Minutes of the Governing Board Meeting
Held on 16 Sept. 2017
At the Hilton Dallas Lincoln Center
Dallas, Texas

Chief Commander Louie Ojeda, SN, convened the meeting at 0900.

USPS Chaplain Lois Nehmer-Schiff delivered the invocation, which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by N/F/Lt Mike Wiedel, JN, and the singing of the U.S. and Canadian national anthems.

Introduction of Past Chief Commanders

P/C/C Robert A. Baldridge, SN, introduced the other past chief commanders who were present in order of their terms:

P/C/C Frank A. Dvorak, SN (Bellevue/16) (2010 – 2011)


Introduction of Guests

P/R/C Mary Ann Jensen, SN, introduced the honored guests:

- Capt. Scott Johnson, chief, U.S. Coast Guard Office of Auxiliary and Boating Safety

- Robert Shafer, assistant national commodore, USCG Auxiliary Recreational Boating Safety

- Mary Larsen, USCG Auxiliary, America’s Waterway Watch
• Robert Pepin, chief commander, Canadian Power and Sail Squadrons
• Jake Hill, executive underwriter manager, McGriff, Seibels & Williams
• Keith Christopher, Boy Scouts of America National Events Manager
• Steve Prime, vice president, Gowrie Group
• Randy White, co-founder, SailAngle

C/C Ojeda announced an attendance of 306.

C/C Ojeda announced that D/Lt Frank Fitzgerald, AP, would serve as parliamentarian for the 2017 Governing Board Meeting.

R/C Ralph A. Bernard, AP, chairman, Committee on Rules, explained the voting rules for this meeting.

**Report of the Committee on Rules**

R/C Ralph Bernard, AP, announced that with the concurrence of the Board of Directors, the Committee on Rules recommended the following revisions to the United States Power Squadrons Bylaws to be effective as of the adjournment of the 2017 Governing Board.

Existing bylaws:

*Section 6.1 Each district shall be composed of the squadrons assigned it by the Governing Board. It shall be governed by a District conference and shall have a District Council functioning as an executive committee of the District Conference.*
Section 6.10 All district bylaws shall prescribe the membership of the district council which shall include at least the district bridge and the commanders of the district’s squadrons.

Section 6.11 All district bylaws shall prescribe the membership of the district conference which shall include at least the district council and the squadron delegates.

Section 9.5.5 In the event that a district conference must be adjourned to a date more than 24 hours later than the time fixed in the call for the conference, or to a different place, then there shall be issued a call for such adjourned conference addressed to all members of the district council setting forth the items to be included on the agenda for the adjourned conference. No action at an adjourned conference shall be valid unless a quorum is present. A call for an adjourned conference shall be by the same method and with the same notice as is required for a regular district conference.

R/C Bernard made a motion to change Section 6.1, Section 6.10, Section 6.11, and Section 9.5.5 as follows:

Proposed bylaws change:

Section 6.1 Each district shall be composed of the squadron(s) assigned it by the Governing Board. It shall be governed by a District Conference and may have a District Council functioning as an executive committee of the District conference.

Section 6.10 All district bylaws shall prescribe the membership of the District Council, if the Council exists, which shall include at least the district bridge and the commanders of the district’s squadrons.

Section 6.11 All district bylaws shall prescribe the membership of the district conference which shall include at least the squadron delegates and, if the District Council exists pursuant to the District Bylaws, the District Council, or, otherwise, the District Bridge.
Section 9.5.5 In the event that a District Conference must be adjourned to a date more than 24 hours later than the time fixed in the call for the conference, or to a different place, then there shall be issued a call for such adjourned conference addressed to all members of the District Council, if one exists, setting forth the items to be included on the agenda for the adjourned conference. No action at an adjourned conference shall be valid unless a quorum is present. A call for an adjourned conference shall be by the same method and with the same notice as is required for a regular District Conference.

Rationale: Gives individual districts the flexibility to decide whether or not to have a District Council.

The Governing Board ADOPTED the motion to amend the bylaws, Section 6.1, Section 6.10, and Section 6.11, Section 9.5.5. (2017-GB-1)

Existing bylaws:

Section 9.4.4 At all meetings of the Governing Board, 75 delegates (10.2.1, 10.2.2) actually present plus 75 other members of the Governing Board, or 150 or more alternate voter authorizations (10.3.2) held by members of the Governing Board or delegates present shall constitute a quorum.

