCDR; Bill Hale, DCDR; Don Pierce, DCDR; Bruce Martin, DCDR; Greg Olsen, DCDR; COMO Rod Collins, P-PCA

A quorum was present to conduct business.

**Special Guest:** RADM Brian Penoyer, USCG Commander District 11: RADM Penoyer spoke about his background and said he has a long history with the Auxiliary. He thanked the Auxiliary (AUX) for all our volunteer work. He noted he personally appreciates our service. He then spoke about several topics: Leadership, Global Pandemic, and how we (AUX) participate in Coast Guard (CG) Work. **Leadership:** No new strategies are needed – Take care of people, mission excellence, remembering we are part of a coalition of partners. We can pursue everything. Currently RADM Penoyer with his staff is laying out 1 fiscal year of work: How to use district assets, how we're spending the government money, and initiatives we will work on. There will be 9 total initiatives. So we'll have to say no to some things to concentrate on the 9 initiatives. He's going to spend 30 days listening, then 30 days doing homework on the themes he's heard. Oct 1 he'll start to move things forward with Senior Leaders conferences to decide on initiatives. **Global Leadership during the Pandemic:** He recognizes we are frustrated and want to move forward. District 11 has only 5% of COVID-19 in the Coast Guard family. This is a good sign that we're handling things fairly well. As we approach Oct we will move towards more activities that will be within appropriate risk levels. We must still concentrate on safety and moving towards more activities. Leaders providing personal examples are very important for safety. Two good ways leaders can provide these examples: 1) Careful about COVID-19 with everyone outside of their family, 2) Sustaining these good COVID behaviors. He believes we must expect we will need to continue good COVID behavior, by walking a balance and being steady with our behaviors. It's how we do things, not just what we do. **What's in it for the Auxiliary?** He will be requiring that we think about things the way the Coast Guard does: Operations and Mission Support. AUX is a little more complicated since we have our missions and we support the CG missions. We do many things through our own systems. But we're still needed to assist with CG missions. Need AUX operating in CG mission space and we must rise to CG standards while doing these missions. A very important mission is recruiting. This is important for both the AUX & CG. This is badly needed, especially enlisted personnel in the CG. Traditional recruiting base is changing for the CG and AUX. We must focus on how we can recruit for operations and mission support for CG and AUX. We will be getting very clear operations & mission support needs from RADM Penoyer in October. He wants to get a better connection between CG units and AUX units and asked for AUX assistance for CG personnel. We're stronger together. This is most Important => Mission Support: We should think about how we can safely connect with CG personnel, especially young CG personnel. Help them out with things that often fall outside CG duties and activities.

Attendance is reported in Addendum A.

### **Approval of Meeting Minutes:**

- August 2020: Lew Derfuss made motion to approve. Russ Kaiser and Greg Olsen seconded. Minutes approved.

**District Election:** The procedures for the elections were briefly described. For this election we switched to Election Runner instead of Easy Poll. Election Runner will be used for Division elections as well. Easy Poll will be used for flotillas. COMO Kirkwood thanked everyone who stepped up to run for elected office. Elections this year are unprecedented at the National level and now here for our District. This required help from many people including legal and elected officers: COMO Maddox, Joanna Leighton-Nevesny (DSO-LG), COMO Perata, COMO Collins, and COMO Connell. COMO Maddox will coordinate and run the elections. There was an election practice for the D11NR Board on the Friday before the elections. (The District Meeting was conducted while the elections were being conducted.)

COMO Maddox further described the rules and process.

Each Candidate had 2 minutes to speak before the election was conducted for each office.

- DCO: Only 1 Candidate: Dean McFarren. Lew Derfuss moved for a voice vote. Dean McFarren was elected DCO D11NR.
- DCOS: 2 Candidates: Jerry Edelen and Curtis Han. Curtis Han was elected DCOS D11NR.
- DCAPT: 7 Candidates: Michael Brown, Chuck Cobery, Virginia Luchetti, Nancy Marion, Bruce Martin, Randy McCormick, and Alan Stanton. After numerous ballots the following were elected DCAPT for D11NR:
  - Bruce Martin
  - Alan Stanton
  - Virginia Luchetti

With the conclusion of the election COMO Kirkwood thanked COMO Maddox and all those who helped with the election.

