



**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
16 April 2024**

DATE: 21 May 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, 2nd Vice Commander Eddie Kelton, Finance Officer Ron Paul, Sargent-at-Arms Austin Forsythe, and Chaplain Daniel Stearns.

Officers Absent: Historian Bonnie Philips, Service Officer Jason Deeken, and Executive Board members Terry Reed and Ron Webb.

Members present: Weldon Sullivan, Elijah Nelson, Roger Palmateer, Beth Williams, and Dennis Molgaard.

A quorum was present.

OPENING

Commander Don Morris called the meeting to order at 1900 hours.

Sargent-at-Arms Austin Forsythe advanced the Colors.

Chaplain Daniel Stearns offered an opening prayer.

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

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS and NEW MEMBERS:

Guests at this meeting: None

New members at this meeting: None

MINUTES

Minutes for the 19 March meeting were read by John McClure with an addition of Max Smith's last name and the date for the minutes read was corrected to 20 February. With the corrections, a motion to accept was made by Roger Palmateer and seconded by Steve Wentworth. Motion carried.

FINANCE REPORT:

Finance Officer Ron Paul, delivered the finance report stating that we had a successful Second Sunday and that all bills and expenses are paid. Beth Williams made motion to accept the Finance Officers Report as given and seconded by Eddie Kelton. Motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

RIFLES

Don updated the members on his conversation with the Sheriff. Eli noted that the rifles need to be cleaned and a discussion was had on the best approach to getting them clean. Ron Paul made a motion to pick up the rifles before the next meeting and conduct weapons maintenance an hour prior to the meeting. Beth Williams seconded. Motion carried.

HIGHWAY CLEANUP:

Steve gave update on the highway clean up. He noted that it was not as bad as usual and that six members met at the truck stop and collected 15 or 16 bags of trash.

TURKEY FEST:

There was a great turnout of members who spent the morning together. Community attendance was low. One generous individual donated \$60 to the post including 3 tickets to be donated to a veteran of our choosing. Another individual purchased 25 tickets and joined us for the Second Sunday Luncheon.

SECOND SUNDAY LUNCHEON:

This month's attendance was low due to an event at one of the local churches. Next month is Mother's Day and it was suggested we do pink table cloths and flowers.

NEW BUSINESS

John McClure shared about his experience at Warrior PATHH. Warrior PATHH (Progressive and Alternative Training for Helping Heroes) is a 90 day program by the Boulder Crest Foundation that teaches Veterans and First Responders to turn their struggle into strength based on the science of Posttraumatic Growth (PTG). This is a free program that starts with a 7 day in-person stay at one of 9 locations around the country. You will be connected with 7 other veterans and first responders with whom you will complete the 90 days. Men and Women attend separate weeks. The program is led by PATHH Guides who have completed the program themselves, one of whom will be assigned to your group and will connect with you and your team throughout the remaining 12 weeks. This is a non-therapeutic program where you learn techniques to incorporate into your daily life as you learn to struggle well. John explained he attended Warrior PATHH at Eagle Oak Retreat in Italy, Tx and described it as an eye-opening experience. He recommends this program to any veteran or first responder who feels they are struggling in any way. John answered questions for members and encouraged members to reach out with more questions or go to their website to apply.

Don Morris discussed the problem we are encountering with our group text messages. He discussed the app GroupMe, and John McClure led a tutorial to get members present set up with an account and connected to the group. It was discovered that some phones do not support this app and communication will still occur through text message. Anyone who is not on GroupMe or needs assistance in getting set up can reach out to John for help.

John McClure discussed the idea of sending thank you cards to individual for donating and assisting the post. After a discussion, John will design a post card and have a couple of them printed for members to view at the next meeting.

The books in storage were mentioned and a short discussion was had on ways to get rid of or sell them.

Ron Paul mentioned that we have built up some savings and asked what we were doing to enhance the well-being of Clay County veterans. It was suggested that we use some of those funds to help individual veterans. After a brief discussion, Daniel Stearns made a motion that Ron Paul and Jason Deeken create a committee to determine ways we can help veterans. The motion was seconded by Beth Williams. Motion Carried.

CLOSING

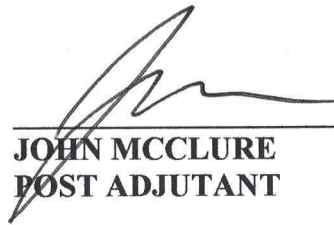
Chaplain Daniel Stearns offered a closing prayer.

Sargent-at-Arms Austin Forsyth retired the Colors.

Commander Don Morris declared the meeting adjourned at 1954 hours,



DON MORRIS
POST COMMANDER



JOHN MCCLURE
POST ADJUTANT

Upcoming events:

May:

12th – Second Sunday Lunch, preparation 0800, lunch 1130 – 1300

21st – General meeting, 1900

June:

9th – Second Sunday Lunch, preparation 0800, lunch 1130 – 1300

18th – General meeting, 1900

July:

14th – Second Sunday Lunch, preparation 0800, lunch 1130 – 1300

16th – General meeting, 1900