



**AIR FORCE SERGEANTS ASSOCIATION**  
**Division 6**  
**The Golden West Division**



TO: AFSA Division 6 Chapters

10 April 2021

Subject: AFSA Division 6 Annual Meeting Virtual Conference Minutes

1. The AFSA Division 6 Annual Business meeting was held via teleconference with 20 of 21 chapters (roll call) on 10 April 2021, via zoom. The AFSA Division 6 in person conference was canceled due to the current COVID-19 Pandemic restrictions. The meeting was called to order by Division President Blake Manual, 9:00 am (PT), 10 April 2021. 50 delegates were on the line for the meeting. Pledge of Allegiance (1163 CP Zwiebel), AFSA Preamble (1320 SA Jenkins) and invocation (DP Manuel) were delivered.
  
2. **Introductions:** AFSA Division 6 executive council members and IP Mike Carton: VP Steve Baskiewicz, (Membership), Trustees Michelle Chabot (Comm/Family Matters), Jim Lokovic (Leg/RD 1163/1311/1328/1330), Christopher Dodd (Awards/RD AZ), Andrew Duenas (Retired & Veterans Affairs/RD for Retiree chapters 1322/1365/1379), SMSgt Talbert Knepshield (AD Affairs/RD 1320/1356/1372), Treasurer Bob Tomlinson (RD for CO/KPL) and Secretary Sandy Valdezate (RD for NV) and SA Kerry Wright (RD for NM). Annual council reports are on the AFSA Division 6 website under the tab Virtual PAC 2021 (minus DP, VP, Trustee 3,4,5 & SA).
  
3. **Roll Call** (Trustee Duenas):
 

1163, MSgt Zwiebel, 19 votes	1179, MSgt Devall, 22 votes	1180, TSgt Miracle, 7 votes
1181, SMSgt Baisden, 20 votes	1182, MSgt Pineda, 5 votes	1201, TSgt Green, 18 votes
1252, CMSgt Reno, 40 votes	1253, MSgt Jackson, 7 votes	1255 absent
1257, TSgt Vigil, 12 votes	1260, MSgt Lofton, 43 votes	1261 absent
1311, TSgt Timm, 6 votes	1320, TSgt Henry, 31 votes	1322, George Wheeler, 24 votes
1328, TSgt Pitts, 21 votes	1330, absent	1356 absent
1365, Andrew Duenas, 8 votes	1372, TSgt Traversie, 12 votes	1379, Tony Rollis, 18 votes

Total of 17 of 21 chapters present, 33 delegates, 322 votes, simple majority: 177 votes, 2/3: 243.
  
4. **Review and Approve Conference Agenda:** Motion made by Bob Tomlinson-1179 to approve, 2<sup>nd</sup> by TSgt Pitts-1328, approved.
  
5. **Opening remarks/DP Report:** Membership- recruiting and retentions, 460 recruited last year, were 13,500 now 9,500 lost 4,000 members last year. Engage 4 month rosters and build your membership. Have activities, Presidents be a leader and lead your teams. Build social media presence, use resources available on web pages, division and AFSA HQs. Reach out to what is working and not working.
  
6. **AFSA International HQs Talking Papers:** DP Manuel attended AFSA HQs midyear meeting in March 2021. Discussed talking papers that will be presented at the PAC in July. 1) #8 Change to AFSA vicinity of the Capital area 2) #9 defeated- restructure of governing body of AFSA, AFSA Executive Council name change to Board of Directors. 3) #19 How we make changes to bylaws, bylaws membership owns and votes to change, policy and procedures – executive council changes. 4) #21 Family Matters Trustee- change so active

duty who are family members can be in the position. Talking papers are located on the Division 6 webpage, under Virtual PAC 2021 tab. George Wheeler-chapter 1322, asked about the status of their talking paper on name change, it is moving forward for approval.

7. **Treasurer's Report/Budget for 2021:** 2020 income: \$20,350.40, expenses: \$18,099.90, balance on 31 Dec 2020: \$9,080.31. Budget for 2021 was reviewed; no expected income this year, administrative support payments have been cut for divisions. Expenses \$8,900, balance: \$181.31. TSgt Pitts-1328, motioned to approve, seconded by Bates-1181, approved. Both documents located on Division 6 webpage under Virtual PAC 2021.

8. **AFSA Division 6 Awards:** DP Manuel announced the Annual Award Winners: Example winning packages are posted on the AFSA Division 6 website at [www.afsativ6.org](http://www.afsativ6.org).

Amn of the Year – SrA Lelauni Sanders – Chapter 1163  
NCO of the Year – TSgt Gian Gonzalez - Chapter 1252  
Member of the Year – MSgt Junita Branstetter – Chapter 1320  
Family Member of the Year – Jesusana Ward – Chapter 1320  
Legislative Award – MSgt Mishon Montgomery – Chapter 1252  
VSA – MSgt Michael Burd – Chapter 1201  
Exemplary Achievement Award – SMSgt (Ret) Sandra Valdezate - Chapter 1252  
Chapter of the Year under 500 – Chapter 1201 – Kirkland AFB, NM  
Chapter of the Year over 500 – Chapter 1260 – Luke AFB, AZ  
Chapter Legislative Award – Chapter 1163 – Hill AFB, UT  
Chapter Volunteer Service Award – Chapter 1320- Travis AFB, CA  
Chapter Community Service Award (Humanitarian) Chapter 1253 – Creech AFB, NV  
Chapter Etchberger Communication Award – Chapter 1260, Luke AFB, AZ

9. **Credentials Roll Call follow-up with missing chapters:** reconvened after recess 10:15 am PT 1255, absent 1261, TSgt McAndrews, 44 votes 1330, SSgt Carranza, 28 votes 1356, MSgt Burgess, 8 votes. 20 of 21 chapters present. 353 votes, simple majority 177 2/3 235.3 Roll call of chief delegates and their alternates.

