



**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
21 November 2023**

DATE: 16 January 2024

ROLL CALL

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

Officers present: Commander Don Morris, Adjutant John McClure, 1st Vice Commander Steve Wentworth, Sargent-at-Arms Austin Forsythe, Historian Bonnie Philips

Officers Absent: Finance Officer Ron Paul, Chaplain Daniel Stearns, Service Officer Jason Deeken, Executive Board members Terry Reed and Ron Webb.

Members present: Eddie, Kelton, Elijah Nelson, Roger Palmateer, Bob Yarnell,
A quorum was present.

OPENING

After a meal together, the meeting was called to order by Commander Don Morris at 1942 hours.

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

Opening prayer was offered by 13th District Chaplain Chuck Barrett.

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 October 2023 meeting were read by Adjutant John McClure. A motion to accept the minutes was made by Roger Palmateer and seconded by Steve Wentworth. Motion Passed.

FINANCE REPORT:

Finance officer, Ron Paul was absent no report given.

INTRODUCTION OF Guests and NEW MEMBERS:

Guests this meeting: Chuck Barrett, 13th District Chaplain

New members this meeting: Bob Yarnell,

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Second Sunday Lunch falls during the Holiday season, after this month low attendance, Steve Wentworth made a motion we suspend the Second Sunday Lunch until January Eddie Kelton seconded. Motion carries.

Steve Wentworth brought up the efficiency of the Second Sunday Lunch and a need to better organize. He suggested we get some totes to keep everything cleaner and more easily identified. This will prevent multiple trips to storage to get everything we need. Bonnie Phillips will pick up totes

Due to error in communication some individuals arrived at the truck stop on 2 November 23 to conduct the highway cleanup. We will still meet on December 2nd.

Don Morris nominated Eddie Kelton to 2nd Vice Commander. Steve Wentworth made the motion to elect Eddie Kelton as the 2nd Vice Commander. Roger Palmateer seconded. Austin Forsythe opposed. Vote carried 9 to 1.

Don Morris gave an update on the 13th District Conference. He and John McClure attended the conference in their uniform which received attention for its professional look. Post members are encouraged to purchase them if they have not done so already. Boys State was discussed at the conference and our post should consider sponsoring a student this year. The 13th District Commander has requested that each post update their constitution and bylaws. He will provide a template for posts who need it. Bonnie Phillips will look through the post archives for a copy of our constitution and bylaws to update.

Don Morris discussed the up coming Wreaths Across America Ceremony we will hold at Hope Cemetery on 16 December 23 at 11:00. As discussed in the previous meeting we will not be laying any wreaths but will still conduct the ceremony. Members are asked to meet at 0900 to help set up and do a walkthrough. John McClure and Don Morris will work on the script for the ceremony. Don will look into a podium that we can borrow for the event. Chuck Barnett has an electric bugle and has agreed to let us borrow it for the ceremony if we are unable to find a student to sound TAPS. Roger Palmateer is working to identify a possible student. A brief discussion what had regarding the use of a Color Guard. Eli Nelson has agreed to coordinate Drill and Ceremonies. Members are encouraged to wear their uniform or a white shirt and black pants. A couple of members stated they have or are ordering uniforms. John McClure will create a WAA event on Facebook. If you are on Facebook please like, follow, and share the page and the event.

NEW BUSINESS


The missing man table was discussed. John McClure suggested we get a small tote and some new items to make the table look better. In addition we should purchase and appropriate POW/MIA chair cover that can be used for the table as well as during meeting. Steve Wentworth made a motion to approve expenditure for the purchase of a POW/MIA chair cover and other missing man table items. Bonnie Phillips seconded. Motion carries.

Due to the Holidays, there will be no General Meeting in December.

CLOSING

A closing prayer was offered by 13th District Chaplain Chuck Barrett.
The Colors retired by Sargent-at-Arms Austin Forsyth.
Commander Don Morris declared the meeting adjourned at 2023 hours


DON MORRIS
POST COMMANDER


JOHN MCCLURE
POST ADJUTANT

Upcoming events:

February:

- 11th – Second Sunday Lunch, preparation 0800, lunch 1130 – 1300
- 20th – General meeting, 1900

March:

- 10th – Second Sunday Lunch, preparation 0800, lunch 1130 – 1300
- 19th – General meeting, 1900

April:

- 14th – Second Sunday Lunch, preparation 0800, lunch 1130 – 1300
- 16th – General meeting, 1900