R/C Bernard made a motion to change Section 9.4.4 as follows:

Proposed bylaws change:

Section 9.4.4 At all meetings of the Governing Board, 50 delegates (10.2.1, 10.2.2) actually present plus 50 other members of the Governing Board, or 100 or more alternate voter authorizations (10.3.2) held by members of the Governing Board or delegates present shall constitute a quorum.

Rationale: With the advent of falling attendance at Annual Meetings and Governing Board Meetings, it has been more difficult to have a quorum. This change allows the Governing Board to conduct business in a more efficient manner.
The Governing Board ADOPTED the motion to amend the bylaws, Section 9.4.4. (2017-GB-2)

Proposed bylaws change (New):

Section 6.2.2 District 50 will consist of squadrons not affiliated with existing districts because of distance or other such necessity, and each squadron assigned to District 50 shall be assigned by the Governing Board. District Officers: district commander, district educational officer and district secretary/treasurer will be nominated by the Committee on Nominations and approved by the Governing Board. District Bridge Officer Vacancies, if necessary, will be filled by the Board of Directors until the next Governing Board meeting. Bylaws of District 50 will be approved by the Committee on Rules.

Approval of the Minutes

C/C Ojeda announced that with no objections, the minutes of the 25 Feb. 2017 Annual Meeting would be approved as distributed. (2017-GB-3)

C/C Ojeda called upon P/C/C Robert A. Baldridge, SN, to report on actions of the Board of Directors.

P/C/C Baldridge reported the board’s actions at its 12 and 13 September 2017 meetings:

1) To dissolve Rappahannock Sail/5, Hamburg/6, Bald Eagle/11, Kankakee Valley Sail20/, Sabine/21, Lake Mohave/28, Marion/29, and St. Helens Sail/32.

2) To spend up to $20,000 of Endowment Fund earnings to purchase IT hardware and software upgrades.

3) To request that the Committee on Rules amend the bylaws to authorize a second staff commander for the Finance Committee effective at the 2018 Annual Meeting.

4) To authorize Mary Catherine Berube to sign a contract to repave the parking lot at headquarters at a cost of approximately $27,000.
5) To spend up to $35,000 of Endowment Fund earnings to support a marketing communications initiative.

6) To authorize Mary Catherine Berube to sign a contract with Rushton Gregory to build a comprehensive platform focusing on marketing communications and public relations for internal audiences and to introduce America’s Boating Club to external audiences.

7) To hold the 2019 Governing Board from 8 through 16 September 2019 at the Galt House, Louisville, KY, at a room rate of $169.

8) To request that, if the Governing Board rejects the D/15 Inactive Squadron resolution, the Rules Committee evaluate the Planning Committee's "Notwithstanding" recommendation and consider bylaws changes for action at the next national meeting.

Report of the Executive Director

Mary Catherine Berube, headquarters executive director, introduced Lena Padró, manager, membership services; Tammy Brown, marketing director; and Yvonne Hill, publications director.

Mrs. Berube reported that in 2017 USPS was awarded $710,000 under the US Coast Guard National Non-Profit Public Service Organization Boating Safety Grant Program. The first grant is the Training Centers for Standards-Based-On-Water Skill Training for $250,000. The second is the Year-Round Safe Boating Campaign 2.0 for $200,000. The third is the Digital Media Library 3.0 for $75,000. The fourth is the Boating Skills Virtual Trainer V for $150,000. The fifth is Engaging Hispanic Youths in Recreational Boating Handbook for $35,000.

Mrs. Berube reported that about two years ago, USPS began the process of re-branding and repositioning the organization in the marketplace. She noted that through research, surveys and focus groups, the marketing team identified target groups for membership and growth.

Mrs. Berube called upon R/C Paul D. Mermelstein, SN, and Tammy Brown to bring members up to date on the plan to integrate America’s Boating Club into the USPS culture.
R/C Mermelstein and Tammy Brown updated the Governing Board on the current activities regarding the rollout of America’s Boating Club, stating that USPS would become more dominant. Squadrons are encouraged to begin using dual branding, citing the example: “United States Power Squadrons – We are America’s Boating Club.”

They reported that a new tagline, “For Boaters, by Boaters,” was selected through a member and nonmember survey. They noted that the name United States Power Squadrons would become less visible over time and America’s Boating Club would become more dominate.

Berube reported that in February 2017 a team led by P/V/C Peter Mitchelson, SN, along with R/C Paul Mermelstein, SN, R/C Jan Wright, SN, IT Committee members, Yvonne Hill, and Tammy Brown, working in conjunction with R+M Agency, began developing a new public website. She noted that the goal was to create a website that grows membership, increases renewals, engages and energizes members, creates diversity and meets accessibility standards.

