



**Homeland  
Security**

**U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary  
District 11 Northern Region**

*Serving Northern California, Nevada, Utah*



District 11NR Board & Staff Meeting Minutes  
Saturday, 17 September, 2022 1500 PDT  
Base Alameda

**Call to Order:** 1505 hours by DCO Dean McFarren

**Pledge of Allegiance:** led by COMO Dean McFarren

COMO McFarren welcomed everyone attending the meeting either in person or online.

**Introduction of Guests:** COMO McFarren introduced 2 guests. RADM Andrew Sugimoto (USCG Commander District 11) and COMO Alex Malewski (Auxiliary National Commodore)

**Roll Call:** By Georgie Scheuerman. Present were: CDR Christina Jones; BOSN2 Thomas Perez; COMO Dean McFarren, DCO; Curtis Han, DCOS; COMO Mary Kirkwood, IPDCO, DNACO PACAREA; Bruce Martin, DCAPT; Alan Stanton, DCAPT; Chuck Cobery, DCAPT; COMO Dale Fajardo, DCDR; Don Anderson, DCDR; Eddie Lam, DCDR; Randy McCormick, DCDR; COMO Wally Smith, DCDR; Tony Zocchi, DCDR; John Felton, DCDR; Thomas Witt, DCDR; Bryce Leinan, DCDR; Georgie Scheuerman, DCDR; Jim Losi, P-PCA

A quorum was present to conduct business.

Attendance is reported in Addendum A.

Guests: RADM Andrew Sugimoto and Auxiliary National Commodore Alex Malewski, (Also See Addendum A.)

**Approval of Meeting Minutes:**

- August 2022: COMO Dale Fajardo made motion to approve. Chuck Cobery seconded. Minutes approved.

**Speakers:**

**RADM Andrew Sugimoto:** RADM Sugimoto talked about how he got accepted into the Academy. The Auxiliary AIM program helped him. He noted he's been a fan of the Auxiliary for many years. He has many times asked the Auxiliary for help and considers the Auxiliary a pivotal part of the Coast Guard Team, with no partition between the Auxiliary and the Coast Guard. Priority 1 – People: Active Duty Coast Guard, Reserve, Auxiliary, and civilian employees. Need to come together and be cohesive, mutually supportive. Mental health has taken a hit because we are separated during the Pandemic. We need to come together and work on the basics, like training and operations. We've got more work and things are more complicated. Simple moto – respect and take care of each other. He mentioned numerous activities for the Auxiliary, including administrative needs in his office. He thanked us for what

we do and noted we do make a difference for the Coast Guard. Other agencies are jealous of the Coast Guard because of the Auxiliary. We're pushing the boundaries of the Coast Guard.

**COMO Alex Malewski:** He noted he's NACO LD (Lame Duck). We're lucky to work with each other and with the Active Duty. He wanted to say Thank You and Congratulations. We all got through COVID. He noted 57% of volunteer organizations went under during COVID. But we're now a leaner and more efficient organization. We did 1100 Virtual Elections. We came through this challenge and changed the way we do business. Now Active Duty Coast Guard is coming to us for help in numerous areas like Chaplain Services, Investigations, Interpreters, Cyber services. We met the challenge and took the opportunity.

### **National Awards:**

DCOS Curtis Han read the following awards presented by COMO McFarren, RADM Sugimoto, COMO Kirkwood, and COMO Alex Malewski:

- Randy McCormick – 2020 National Commodore's Auxiliary Diversity Award,
- Kit Galvin - PACAREA winner of the 2021 Commodore Daniel Maxim Award for Excellence in Education.
- Tiffany Townsend – 2022 National Public Affairs Contest in Photography "Team Coast Guard" category.

COMO McFarren also recognized numerous D11NR divisions and flotillas that received the NACO 3 Star Diversity Award.

**District Elections:** COMO McFarren described how the elections would be conducted, who was on the Screening Committee, and the Election Committee. COMO Maddox described how the election would be conducted.

**DCO:** One candidate; 3 calls for additional nominees. None made. Motion by Eddie Lam for unanimous vote for Curtis Han. Approved by all.

**DCOS:** 4 candidates: Chuck Cobery, Jim Losi, Bruce Martin, and Alan Stanton. Called for nominees from the floor 3 times. None made. Each candidate had 2 minutes to speak. At the Fifth Vote: Jim Losi was elected.

**DCAPTS:** 6 Candidates for 3 DCAPT positions: Michael Brown, Chuck Cobery, Lew Derfuss, COMO Dale Fajardo, William Hale, and Randy McCormick. 3 calls for nominations from the floor. None made. Each candidate had 2 minutes to speak. The voting resulted in COMO Fajardo, Chuck Cobery, and Randy McCormick elected as DCAPTs for 2023.