### **District Board & Staff Reports:**

**DCDR 1** Nancy Marion – Rpt on File: Nancy reported Div 1 did a division wide discussion on dues. They decided to help those who might need some relief because of COVID and other issues impacting member's ability to pay dues. The division has been focusing on member engagement and did a survey of the whole division. Currently looking at activities including some fellowship activities.

**DCDR 3** Russ Kaiser – Rpt on File: Russ made a special note about the 4 flotillas in the division. He noted one flotilla (3-1) had a loss of leadership and Bernard Brown and Bryon Foster stepped up to handle the sudden leadership gap. Also other FCs in the division have helped out along with Div 3 staff and officers. The division is still being active with PE. Also some VEs are moving through with Phase 1 activities.

**DCDR 4** Alan Stanton – Rpt on File: Alan reported 2 members were evacuated because of fires. FCs are doing outreach. The division is preparing for elections and trying to motivate people for elections. The SO-PA position was filled by Walter Strohmayer and he will start training. A Radio Day event is scheduled for 6-8 of November.

**DCDR 5** Lew Derfuss – Rpt on File: Lew reported several members have been effected by fires and evacuated. No losses fortunately at this time. Biggest gain for Div 5 is with 5-3 which received members transferring from Div 3. The division also has some potential new members. Wade Macadam was selected for ADSO-AS.

**DCDR 6** Chuck Cobery – Rpt on File: Chuck recognized several people making important contributions: 1) FCs have contacted people who didn't respond to the Everbridge call during the fires. 2) Several members have received awards for their contributions. 3) Chuck extended a Bravo Zulu to Tracy Schultz for receiving an award for assisting the Coast Guard Academy. 4) Members are working on the radio antenna in Monterey area. He noted division members are ready for active missions when we can move forward.

**DCDR 7** Paul Custance – Rpt on File: Paul reported that Division 7 experienced strong winds on Wednesday. Several members experienced blackouts. Paul noted Flotilla 7-6 reached its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

**DCDR 8** Bill Hale – Rpt on File: Bill reported continuing online training. Members are taking proctored exams. Members continue supporting the fuel farm. Division members are also working on a procedure for light house lens cleaning. Have 3 new members in the division. Bill noted several members have been evacuated because of fires and some are waiting to see if they will be evacuated.

**DCDR 10** Don Pierce – Rpt on File: Don reported 4 new members are in the new member process. He also noted there's a big fire in the area and some members helped with fire assistance. (This was not done as members of the Auxiliary.) The division and flotillas continue utilizing virtual meetings.

**DCDR 11** Bruce Martin – Rpt on File: Bruce extended a Bravo Zulu to Karl Keller (10-03) who was on Lake Tahoe and did some environmental assistance at an incident on the Lake. He was not under orders but did this as a Good Samaritan. Bruce noted cases are high on the Lake.

**DCDR 12** Greg Olsen – Rpt on File: Greg reported the division and flotillas are preparing for elections. Nikolay Zherebnenkov received an award making him a member of the Century Club, having completed 100 PV visits in 2019.

**PPCA:** COMO Rod Collins – Rpt on File: COMO Collins reported the PCA Election will be held online. The PCA will be doing a virtual Auxiliary Memorial Service this year. COMO Collins noted that he's heard numerous admirals speak and it's clear from RADM Penoyer's comments that he's looking to us for a lot of support. But we must be ready to assist the Coast Guard when we're called upon.

**IPDCO:** Wally Smith: COMO Smith noted he did not have a lot to report. He congratulated COMO Kirkwood for her election to DNACO PACAREA. He also congratulated Dean McFarren, Curtis Han and the 3 new DCAPTs – Bruce Martin, Alan Stanton, and Virginia Luchetti. COMO Smith commented that Admiral Penoyer will be a winner for the Auxiliary. He also noted that he will be taking a position at the National level.