**Report of the Committee on Nominations**

R/C Susan L Darcy, JN, chairman of the Committee on Nominations, reported that in accordance with the bylaws, Section 5.6.1, the Committee on Nominations recommended the election of the members listed below:

**For Staff Commander of Cooperative Charting Committee:**
Stf/C Charles Roland Ibach III, SN (Charlotte/27)

**For Staff Commander of Marketing Committee:**
Stf/C Shirley D. Heald, AP (Dallas Sail/21)

**For Staff Commander of Public Affairs:**
Stf/C Robert E. Canfield, JN (Rockford/20)

**For Staff Commander of Safety Committee:**
Stf/C Allan B. Furtado, SN (Pompano Beach/8)

**For Staff Commander of Squadron Development Committee:**
Stf/C Mary Dodd, SN (Palm Beach Sail/8)
For General Members of the Governing Board:
P/C David M. Stewart, AP (Charlotte/27)
D/Lt/C Patricia W. Hakanson, SN (Charlotte/27)

The Governing Board ADOPTED a motion to accept the nomination for the noted positions and general members of the Governing Board. (2017-GB-4)

C/C Ojeda administered the oath of office to the newly elected officers.

Presentation of P/C/C Raymond A. Finley, Jr. Sea Scout Service Award

V/C Mary Paige Abbott, SN, was joined by V/C Lee Popham, JN, and R/C Jim Pahl-Washa, JN, to present the P/C/C Raymond A. Finley, Jr. Sea Scout Service Award to Rosemary Doolin and Charles Doolin, AP, Dallas/21. The award recognizes those members and honorees of United States Power Squadrons who are also youth or adult Sea Scout leaders and who have provided outstanding civic, educational and fraternal leadership to both the Sea Scouts and the United States Power Squadrons through civic involvement, educational achievement and active participation in both programs.

Report of the National Law Officer

R/C Michael D. Friedman, N, stated that the Law Committee was fortunate to have members with a broad range of expertise, including corporate law, tax, and intellectual property.

R/C Friedman stated that since the 2017 Annual Meeting, LawCom provided advice and assistance on approximately 25 matters involving contracts, trademarks, insurance and government filings.

R/C Friedman reminded districts and squadrons officers of the importance of filing timely IRS 990 reports. He noted that the consequences for repeated failure to file could lead to loss of tax-exempt status. He also encouraged districts and squadrons to consult with their district and squadron law officers.

Report of the Planning Committee

R/C Michael J. Skelley, JN, reported that the Planning Committee continues work on
squadron simplification, succession planning and the USPS Strategic Plan. He noted that the committee was also assigned the District 15 Resolution regarding an alternate squadron classification of “Inactive Squadron.”

R/C Skelley noted that after discussions with the national bridge, District 15 leadership, and the Marketing and Squadron Development committees, the desire to simplify the organizational structure at all levels, eliminate non-critical reporting and functions, and allow for squadrons in trouble to operate in a survivability mode was evident.

R/C Skelley presented the District 15 Resolution:

“Now therefore, we the members of District 15, do hereby resolve and forward to the United States Power Squadrons Board of Directors and General Membership a resolution to provide an alternate squadron classification of Inactive Squadron.”

“Be it further resolved that a squadron experiencing a 75% deficiency in the Squadron Internal review would be eligible for Inactive Squadron status with many of the administrative and educational requirements lifted allowing them the opportunity to recover while remaining a part of the United States Power Squadrons, honoring that commitment, still paying dues but with no voting privileges, while continuing community service, Vessel Safety Checks, et cetera, and training as they are able.”

R/C Skelley noted that while the Planning Committee agreed with the resolution on many levels, the resolution could not be implemented under the current structure. He stated that adding another squadron classification that requires new or additional bylaws is contradictory to the long-term desires of USPS membership and its organizational plan. He also noted that the resolution is intended to help failing squadrons, but the requirements included in the addendum to the resolution limit the authority to react locally and in the best interests of the members, squadron, and district.

R/C Skelley stated that in response to the District 15 Resolution the Planning Committee developed a “Notwithstanding Declaration,” where squadrons, with the approval of the assigned district, could request to continue as a squadron without a name change, and continue to operate under this waiver with no change in membership status or rights.
R/C Skelley reported that the Planning Committee, with the support of the Board of Directors, recommended voting no on the District 15 Resolution. D/C William B. DeArmond, AP, District 15, then made a motion recommending that the District 15 Resolution be defeated.