COMO McFarren thanked the Election Committee for their work.

While the election was being conducted other parts of the meeting agenda continued (See below.).

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

**DCDR 1** COMO Dale Fajardo – Rpt on File: Dale reported Div 1 elections were coming up. Many patrols are underway and preparations are underway for Fleet Week (FW).

**DCDR 3** Don Anderson – Rpt on File: Don extended a Shout Out to Jeff Fite for doing paddle craft exams. Reengaging with Air Station Sacramento. Members are doing watch standing. The Capital Air Show is coming up. Coast Guard & Auxiliary will be together in one Booth. Also other PA events are coming up. Divisions 3 & 5 are working together. Don noted that a patrol rescued a person in the water.

**DCDR 4** Eddie Lam – Rpt on File: Eddie reported they've had some patrols. Also doing in-person instruction.

**DCDR 5** Randy McCormick– Rpt on File: Randy thanked the flotillas, FCs, and staff for their work. Also working with Active Duty Coast Guard.

**DCDR 6** COMO Wally Smith – Rpt on File: Wally reported that it's been a busy time with: a BBQ for Station Monterey, Helicopter support at Moss Landing, and working on locating drones. Working with Sea Scouts and getting members. Had a good OPTREX which Wally felt shows we are back from COVID.

**DCDR 7** Tony Zocchi – Rpt on File: Tony reported the Div 7 OPTREX went well in August. Had some high winds. 11 people qualed. Had a call for an emergency looking for someone in the water. Was successful. Thanked OTO Perez and the D11SR OTO for their help. Elections scheduled on the 29<sup>th</sup>.

**DCDR 8** John Felton – Rpt on File: John reported doing a lot of helicopter OPS. Recruiting is getting a lot of attention. Trying to expand and get more things going.

**DCDR 10** Thomas Witt – Rpt on File: Thomas reported 10-2 working on the Delta. Recruiting is proceeding with new members coming in. PA events are planned. Also getting ready for elections. Div 10 OPTREX scheduled for 23-25 SEP.

**DCDR 11** Bryce Leinan – Rpt on File: Bryce reported Div 11 environment is smoky. Hoping rain will help. Thanked Linda Ravetti for her work. Also thanked Bill Stolz. There's a possible mini OPTREX coming up. Elections are also coming up.

**DCDR 12** Georgie Scheuerman – Rpt on File: Georgie reported on various fellowship activities, Marine Safety missions, and elections scheduled for September and October.

COMO McFarren thanked DCDRs for their work.

**PPCA:** Jim Losi – Rpt on File: Jim Losi called COMO McFarren and DCOS Curtis Han forward. He thanked them and gave them plaques. He also called Michelle Thompson forward and thanked her for her work organizing the PCA Fair, and presented a plaque to Michelle.

**IPDCO:** COMO Mary Kirkwood: COMO Kirkwood reported on our emerging from COVID, coming out as a stronger organization. But we do still have members who are not as comfortable getting involved yet. There is something for everyone. We're now doing new things: Artificial Intelligence, Cyber Security, the Drone Program is expanding, and Southwest Border Program is going extremely well, supporting a Border Patrol Mission. Border Patrol thinking about establishing their own Auxiliary. Request For Forces (RFF) has gone really well – D11 noted as a great example. Looking to the Aux to do more things in PACAREA. Mary noted we need to learn to get going faster. We need to try to anticipate what might be needed. New Auxiliary Work Uniform (AWU) is now available with a wide range of sizes. She also challenged us to give our new members mentors.

**DIRAUX:** CDR Christina Jones: CDR Jones thanked us for what we do. She noted the return on investment for the Auxiliary can't be counted. She's excited to meet so many of us. Still need to follow COVID Policy Phase 4. Reminded members to submit the current COVID Risk Form. Also we still must submit Mass Gathering Form. At NACON – For FY 23 - SAMA Funding increased 35% for Air and 30% increase for Surface Operations. She noted the New Fiscal Year is coming but don't submit for Patrol Orders. Funding will come. DIRAUX can give verbal approval. Once money is available it will take some time to get reimbursed. Approval will likely be made for necessary missions but for normal missions they will be looked at very carefully.

**OTO:** BOSN2 Thomas Perez: BOSN2 Perez thanked us for the warm welcome. Attended some OPTREX and saw enthusiasm. He noted Safety and Professionalism are important. Emphasized communication &

standardization. His goal is to attend every OPTREX. Discussed some information we should put into AUXDATA II (AD2) for OPFACs. Still keeping with the policies in place. Asked that we be clear about what risk we are taking versus the expected gain.