**DIRAUX:** CDR Paige Keenan: CDR Keenan thanked D11NR members for sending in forms for orders. She's happy to see us step up on these missions. 78 assignments to duty have been issued. Members can submit requests for a week at a time. She also noted she appreciates that members are doing these missions safely. CDR Keenan has begun working with D11NR & SR COMOs putting together a Phase 2 Plan. She noted REYR guidance is still not out yet. She also noted that we are coming to the end of the fiscal year and we're still waiting to see what the budget will be. But there is still money for Aux missions. There is still the possibility for order waivers. The DIRAUX office is still partially in the office and/or working online. She noted Tina Perry thanked us for our patience with the AUXDATA II issues and asked us to continue to be patient. Tina is working with Anita Farnholtz. She asked us to continue sending info to the DIRAUX email. COMO Kirkwood noted our appreciation for Tina's great work.

**OTO:** BOSN2 Dustin Finkelson: OTO Finkelson congratulated those who were elected to D11NR positions. He noted that when we go to Phase 2 we will likely have some facility inspections started but this is not set up yet.

**Break** at 11:41 for 10 minutes.

### **Dean McFarren: DSO Reports:**

**DCAPT Prevention** Randy McCormick DCAPT– Randy noted that he was pleased missions can be somewhat active during Phase 1.

**Wil Sumner DSO-MS** – Rpt on File. Wil reported Beach Cleanup has changed this year. It will be small groups of people going out when it works for them. We can participate as public not as members of the Auxiliary. He noted MS has done some UPV exams. He also noted there's been some illegal activities around boat charters. Marine Safety Training has been active and they're preparing UPV training for National. Wil noted an Abandoned Derelict Vessels meeting is coming up.

**Jane Smith DSO-PA** - Rpt on File: Jane reported that there's not a lot going on at this time. But we do have 15 members qualified for PA. Jane noted the many fires in our District and the organizations we often work with (fire fighters and law enforcement) who've helped with protecting people and property. She also noted 2 divisions now have new SO-PA.

**Mike Thompson DSO-PV** - Rpt on File: Mike reported Divisions 1 and 5 are getting out doing PVs and he received reports. Both did 10 PVs. He encouraged everyone to become PVs. This can be done online up to going out with a mentor.

Jim Duncan DSO-NS - Rpt on File: Jim reported he added a page to his report to provide more detailed information.

Sean Harvey DSO-PE – Rpt on File: Sean reported he’s been asked about how to advertise classes especially outside our geographic areas. Please let people know we can advertise outside of our area and teach people outside of our area. He was glad people asked about this so we’re coordinated. He needs one ADSO for marketing. ABS NASBLA certification will end in 2020. Now we’ll have BS&S, Boat America, and SS&S NASBLA approved. He noted that text books are not required to be purchased by students.

Mike Lauro DSO-VE - Rpt on File: Mike congratulated Dean McFarren and Curtis Han. He had nothing to add to his report.

**DCAPT Response** Jerry Edelen DCAPT –

Larry Olson DSO-AV – Rpt on File: Larry reported that pilots are flying to maintain FAA currency but not under orders. AV is wanting to get going again.

Virginia Luchetti DSO-OP - Rpt on File: Virginia reported that it’s extremely important that the 2020 OPS and RM/TCT Refresher Workshops be completed by the end of September. She extended a Bravo Zulu and a Thank You to those who’ve contributed to the OPS report each month.

Larry Stanton DSO-CM - Rpt on File: Larry reported the biggest activity was in Vacaville where we lost a comms repeater. Currently working on fixing that. A TCO Workshop will take place this month. He also noted the Wave system is getting underway.

Bruce Martin DSO-EM – Rpt on File: Bruce extended a Bravo Zulu to DCDRs and FCs who helped with the Everbridge Call for the fires and also to DCDRs and FCs doing follow up when members are not contacted through Everbridge. He noted he could use members who can help with Everbridge as ADSO – Everbridge. New technology IMSS is coming, starting on the East Coast.

John-Michael DSO-AS – Rpt on File: John-Michael reported on the new program which is new to many members. It’s easily tailored to the local area and flexible. Key element to Aux Scout is that it will attract new and diverse members to both the Auxiliary and the Sea Scouts. John-Michael did a shout out to Wade Macadam as a new ADSO-AS. The strategic plan is being developed and it will align with RADM Penoyer’s plans developing relationships with the Coast Guard, Sea Scouts, and Auxiliary. John-Michael asked us to look at the Strategic Plan. He wants to get feedback. There’s a similar plan for Pacific Area. He’s accepting ADSO-AS applications, especially members with PA skills. Safety at Sea was a live program last year but there is a Safety at Sea month this year.