The Governing Board DEFEATED the District 15 Resolution. (2017-GB-1)

**Report of the Finance Committee**

R/C Ben Coons, JN, reported that total investments under the oversight of the Finance Committee are managed by Riazzi Asset Management, and totaled $2,740,046 as of 31 July 2017. He noted that these dollars are broken up into two major portfolios – the USPS Endowment Fund and the USPS Investment Fund.

R/C Coons reported that the balance in the Endowment Fund as of 31 July 2017 was $1,950,177 compared to $1,841,473 one year ago. He noted that through 31 July 2017 no dollars were paid from Endowment Fund earnings for special projects and grants approved by the Board of Directors.

R/C Coons reported that as of 31 July 2017 the balance in the USPS Investment Fund was $789,869 compared to $764,963 one year ago. The funds under management by Riazzi Asset Management in this account had a total value of $789,869 at 31 July 2017, up from $764,963 at the prior year end.

He noted that 50 percent of these funds were invested in common stocks, 28 percent in preferred stock equities, and the balance invested other fixed income securities and money market funds. Total income and capital appreciation of $47,741 during the year resulted in a 5.55% year-to-date 2017 total return on the amounts invested.

R/C Coons stated that grant monies are tracked separately, and are not part of the USPS operating budget, noting that as of 31 July 2017 the balance of total open grants was $2,786,951.

R/C Coons reported that the Board of Directors approved the 2018 Budget, contemplating a break-even budget without a dues increase. He stated that the Finance Committee determined that the funds necessary to finance the 2018 budget could be reasonably anticipated without the need for a dues increase.
He reported that subsequent to approving the 2018 Budget, the Board of Directors made a recommendation to the Finance Committee to request a $2.00 dues increase effective 1 December 2017 for the 2018 dues year with the specific purpose of engaging a marketing communications firm to introduce America’s Boating Club to internal and external audiences.

R/C Coons reported that the Finance Committee recommended a $2 dues increase for single active members and a $3 increase for the family unit effective 1 Dec. 2017.

The Governing Board ADOPTED the motion approving a $2 dues increase for single active members and a $3 increase for family units effective 1 Dec. 2017. (2017-GB-5)

The motion will set the dues rate for a regular active member to $55.00, the dues rate for family units headed by a regular active member to $82.50.

**Report of the National Treasurer**

V/C Lee Popham, JN, reported that as of 31 July 2017 there was an operating surplus of $76,379. He stated that dues and educational sales revenue were on target, while The Ensign revenue was ahead of budget. He noted that Ship’s Store, contributions, and Corporate Dues were below budget.

V/C Popham reported on the first Donor Recognition Breakfast, which was held during the Dallas Governing Board Meeting. Donors received a donor recognition lapel pin based on their cumulative donations to USPS. Plans are to hold donor recognition breakfasts at future national meetings.

The national treasurer reported that the Board of Directors, with the advice of financial, legal and tax counsel, recommended that United States Power Squadrons establish a nonprofit corporation, the United States Power Squadrons Endowment Fund Inc., to solicit, manage, and protect funds donated for the chartered purpose of the organization.

V/C Popham explained that USPS lacks a financial vehicle for soliciting donations from patrons that meets investment criteria established by financial planners, leaving USPS at a disadvantage in the testamentary and planned giving arena. He also noted that there are several accounts that would be consolidated for a better rate of return. The new fund would consolidate the monies and be managed by a board that is elected by the Governing Board. He noted that the
new fund would not replace the current Educational Fund, which has its own independent board of trustees.

V/C Popham explained that the initial board of directors for the new USPS Endowment Fund Inc. will be the seven current members of the USPS Board of Directors. Beginning in February 2018 at the USPS Annual National Meeting, and at each Annual Meeting thereafter, the Governing Board will elect two new trustees for three-year terms of office, to replace two of the USPS Board members. The seven Endowment Board trustees will be the immediate past chief commander representing the USPS Board of Directors, and six trustees nominated by the Committee on Nominations – two trustees each year for staggered three-year terms. He noted that pursuant to the IRS requirements and the Bylaws to be adopted, there cannot be a majority (i.e., more than three) of “substantial contributors” (i.e., contributors of $5,000 or more) who are members of the Endowment Board.