### **Curtis Han: DSO Reports:**

#### **DCAPT Prevention** Bruce Martin DCAPT–

Joseph Chavoen DSO-MS – Rpt on File. Joseph reported that many good activities have been going on over the last month. Coast Guard have asked for developing Auxiliary participation in several areas. AUX responded in several areas like Aid to Sanitation Verifier and starting an AUX program in Operations for Offshore Coast Guard Patrols.

Jane Smith DSO-PA - Rpt on File: Jane asked for reports from all Divisions. There will be a PA class tomorrow. Last hour of class will be signing off PQS as much as possible. At NACON – There were 2 good days for PA.

Mike Thompson DSO-PV - Rpt on File: Mike reported Div 5 is extraordinary doing 700 visits. Next division has 167.

Michael Hay DSO-NS - Rpt on File: Michael was not present. Jim Duncan reported for Michael. Div 6 completed all PATONS and Div 8 also completed PATONS. 41% of PATONS are done. Completed the C-School. 16 people were at the school. Losing 4 more RASTER charts. For this year lost 14.

Sean Harvey DSO-PE – Rpt on File: Sean congratulated Kit Galvin for her work. He noted we should think about nominating an instructor for the National Award. He described what's looked for in this award.

Mike Lauro DSO-VE - Rpt on File: Mike reported he had nothing to add to his report. Thanked Michelle Thompson & Ann Zocchi for their assistance setting up the VE class at PCA Fair.

#### **DCAPT Response** Alan Stanton DCAPT – Alan

Larry Olson DSO-AV – Rpt on File: Larry was not present. Doug Kerr reported for Larry. Adam Kovalevsky was appointed an ADSO and will be handling maintenance status for Air Squadron equipment and handling PPE. Stan Douglas is appointed ADSO for Aviation.

COMO Wally Smith DSO-OP - Rpt on File: Wally thanked OTO Perez, and 2 other Active Duty Officers who've participated in Auxiliary OPS. Requals from 2017, 2018, and 2019 all moved out 1 year.

Larry Stanton DSO-CM - Rpt on File: Larry reported that for FW Kevin Sellstrom is looking for people to do communications. Sector San Francisco called looking for surface assets and we provided it. There are COMMs workshops at PCA. Still working on the Diablo Repeater.

Vinicio Mata DSO-EM – Rpt on File: Vinicio was not present. Bryce Leinan reported about using Everbridge for Fires.

John-Michael Zimmerle DSO-AS –Rpt on File: John-Michael reported he's working on CA.

#### **DCAPT Support & Planning** Chuck Cobery DCAPT –

Carl Henning DSO-CS – Rpt on File: Carl reported on C-schools at NACON. Noted he's supporting Michelle Thompson for PCA. Also working on some websites and continuing uploading reports.

Linda Haynes DSO-CA – Rpt on File: Linda reported on cooking meals for the PCA Fair.

Pamela Berger DSO-IS - Rpt on File: Pamela reported she knows there are more hours out there that should be entered into AUXDATA II (AD2). Members can do them online or submit reports. Training session planned for Sunday at the PCA Fair.

Ann Zocchi DSO-MT – Rpt on File: Ann reported TCT refresher classes coming again. Elected Officers Training (EOT) being prepared for elected officers. She asked that we send election results to her. Will get instructors for the EOT. Thanked Michelle Thompson for her work on the PCA Fair. New Member Academy will be scheduled online.

Steven Hilt DSO-DV – Rpt on File: Steven noted he had nothing to report for September.

Jim Losi DSO-HR – Rpt on File: Jim reported a spike of new members in the last 30 days. Recruiting has been very strong.

Jerry Edelen DSO-MA - Rpt on File: Jerry reported ADSO reported on the Safety Stand Down for Rolling Stock. No trailers that aren't recertified can be moved. Are working on repairs.

Greg Schaefer DSO-PB – Rpt on File: Greg not present.

### **Curtis Han - DCOS**

Fran Fisher DSO-FN – Rpt on File: Fran was not present.

Ricardo Moreno INT REL – Rpt on File: Ricardo was not present. Curtis noted 2 members were identified as Russian Interpreters.

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

**ASC- SF:** Sue Fry: Rpt on File: Sue was not present. Curtis noted planning meetings continue.

**ASC- Humboldt:** Bill Hale: Rpt on File: Bill reported Aux still supporting Sector Humboldt, doing helicopter OPS.

### **DCO McFarren: DSO Reports:**

Joanna Leighton-Nevesny DSO-LP: Joanna reported she needs to see and approve contracts for COWs.