**DCAPT Support & Planning** Jim Losi DCAPT – Jim noted he’s excited to see the energy we have during these difficult times. He noted he appreciated all the help and encouragement he received while he was away.

BK Barr DSO-CS – Rpt on File: BK was not present. Chris Ince reported for BK. Chris noted we are looking for an ADSO-CS for reports. Currently working on a number of items: reorganizing Northwind Newsletter online, tool for ID requests, OPS pages content updated, District Training Calendar, and working on Division websites.

Linda Haynes DSO-FS – Rpt on File: Linda reported there’s not much to report at this time. National has sent a request and Linda is handling this.

Anita Farnholtz DSO-IS - Rpt on File: Anita has been very active in many aspects of AUXDATA II. She asked that all members please practice and put entries into AUXDATA II.

Ann Zocchi DSO-MT – Rpt on File: Ann reported the District Training Calendar is out. TCT and OPS workshops are available. TCO-PQS is coming up. Elected Officer Training will be online. She asked that all units please send the names of all elected officers to her so she can set up for the training. Also let Ann know about desired training or training that’s planned.

Tracy Schultz DSO-DV – Rpt on File: Tracy had nothing to add to his report.

Robert Schabert DSO-HR – Rpt on File: Robert reported HR is working on a video for our District for recruiting and PA. Currently reaching out to SO-HR to follow up on HR Robot.

George Rogers DSO-MA - Rpt on File: George reported he will be stepping down as DSO-MA at the end of this year. He will be training the next DSO-MA. He noted MA is preparing for the Frocking of new officers. George noted it’s been his privilege to work as DSO-MA.

Greg Schaefer DSO-PB – Rpt on File: Greg thanked those who contributed to the Northwind. He noted he’s willing to help new SO-PBs get going.

### **Dean McFarren - DCOS**

David Wright DSO-FN – Rpt on File: David reported he anticipates normal or a little above normal attrition. 8 new members are on the books. He noted Auxiliary funds are separate from Coast Guard funds. At the District level the main expenses are fixed costs. We're continuing to try to keep things at a low cost when possible. DCDRs should let David know about changes in SO-FN or FSO-FN. David will work with them.

Ricardo Moreno INT REL – Rpt on File. Ricardo thanked CDR Keenan for communicating the new Interpreter Flyer to Coast Guard units in the District. He also thanked COMO Smith and COMO Kirkwood for their help getting this going.

Georgie Scheuerman DSO-SR – Minutes in. Georgie noted she had nothing to add.

**ASC- SF:** Sue Fry: Rpt on File: Sue reported the UPV weren't reported to the Sector earlier but are now being reported. AUCs should keep Sue aware of what's being done. She works to make sure Sector Coast Guard Leadership is kept aware of activities.

**ASC- Humboldt:** Carl Pierce: Rpt on File: Carl not present.

### **DCO Kirkwood: DSO Reports:**

Joanna Leighton-Nevesny DSO-LP: Joanna was working as a monitor for the elections. She had nothing in particular to report. She did ask DCDRs and FCs to forward any current or old MOUs or MOAs to her. DCDRs should report back to Joanna on this topic.

Neal Nevesny - Civil Rights – Joanna reported for Neal. There are no new reports since the last report.

### **Leadership Reports:**

#### **DCOS – Dean McFarren:**

- August All Aux Communication: Everyone is a recruiter. Everyone can recruit for the Auxiliary and for Coast Guard officers and enlisted personnel. Dean encouraged members to read this communication.
- Asked DCDRs to select an Election Administrator (EA). They should send the EA name to COMO Maddox.