V/C Popham recommended that the Governing Board create a non-profit corporation, The USPS Endowment Fund Inc., to solicit, manage, and protect funds donated for the purpose of carrying on the chartered operations of the organization, and the Governing ADOPTED the motion. (2017-GB-6)

Report of the National Secretary

V/C Howard E. Yoas, SN, reported that the Heritage & Protocol Committee had been assisting squadrons with filing electronic Historian Reports. The committee approved a 75th anniversary burgee for Peconic Bay/3.

The Operations Manual Committee reported that the Operations Manual was up to date and can found at https://www.usps.org/index.php/departments/15000/15100.

The Information Technology Committee reported working on resolving issues with electronic merit mark filing.

The Communications Committee updated the Website and Publication Evaluation forms and distributed via email the “News from National” to 287 squadron and district newsletter editors in March, April, May, June, and August.
V/C Yoas reported that the Membership Services Committee revised the Membership Services Policy Manual and is updating the committee website.

The national secretary reported that Ship’s Store sales during the 2017 Dallas Governing Board Meeting totaled approximately $10,500. He reported that all of the dual-branded items were sold out and that new dual-branded items would be available at the 2018 Annual Meeting in Orlando.

**Report of the National Administrative Officer**

V/C Mary Paige Abbott, SN, reported that the goal of the Administrative Department is to create relevant materials and programs for districts and squadrons.

V/C Abbott reported that total membership as of 1 January 2017 was 27,814. She reported that 325 new members joined from 1 January through 31 July 2017 noting that the initiatives to retain members and increase membership are working. She encouraged members to contact fellow squadron members to ensure that they renew their membership.

V/C Abbott reported that the Administrative Department had simplified to two committees – Membership Committee and Squadron Development. The Membership Committee is focusing on members and their concerns, while the Squadron Development Committee is focusing on squadron planning, leadership and training. She noted that the Member Benefits brochure was updated and is available from headquarters in packages of 50, free of charge plus shipping.

The national administrative officer reported that eight squadrons are participating in the SERAT Program. She reported that the Port Captains Program is being rejuvenated. She also encouraged members to recognize first timers and make them feel welcome at squadron and district events.

V/C Abbott reported that the Administrative Department website was updated to include department news, a calendar of events, awards and contest forms, and recruiting and retention tools.
V/C Abbott called upon R/C Priscilla Clarke, AP, to present the 2017 P/C/C William D. Selden IV Member Involvement Retention Awards. The award is given to districts and squadrons that develop initiatives to increase membership retention. The 2017 winners are:

**P/C/C William D. Selden IV Member Involvement Retention Award**

**Squadron Awards**
- 3rd place  Spokane Sail/16
- 2nd place  Marco Island Sail/22
- 1st place  Catawba Sail/27

**District Award**  District 16

V/C Abbott reported on “The Summer of Membership” initiative, where members were asked to send in or post photos of squadron activities. Originally it was announced that the top three winners would receive a marketing Welcome to the Neighborhood pop-up banner, but due to the caliber of entries six will be awarded. She announced the following winners:

- Akron Sail/7
- Bellevue Sail/16
- Manatee Sail/22
- Golden Corner Lakes Sail/26
- Catawba Sail/27
- Fort Macon Sail/27

**Report of the National Educational Officer**

V/C Craig Fraser, SN, reported that the Educational Department was developing programs to move USPS education into the future. He reported that the new Jump Start on-the-water program is designed for new boaters, including members and non-members. Participants will receive personalized training on departing the dock, basic close quarters handling, basic on plane operation, and more. He noted that the training takes about two hours and does not require a certified trainer.

V/C Fraser reported that a new seminar, Introduction to Navigation, focuses on navigational practices, starting with charting basics and expanding to GPS and electronic
navigation using open CPN. He also reported that two other seminars, AIS and Propane Systems, will be available by the end of the year.

The national educational officer reported that the Oceanography: Ocean Currents & Computer Navigation webinar, which is a study of ocean currents and how they affect navigation, will be offered on November 14, 2017 from 8 - 10 p.m.

V/C Fraser reported that webinars are an excellent source of revenue and an opportunity to recruit new members.

V/C Fraser stated that the purpose of the USPS Educational Fund is to promote and develop educational programs. He asked C/C Ojeda and P/R/C Alan Wentworth, SN, vice chairman of the Educational Fund, to join him for the presentation of a check for $12,665.99 from Brooklyn/3 and a check for $50,000 from Boca Ciega Sail/22.

P/R/C Wentworth thanked Brooklyn Power Squadron/3 and Boca Ciega Sail & Power/22 for their generous donations to the Educational Fund, noting that the proceeds of these donations will continue to enhance USPS educational programs for years to come.