Neal Nevesny - Civil Rights – Neal had nothing to report.

### **Leadership Reports:**

#### **DCOS – Curtis Han:**

##### **1. D11 Request for Forces Update**

- a. 66 requests presently. Total of 44 requests closed; 2 in progress; 20 remain open.
- b. 1 recent request from PACAREA Behavioral Health Leadership Team, located at Base Alameda. They are seeking an Executive Assistant to aid in clinical care, policy development and training duties related to the new USCG Behavioral Health Program
- c. USCGC Waesche, in-port IT support. In touch with CDR Max Jenny and CDR Chris Klein (XO) and coordinating efforts with AUC COMO Vic Connell. Blind copy email was sent to all members of Divisions 1, 4, 12 to directly solicit volunteers. We had one 17-year-old, new Auxiliarist respond, but due to lack of experience, did not pursue.

##### **2. Risk Management Initial Training and Refresher Training Reports**

- a. Initial RM Training – 2 members are now non-compliant; previous 6 members have completed the ITRM
- b. As of September 1, 2022, RM Refresher Training – 170 of 187 members are current, 17 members have expired since last month. RM refresher training was provided on Wednesday, 9/14/22.

##### **3. Core Training:**

- a. As of September 6, 2022, 61% of membership are compliant for core training. 658 of 1085 members are compliant. National average is 65%. Ranked fourth of five Districts in PACAREA.

##### **4. AP/IQ Status:**

- a. 107 members in AP status; 78 members in IQ status.
- b. AUXOP – we currently have 176 members (16.2%) with AX/AX2 designation.

## **5. District 11 North Safety Update**

- a. Mishap reporting – please make sure any and all mishaps are reported up the chain of leadership to DCO and OTO.

## **6. REYR/REWK**

- a. **PLEASE KEEP IN MIND THAT WORKSHOPS TAKEN AND APPROVED AFTER JUN 30 – NEED TO SUBMIT MT-2 FORMS TO DIRAUX TO GET MEMBERS OUT OF REWK TO CURRENT STATUS.**
- b. Any members who were in REYR for certifications and have completed the required tasks (hours, workshops, annual currencies) and are reflected in AUXDATA II, will also need to be requested to have the certifications set back to CURRENT status by submitting MT-2 form (VE/PV/IT) and MT-3 form (Ops)

COMO McFarren asked that we make sure members know about classes being offered that might move them to BQ Status.

## **DCO – Dean McFarren:**

### **1. Coming up on end of Dues Season:**

- a. Just a reminder that we are coming up on the end of “Dues Season.”
- b. There are many advantages to being a member in the Auxiliary
- c. Our current COVID Phase IV guidance allows all members to return to tasking.
- d. Leaders, please make contact with your membership and reconnect.
  - i. According to the exit interview calls conducted by our DSO-HR Jim Losi, many members say the never heard from their FC.
- e. Please encourage any and all members to pay their 2023 dues quickly.

### **2. Membership Status:**

- a. As of 08SEP, our membership is at 1085. That is up from 1073 at the end of 2021, or a 1.11% increase in membership, but down 5 members from our last month membership of 1090.
- b. We’ve attracted 91 new members this year (8.3% new member run rate) however we’ve also lost 79 (including five members passing away). We are trending right at our District recruiting goal of 12-14% that we need to ensure a stable membership going into 2023.
- c. Seeing as the Coast Guard’s needs are shifting and the Auxiliary is offering so many more opportunities to serve, we should really be looking at how we recruit and who we are targeting. Additionally, continue focusing on recruiting younger members that can be productive for many years going forward.
- d. Our DSO-HR Jim Losi continues to look “into the data” to locate trends and identify ways for us as leaders to encourage our membership to stay in the Auxiliary. Reach out to him. As COMO McFarren has stated earlier, Jim is conducting exit interviews of those who have submitted their 7035’s and are looking to leave. Are we as leaders being proactive and reaching out before those members cement their intent to leave??? It’s easier and more effective to keep a member than train a new one....

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

### **1. Auxiliary Southwest Border Assistance**

- a. COMO McFarren just wanted to remind folks that the SWB Assistance program has been extended through November 2022 and if are looking to volunteer Please see ALAUX 030/22 sent on 09AUG for details.