#### **DCO – Mary Kirkwood:**

- Coronavirus (COVID-19):
  - Health and Safety of our members: Only a few D11NR members have had COVID. All are recovering. Mostly people are fine physically but psychology is difficult.
  - Safely returning to AUX Missions: Phase I – Glad to see members working within the Phase 1 rules. Also we must remember that some members may not be comfortable doing missions at this time.
- Membership recruitment/retention: At the end of July we're down one member since the beginning of the year. Some of the change is due to loss of members to other areas and members who've crossed over the bar. But we're still bringing in new members.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

- Administering the Oath/Frocking Ceremony at October Meeting (COMO Kirkwood): MA will be sending out new shoulder boards to newly elected officers. The frocking will be online during the D11NR Board & Staff Meeting in October.
- Annual Memorial Service plan for 2020 (COMO Collins): This will be done at the October Meeting. It's important that everyone is wearing a uniform.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- Division and Flotilla Elections: Will be done electronically. Divisions will use Election Runner. Flotillas will use Easy Poll.
- Scheduling Division COW: Not likely to happen because of COVID-19. Encouraging divisions to have a virtual COW.
- Lew Derfuss noted his division is hoping that their COW will be at TRACEN.

**For the Good of the Auxiliary:**

- COMO Kirkwood thanked Nancy Marion for the idea to send out awards to divisions and flotillas to be presented online and then sent to the individual.
- COMO Kirkwood shared a personal note: She noted that 9/11 inspired her to join the Auxiliary. She showed links for what the Coast Guard did on 9/11. (Links are listed below.)
- COMO Kirkwood also noted that we should remember: Resilience, Fellowship, PE courses, and MT courses which keep us engaged.

**Adjourn:** With no further comment or discussion, COMO Collins made a motion to adjourn and Lew Derfuss seconded. Board approved. DCO Kirkwood adjourned the meeting at 1427.

**Next Meeting:** October 21, 2020 at 1900 PDT, Webinar; wear uniforms (TROPS)

Respectfully Submitted by: Georgie Scheuerman, DSO-SR

**ADDENDUM A: District Board, Staff Officers and Guests Present**

DIRAUX: CDR Paige Keenan

DIRAUX: BOSN2 Dustin Finkelson

COMO Mary Kirkwood DCO

COMO Wally Smith IPDCO, DNACO PACAREA

Chief of Staff Dean McFarren

DCAPT Prevention: Randy McCormick

DCAPT Response: Jerry Edelen

DCAPT Support & Planning: Jim Losi

DCDR 1 – Nancy Marion; DCDR 3 – Russ Kaiser

DCDR 4 – Alan Stanton; DCDR 5 – Lew Derfuss

DCDR 6 – Chuck Cobery; DCDR 7 – Paul Custance

DCDR 8 – Bill Hale; DCDR 10 – Don Pierce

DCDR 11 – Bruce Martin; DCDR 12 – Greg Olsen

P-PCA – COMO Rod Collins

DSO's in attendance:

DSO-AS – John-Michael Zimmerle

DSO-AV – Larry Olson

DSO-CM – Larry Stanton

DSO-CS –

DSO-DV – Tracy Schultz

DSO-EM – Bruce Martin

DSO-FN – David Wright

DSO-FS – Linda Haynes

DSO-HR – Robert Schabert

DSO-IS – Anita Farnholtz

DSO-LP – Joanna Leighton-Nevesny

DSO-MA - George Rogers

DSO-MS – Wil Sumner

DSO-MT – Ann Zocchi

DSO-NS – Jim Duncan

DSO-OP – Virginia Luchetti

DSO-PA – Jane Smith

DSO-PB – Greg Schaefer  
DSO-PE – Sean Harvey  
DSO-PV – Mike Thompson  
DSO-SR – Georgie Scheuerman  
DSO-VE – Mike Lauro  
CRC -  
ASC SF: Sue Fry  
ASC H:  
Int Rel – Ricardo Moreno

Guests: RADM Brian Penoyer, COMO Mike Maddox, COMO Angelo Perata, COMO Vic Connell, Curtis Han, Bryce Leinan, Chris Ince, Alfred Wootten

### **Links showing Coast Guard response to 9/11**

**Mary Kirkwood, DCO** 1:05 PM  
<https://www.americanwaterways.com/media/videos/boatlift-tom-hanks-narrates-untold-tale-911-resilience>

**Mary Kirkwood, DCO** 1:05 PM  
<https://www.facebook.com/UScoastguard/videos/406171226705684/>

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