Report of the National Executive Officer


Robert A. Green Radio Public Service Announcement Award

This award recognizes excellence in the production of a 30-second radio public service announcement (PSA) that promotes the programs of the United States Power Squadrons. The winners are:

Third Place - Golden Corner Lakes Sail/26
Second Place – Fort Myers/22
First Place – Pompano Beach/8
The Roger Uptown Video Award

This award is named in honor of the United States Power Squadron’s founder and first chief commander (1914-1915). The award recognizes excellence in producing video/DVD presentations or PSAs for television/cable broadcasts. The winners are:

Second Place – Pompano Beach/8
First Place – Cape Fear Sail/27

The Carl C. Mahnken Commander’s Cup

This award is named in honor of the member who served on the national bridge as national administrative officer, national executive officer and national educational officer (1994–1998). The award recognizes excellence in computer-generated PowerPoint or similar presentations. The winner is Raleigh Sail/27.

The Charles F. Chapman Scrapbook Award

This award is named in honor of a founding member and our 20th chief commander, P/C/C Charles F. Chapman, N, (1946-1947). The award recognizes the squadron scrapbook that best illustrates a diversified public relations program. The winners are:

Second Place - Peace River Sail/22
First Place - Marco Island Sail/22

V/C Cheney reported that plans are underway for the 2018 Annual Meeting to be held in Orlando, Florida, at the Rosen Centre Hotel from 18-25 February 2018. He noted that the 2018 Governing Board Meeting will be held in Minneapolis, Minneapolis, at the Marriott City Centre from 12-19 August 2018 and the 2019 Annual Meeting will be held at the Rosen Centre, Orlando, Florida, from 18-25 February 2019. He announced that the Board of Directors approved holding the 2019 Governing Board from 8-16 September 2019 at the Galt House, Louisville, Kentucky, at a room rate of $169. He also reported that the Board approved a three-year contract with the Marriott Sawgrass in Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, for the 2020, 2021 and 2022 annual meetings.
The Safety Committee reported that 23,357 vessel safety checks had been completed to date in 2017 compared to 27,557 one year ago. The number of examiners is down from 1,551 one year ago to 1,506. The VSC Decal Awareness Program is being revised to include more signs for boat ramps and the America’s Boating Club theme, along with new handouts and business cards. The committee reminded squadrons to test Mustang inflatable life jackets that are nearing the end of their projected lifespan.

V/C Cheney presented a Lifesaving Award to Lt David J. Miller, AP, Bremerton Sail/16, for saving the life of a fellow boater at Bremerton Yacht Club on January 9, 2017.

V/C Cheney reported that since the 2017 Annual Meeting, the Board of Directors approved the dissolution of Rappahannock Sail/5, Hamburg/6, Bald Eagle/11, Kankakee Valley Sail/20, Sabine Sail/21, Lake Mohave/28, Marion/29, and St. Helens Sail/32.

V/C Cheney reported that he would assign a District 2 resolution to the Chief Commander’s Advisory Committee to be reported on at the 2018 Annual Meeting. The resolution requests that a member with at least 40 merit marks who has also been a squadron or district commander be made a member of the Governing Board.

**Report of the Chief Commander**

C/C Louie Ojeda, SN, invited everyone to the 2018 Annual Meeting to be held in Orlando, Florida, at the Rosen Centre Hotel on 17-23 February 2018.

The Color Guard retired the Colors, and United States Power Squadrons Chaplain Lois Nehmer-Schiff, SN, delivered the benediction.

Adjourned at 1552.

V/C Howard Yoas, SN
National Secretary
Action Summary
Governing Board Meeting
16 September 2017

1) A motion to amend *USPS Bylaws*, Section 6.1, Section 6.10, Section 6.11, and Section 9.5.5. (2017-GB-1)

2) A motion to amend *USPS Bylaws*, Section 9.4.4. (2017-GB-2)

3) A motion for the approval of the minutes of the 25 Feb. 2017 Annual Meeting as distributed. (2017-GB-3)

4) A motion to accept the nomination for the noted positions and general members of the Governing Board. (2017-GB-4)

5) A motion approving a $2 dues increase for single active members and a $3 increase for family units effective 1 December 2017. (2017-GB-5)

6) A motion to create the USPS Endowment Fund Inc., to solicit, manage, and protect funds donated for the purpose of carrying on the chartered operations of the organization. (2017-GB-6)

DEFEATED

1) A District 15 Resolution regarding an alternate squadron classification of “Inactive Squadron.” (2017-GB-1)