



**THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS  
HENRIETTA POST 18  
CLAY COUNTY COMMUNITY CENTER  
216 N. HANCOCK ST.  
HENRIETTA, TX. 76365**

**MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING  
17 October 2023**

**DATE: 21 November 2023**

**ROLL CALL**

John McClure performed a roll call of officers and board members.

*Officers present:* Commander Don Morris, Adjutant John McClure, Finance Officer Ron Paul, Chaplain Daniel Stearns, Sargent-at-Arms Austin Forsythe, Historian Bonnie Philips, Executive Board, Terry Reed

*Officers Absent:* Board members Ron Webb.

*Members present:* Eddie, Kelton, Elijah Nelson, Roger Palmateer, Weldon Sullivan, Beth Williams, and Steve Wentworth

A quorum was present.

**OPENING**

After a meal together, the meeting was called to order by Commander Don Morris at 1919 hours.

The Colors were advanced by Sargent-at-Arms Austin Forsythe.

Opening prayer was offered by Chaplain Daniel Stearns

Commander Don Morris led a moment of silence for POW/MIA followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and the reading of the Preamble of the Constitution of the American Legion.

**MINUTES**

The minutes for 19 September 2023 meeting were read by Adjutant John McClure. A motion to accept the minutes as amended was made by Steve Wentworth and seconded by Terry Reed. Motion Passed.

**FINANCE REPORT:**

Finance officer, Ron Paul gave the financial report which included net profits from the Second Sunday Lunch. A motion to accept the finance officers report was made by Weldon Sullivan and second by Austin Forsythe. Motion passed.

**INTRODUCTION OF Guests and NEW MEMBERS:**

New members this meeting: Eli Nelson,

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Since the last meeting Jason Deeken resigned from the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander position. An election was scheduled for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander position vacated by John McClure during the 18 July 23 meeting. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander election was postponed to next meeting, think about who would like to nominate for this position. Terry Reed made the motion to nominate Steve Wentworth as the new 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander and seconded by Roger Palmateer. Vote was unanimous.

John McClure expressed that he had a conversation Jason Deeken about resuming his role as the Service Officer. Jason has never been formally nominated into this position but stated he will remain a member of Post 0018 and as the Clay County Veteran Service Officer was willing to hold this position in the Post. Daniel Stearns made a motion to nominate Jason Deeken to be the Service Officer, Seconded by Weldon Sullivan. Vote was unanimous

A discussion was had regarding the Second Sunday Lunch. Don conducted inventory of supplies, Bonnie will purchase real knives. We are still good on forks and spoons. Bonnie will order more to go plates. We discussed moving forward only serving chicken fried steak and month alternating between corn/biscuits, and beans/rolls. John McClure made motion per the discussion, seconded by Steve Wentworth. Motion passed.

Don will not be in attendance at the November luncheon Ron will take responsibility for getting an ice chest and bringing ice. Reminders need to be made at churches the week of the meeting. Please arrive at 0800 to assist in the preparation.

Don noted that there was limited help for the highway clean-up and needed to be rescheduled. New date will be Saturday December 2nd meet at the truck stop at 9 am.

Wreaths Across America – Don mentioned we have not done well at pushing the wreaths. After speaking with WAA he discovered you can have 4 or 5 different groups sponsoring at one cemetery. In the future he would like to get other groups to also sponsor in hopes to bring more attention. Don stated the woman at WAA suggested we have hold a ceremony this year in preparation for next years support. Also mentioned was that the Boy Scouts may have a list of all the service members in the cemetery. Don will reach out to the leader to inquire. After a discussion Bonnie Phillips made a motion we hold the purchased wreaths until next year and hold the ceremony, seconded by Beth Williams. Motion Passed. Don will contact WAA and have them hold the 5 wreaths for next year and still send the service branch wreaths for us to conduct the ceremony on 16 December 23. We will plan the ceremony and a meeting next month. Roger Palmateer has offered to ask the band director if there is a student is willing to play Taps at the ceremony.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

The District 13<sup>th</sup> Conference will be held on 21 October at Post 120. Don Morris, John McClure and Eddie Kelton will attend.

## CLOSING

A closing prayer was offered by Chaplain Daniel Stearns.

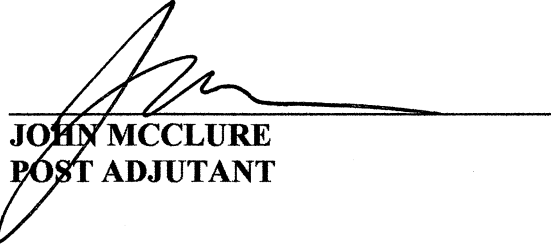
The Colors retired by Sargent-at-Arms Austin Forsyth.

Commander Don Morris declared the meeting adjourned at 2013 hours



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**DON MORRIS**  
**POST COMMANDER**



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**JOHN MCCLURE**  
**POST ADJUTANT**

### Upcoming events:

#### November:

12<sup>th</sup> – Second Sunday Lunch, preparation 0800, lunch 1130 – 1300

20<sup>th</sup> – General meeting, 1900

#### December:

10<sup>th</sup> – Second Sunday Lunch, preparation 0800, lunch 1130 – 1300

?? – Wreaths arrive at Town Hall, time TBD

16<sup>th</sup> – Wreaths Across America, ceremony 1100 ~~followed by wreath laying~~

18<sup>th</sup> – General meeting, 1900

#### January:

14<sup>th</sup> – Second Sunday Lunch, preparation 0800, lunch 1130 – 1300

16<sup>th</sup> – General meeting, 1900