- b. Minimum deployment terms have changed: Auxiliarists are requested to be at a deployment site at least fourteen (14) full and consecutive days if possible (travel days to-and-from the deployment site are not included). Availability for longer on-site durations as well as multiple deployment availabilities are welcomed. If able to provide only between 7 and 13 days at the deployment site, then indicate that constraint as part of the application.
- c. Deployments of less than 7 days on site will not be arranged.
- d. To Date, we have vetted 28 members with SEVEN receiving orders.
  - i. Vetting: So far we have vetted Tommy Holtzman, Vicki Hudson, Fred Black, Don Anderson, Rod Collins, Tom Witt, Steven Hilt, Jim Losi, Rich Celia, Lisa Curtis, John Farina, Jeff Fite, Michelle Gibson, Michael Mitchell, Marius Landauer, Anthony King, Cassandra Mani, Kevin Kealey, Phil Mammano,-William (Bill) Hale, Thomas Stead, Eric Paananen, Dinia Paananen, Richard Hague, Linda Ravetti,
- e. COMO McFarren gave a special BZ to all members that threw their hats in the ring and volunteered to serve a segment of society that is less fortunate than us. This is what the Coast Guard Auxiliary is all about!!!!

## **2. Division & Flotilla Elections**

- a. Now that our District election are over, all Divisions should have their election dates set. Please communicate that date to DCOS Han.
- b. Per existing National and local DIRAUX guidance, D11N Divisions and Flotillas continue to have the option to hold elections EITHER in-person OR electronically using the “Election Runner” or “Easy Poll” election software.
- c. Hybrid elections (some voting via paper ballot in person and some voting electronically) are not authorized.
- d. Please plan early on which method you will be using taking into account how your membership attends meetings.
- e. If you’re planning on conducting in-person elections, please review the Auxiliary Manual Chapter 4 Section F and your unit Standing Rules
- f. If you’re planning on holding your elections electronically, in addition to the AUXMAN and Standing Rules, please reacquaint yourselves with AUXSOP-004(A). There are significant differences in committee and nomination status timing.
- g. COMO Maddox is our Electronic election software guru. Please reach out to him if you need assistance with using the apps.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- Fleet Week: AUX POCs are: Michael Brown for On Shore missions, Terry Blanchard for Surface OPS, and Kevin Sellstrom for Aux Communications.
- Send COW Information to DCOS Curtis Han.

### **For the Good of the Auxiliary:**

- Bryce Leinan noted he’s recruiting for AV assistance.
- Frocking – New elected officers were sworn in and frocked.

**Adjourn:** With no further comment or discussion, Georgie Scheuerman made a motion to adjourn and Thomas Witt seconded. Board approved. DCO McFarren adjourned the meeting at 1823.

**Next Meeting:** October 19, 2022 at 1900 PDT, Webinar

Respectfully Submitted by: Georgie Scheuerman, DSO-SR

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

DIRAUX: CDR Christina Jones

DIRAUX: BOSN2 Thomas Perez

COMO Dean McFarren DCO

COMO Mary Kirkwood IPDCO, DNACO PACAREA

Chief of Staff: Curtis Han

DCAPT Prevention: Bruce Martin

DCAPT Response: Alan Stanton

DCAPT Support & Planning: Chuck Cobery

DCDR 1 – COMO Dale Fajardo;

DCDR 3 – Don Anderson

DCDR 4 – Eddie Lam;

DCDR 5 – Randy McCormick

DCDR 6 – COMO Wally Smith;

DCDR 7 – Tony Zocchi

DCDR 8 – John Felton;

DCDR 10 – Thomas Witt

DCDR 11 – Bryce Leinan;

DCDR 12 – Georgie Scheuerman

P-PCA – Jim Losi

DSO's in attendance:

DSO-AS – John-Michael Zimmerle

DSO-AV –

DSO-CA – Linda Haynes

DSO-CM – Larry Stanton

DSO-CS – Carl Henning

DSO-DV – Steven Hilt

DSO-EM –

DSO-FN –

DSO-HR – Jim Losi

DSO-IS – Pamela Berger

DSO-LP – Joanna Leighton-Nevesny

DSO-MA – Jerry Edelen

DSO-MS – Joseph Chavoen

DSO-MT – Ann Zocchi

DSO-NS –

DSO-OP – COMO Wally Smith

DSO-PA – Jane Smith

DSO-PB –

DSO-PE – Sean Harvey

DSO-PV – Mike Thompson

DSO-SR – Georgie Scheuerman

DSO-VE – Mike Lauro

CRC - Neil Nevesny

ASC SF:

ASC H: Bill Hale

Int Rel –

Guests: RADM Andrew Sugimoto, National Commodore Alex Malewski, COMO Mike Maddox, COMO Angelo Perata, COMO Vic Connell, Numerous D11NR members attended in other rooms at the PCA Fair and on line.