10. **Meeting Minutes:** Conference business meeting minutes (30 March 2020), mid-year meeting minutes 27 Aug 2019 are posted on the AFSA Division 6 webpage under Virtual PAC 2021. Ashley Cobb-1372 motioned to approve minutes, TSgt Pitts-1328 seconded, approved.

11. **Training:** Recommend you go to the AFSA Hqs webpage, Tab on top: Chapter Corner go down to Training Modules and review the 7 modules. Gives you all the report suspenses, covers Americanism report, budget, operating, etc.

12. **Election Caucus:** 3 declared candidates for office- VP: MSgt Zwiebel, 1<sup>st</sup> Trustee- Michelle Chabot and 3<sup>rd</sup> Trustee- MSgt Chris Dodd. Elections will be for Vice-President and 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Trustees since it is an odd year (2 yr term). Roll call complete, voting commenced and the following delegates were elected:

a. Vice-President (1 yr): MSgt James Zwiebel, nominated by Jim Lokovic, Chapter 1328, seconded Alt **Del Salestor**, Chapter 1163. No other nominations were received. Motion to close nominations: George Wheeler/1322, seconded MSgt McRoberts/1163. Motion to case 1 ballot for MSgt James Zwiebel new Vice-President, motion by TSgt Pitts/1328, second George Wheeler/1322.

- b. 1<sup>st</sup> Trustee: Michelle Chabot, Chapter 1179 nominated by Kerry Wright, Chapter 1163, 2<sup>nd</sup> MSgt McRoberts, Chapter 1163. No other nominations were received. Motion to close nominations made by Cobb/1372 and seconded by TSgt Pitts/1328. Questions were asked about her strongest asset – which is IT and technology. Webpages – she informed all chapters can have a page for \$25. Family Matters as an additional duty- she has a masters degree in counseling and plans to bring families together. TSgt Pitts/1328 motioned to elect by acclamation and it was seconded by George Wheeler/1322.
- c. 3<sup>rd</sup> Trustee: MSgt Chris Dodd, Chapter 1260 nominated by MSgt Lofton, Chapter 1260, seconded by Toto Jenkins/1320. No other nominations were received. Motion to close nominations made by TSgt Pitts/1328 and second Tony Rollis/1379. George Wheeler/1322 motioned to elect by acclamation and it was seconded by TSgt Pitts/1328.
- d. IP Mike Carton inducted the new executive council members.

**13. AFSA International President Briefing (Mike Carton):** Landscape of the association is changing and evolving. What, how, when, financial, virtual, modernization. Talked about your family's quality of life and why its important to be involved. Suggested you merge your virtual with in person efforts. New this year and beyond: chapter asp increased, yeti cooler incentive, etc. Financial: new revenue streams, AFSA Ways and Means committee, virtual fundraising initiatives, developing a new 501c3 which can support community events and donations. Communications: has been difficult, have updated bylaw and policy updates. Training: puzzle, it will be offered at the PAC in July but is also available to you on your division and AFSA HQs web pages. Legislative: 2021 Platform, 1,240 replies to Legislative survey, POW/MIA – 12-18 Sep 2021, Legislative Week 3-9 Oct 2021. Supporting Families: Attract and retain family members, one-course scholarships, zoom meetings, family success via legislative initiatives. Quality of life- focused points impacting every family's future. Are you making Family Matters a success in your chapters? Modernization: IEC name change to Board of Directors, complete top to bottom review, Executive Director and team committed to change, innovation and transformation of how we are currently doing things.

**14. Closing comments DP Blake Manuel** if anyone has any comments, questions or suggestions feel free to call 210-313-0708 or e-mail [blake.manuel@gmail.com](mailto:blake.manuel@gmail.com). Your division council is here for you if you have any issues, please let us know.

**15. Special Membership Campaign for Division 6:** 10 April to 10 May 2021 **MFL- \$300** (All Members). The special membership form is on the Division 6 webpage. If they don't want to become a member for life, remember the \$4 a month (set-it-forever) option is available. All completed applications must be sent to [mfsvc@hqafsa.org](mailto:mfsvc@hqafsa.org) and must be received in Headquarters by 10 May, 2021. Do not send anyone to the AFSA website as this special will not be on the site.

**16. Professional Airmen's Conference-** 24-29 Jul, 2021, Orlando – Family focused at Hilton Bonnet Creek, bring your family. Early registration is open now until 15 May - \$225 AFSA, PEG-\$300. Elections for International President and Uniformed Services Trustee (1 yr), Vice-President, Retiree/Veterans Affairs and Family Matters (2 yr). Kerry Wright announced he will be running for International President and MSgt Blake Manuel announced he will be running for Vice-President.

17. Next year's AFSA Division 6 Conference will be 3-5 Apr 2022, The Orleans, Las Vegas, NV. Chapters 1180 and 1181 will be host chapters since they did not get to do it the last 2 years. Conference was adjourned at 11:37 am PT.

//////Signed//////  
SANDRA VALDEZATE, SMSgt (Ret) USAF  
AFSA Division 6 Recorder/RD for NV