



**THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS
CARLON WALTERS POST 0018, HENRIETTA
CLAY COUNTY COMMUNITY CENTER
216 N. HANCOCK ST.
HENRIETTA, TX. 76365**

**MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING
20 August 2024**

DATE: 17 September 2024

OPENING

Commander Don Morris called the meeting to order at 1905 hours.

Past Sargent-at-Arms Eli Nelson advanced the Colors.

13th District Chaplain Chuck Barrett offered an opening prayer.

Commander Don Morris led a moment of silence for POW/MIA, and then proceeded with the Pledge of Allegiance and reading the Preamble of the Constitution of the American Legion.

ROLL CALL

John McClure performed a roll call of Post Officers and Board Members.

Officers present: Commander Don Morris, 1st Vice Commander Steve Wentworth, 2nd Vice Commander Austin Forsythe, Adjutant John McClure, Finance Officer Beth Williams, Asst. Chaplain Eddie Kelton, Service Officer Roger Palmateer, Sargent-at-Arms Elijah Nelson, and Executive Board member Weldon Sullivan.

Officers Absent: Chaplain Daniel Stearns, Historian Bonnie Philips, and Executive Board members Ron Webb.

Members present: Ron Paul.

A quorum was present.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS and NEW MEMBERS:

Guests at this meeting:

Chuck Barrett, 13th District Chaplain

Parker Rosenberger, Boys State Attendee

New members at this meeting: None

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Boys State Experience, Parker Rosenberger:

Parker Rosenberger presented on his experience at Boy State. He shared that there were about a thousand teens present to learn about and simulate the Texas government. Upon arrival each participant is assigned to a group and named a city. The groups were approximately 35 participants. They were assigned to either the federalist or nationalist party. The overall goal is for your party to win. Their first task was to create a city council and elect a Mayor. There was an optional session the day of arrival on public speaking, which he recommended that future attendees go to. Day 1 was County Offices and as the week progressed, they continued election through to the Governor. Other activities that happened throughout the week included a daily rec

period, visit and tour of the Capitol where they met with some of the State Representatives, and other local officials joined throughout the week. Parker shared that this was a great once in a lifetime experience and we should continue to sponsor attendees. He also shared that his biggest takeaway was that when you turn 18 you go attend committee meetings and vote in every election possible.

Following his presentation about Boys State, Parker shared his Eagle Scout project he will be doing this year. He has designed an inverted grill which he will be building in Hope Cemetery as a place to properly dispose of flags with honor.

MINUTES

Minutes for the 16 July meeting were read by John McClure. A motion to accept the minutes as read was made by Roger Paulmateer and seconded by Weldon Sullivan. Motion carried.

FINANCE REPORT: Finance Officer Beth Williams, delivered the finance report stating the check for storage has not cleared yet, the newspaper ad payment was late and is now paid, and everything is paid through this month. A motion to accept was made by Steve Wentworth and seconded by Eli Nelson. Motion carried.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Membership Award, Chuck Barrett:

Post 0018 was presented with two membership awards for achieving or exceeding post membership quota for 2024.

Following the presentation a short discussion was held on American Legion Dues. They will be going up next year to \$40. There is a deal where members can pay 3 years at the \$40 dollar rate noting that dues will be increasing again. For each member that pays these dues, the post will receive an amount in return.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

GARAGE SALE

The next 287 yard sale is 7 September and it was decided the post will not participate. Beth suggested we do the June at the storage unit, but it was noted by Don Morris that doing it at the Community Center gives us access to bathrooms and air conditioning.

HIGHWAY CLEANUP

Steve Wentworth advised that there was a good turnout but more participants would make it easier. John McClure made a motion that we plan out the dates a quarter in advance to avoid last minute planning. Eli Nelson amended the motion to state the Second Vice Commander should add the highway clean-up to the Post Calendar. The motion was seconded by Roger Paulmateer. Motion carried.

COMMUNITY CENTER FLAGS

The community center has agreed to let us erect a second flag pole. One will hold the American and POW flags and the other will hold the Texas and American Legion flags. Beth Williams made a motion that we purchase the second flagpole and the post will be responsible for maintaining and replacing the flags as needed. Ron Paul seconded the motion. Motion carried.

LEGION BUILDING

Don Morris updated the post on as he did at the 16 July meeting stating he talked with Brad Corley (Cemetery Directory) about the Legion going to the City Council about buying or somehow using the stone building for our functions. Mr. Corley was doubtful that the city would hear us since they have invested in new windows and have plans to do other upgrades. The opinion was also expressed that the city has deeded the building to the Cemetery Board. Eli Nelson mentioned that it was discussed and voted on at the last meeting to create a savings account for a building fund. Eli Nelson made a motion that we start a fundraising committee to begin adding to the funds of the post. Motion seconded by Eddie Kelton. Motion carried. Eli will communicate with members to determine participants and report back at the next meeting.

WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA

The ceremony will be held at the Hope Cemetery on December 14th at 1100. Don Morris stated that some members have expressed wanting to sponsor for a specific grave and explained the process for that. He stated the wreath count has to be in by around Thanksgiving. He also stated that the Junior Deltians will be their own sponsoring group and thinks the 4H may also be interested in being a sponsor.

UNIFORM COMMITTEE

Eli Nelson discussed the items needed to do color guard at the pioneer reunion with a total cost of around \$1,000. John made a motion that we spend what is needed to get the color guard what they need for the parade. Roger Paulmateer seconded the motion. Ron Paul amended the motion to include an extra setup. Motion carried.

Eli also mentioned that we need to be added to be in the parade. Ron Paul stated that Jason Deeken used to be our connection to the parade. Don Morris suggested Eli go to the rodeo grounds and speak with the secretary.

Eli requested access to the firearms for practicing, and Don stated he will speak with the Sheriff.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business came before the meeting.

CLOSING

13th District Chaplain Chuck Barrett offered a closing prayer.

Sargent-at-Arms Eli Nelson retired the Colors.

Commander Don Morris declared the meeting adjourned at 2028 hours.



DON MORRIS
POST COMMANDER



JOHN MCCLURE
POST ADJUTANT

Upcoming events:

September

8th – Second Sunday Lunch, preparation 0800, lunch 1130 – 1300

10th – General meeting, 1900

20th – Pioneer Reunion, Float Parade 1000, Events on Courthouse Lawn 1000 - 1500
21st – Pioneer Reunion, Float Parade 1000, Events on Courthouse Lawn 1000 - 1600

October

13th – Second Sunday Lunch, preparation 0800, lunch 1130 – 1300
10th – Uniform Committee Meeting, TBD
15th – General meeting, 1900

November

10th – Second Sunday Lunch, preparation 0800, lunch 1130 – 1300
11th – Veterans Day
14th – Uniform Committee Meeting, TBD
19th – General meeting, 1900
28th – Thanksgiving

December

8th – Second Sunday Lunch, preparation 0800, lunch 1130 – 1300
12th – Uniform Committee Meeting, TBD
17th – General meeting, 1900