



**THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS
CARLON WALTERS POST 0018, HENRIETTA
CLAY COUNTY COMMUNITY CENTER
216 N. HANCOCK ST.
PO BOX 371
HENRIETTA, TX. 76365**

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING

18 February 2025

DATE: 18 March 2025

OPENING:

Commander Don Morris called the meeting to order at 1914 hours.

Sergeant-at-Arms Eli Nelson advanced the Colors.

1st Vice Commander Steve Wentworth offered an opening prayer.

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

ROLL CALL:

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

Officers present: Commander Don Morris, 1st Vice Commander Steve Wentworth, 2nd Vice Commander Austin Forsythe, Adjutant John McClure, Service Officer Roger Palmateer, Sargent-at-Arms Elijah Nelson, and Executive Board Members Ron Paul and Weldon Sullivan.

Officers Absent: Historian Bonnie Philips, Finance Officer Beth Williams, Chaplain Daniel Stearns, and Asst. Chaplain Eddie Kelton

Members present: Andrew Koopmans

A quorum was present.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS and NEW MEMBERS:

Guests at this meeting: None

New members at this meeting: None

SPECIAL EVENT - BOYS STATE INTERVIEWS: Two boys from Henrietta High School were nominated and none of the other schools have responded to inquiries. Since that time, one participant had to drop out. Roger Palmateer spoke to George Slagle's behalf as being a good candidate. Roger explained that George helps out at his dad's shop, his mom's office. He is also active in sports, church, and other things around the community. The counselor thinks they can get another participant should she have more time. Recognizing that we have additional time as application deadlines are May 1st, John McClure made a motion we postpone the interviews and give the school counselors an additional month to find candidates and we will interview them at the 18 March General Meeting. Steve Wentworth seconded. Motion carried

MINUTES: Minutes for the 21 January meeting were sent to all members and available prior to the meeting. John McClure noted that there have been no changes to the content, but template formatting was adjusted. John McClure made a motion to accept the minutes as presented and seconded by Roger Palmateer. Motion carried.

FINANCE REPORT: Finance Officer Beth Williams was absent, so John McClure and Ron Paul shared the account balances, but no additional details were available to the members. Ron Paul shared that he filed the taxes for the post. With no Finance Officers report, there was no motion to accept the report and this item has been deferred to the 18 March meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

UNIFORM COMMITTEE: Eli Nelson, Chair

Eli Nelson shared plans for the 18 March American Legion Birthday Celebration and Officer Installation. Eli discussed contacting the District Commander to get a district representative as the initiating officer, Don Morris will reach out to District Commander. Bonnie Phillips will contact local restaurants to see if they are willing to donate a meal. The dining hall will be set up for the meal and the meeting. There was a discussion on a silent auction, Eli and Austin are going to get together items, and all proceeds will go to the post.

Eli discussed plans for the Memorial Day Ceremony. It will be held at 1100hrs on May 26th at the Clay County Texas War Memorial. He discussed the need to start advertising the event now. He also discussed wanted to purchase memorial wreaths to replace what we are using. Roger Palmateer made a motion that we purchase wreaths and wreath stands, seconded by Austin Forsythe. On discussion, John McClure suggested that someone research and present a cost at the next meeting. Motion is withdrawn and tabled to the next meeting.

SOCIAL/FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE: Austin Forsythe, Chair:

Armed Forces Day is on May 17th. It was presented that we hold an American Legion sponsored event on the courthouse common. This event would be an opportunity for the community to come together and show support for active military service members. It would include yard games, a barbeque cook-off, and a battle of the bands. The cook-off and battle of the bands would require an entry fee and then the winner would get 50% of the pot while the other 50% goes to the post. A discussion followed that included advertising, possible forms needed by the town/county, and the cost to put on the event. Roger Palmateer made a motion that we research the cost and bring it back to the next meeting, seconded by John McClure, the motion was amended to include that Eli Nelson would contact the county. Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: Don Morris, Chair:

There was no information to be shared.

POST MEMBERSHIP: John McClure, Adjutant:

John McClure shared that we currently have 40 members on our roster. 29 members have renewed their dues for 2025 including 1 new membership. There are 5 members who expired in 2024, 4 members expired in 2023, 1 duplicate membership to be remove and one member who moved out of state.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

COMMUNITY CENTER FLAGS

Ron Paul is actively researching flagpoles and will report back to members when he has more details

PRINTER DONATION

The printer has been set up in the meeting room. John McClure mentioned that it needs new toner and that it would cost \$101 per cartridge. Ron Paul believes he can find the tonner for less.

John McClure made a motion that Ron Paul get a total price for the toner and send a text for the Executive Board for purchase approval. Steve Wentworth seconded the motion. Motion carried.

BOYS STATE

Boys State was discussed earlier in the meeting. Interviews have been deferred to the 18 March General Meeting.

BRASS BAND

Eli Nelson has not contacted the band director yet and will report back next month.

HIGHWAY CLEANUP

We will meet at the BBQ sign on the east side of the truck stop at 930hrs on March 1st.

POPOP CANNOPY

Roger Palmateer made a motion that Don Morris purchase a blue 10x10 canopy and submit the receipt. The motion was seconded by Eli Nelson. Motion carried.

OFFICER ELECTIONS

Ballots for the election were tallied during the meeting. There were 10 ballots and the results are as follows:

Commander: (3)Don Morris, (6)**Roger Palmateer**, (1)Other with no name;

Adjutant: (6)**John McClure**;

1st Vice Commander: (5)**Don Morris**, (5)Roger Palmateer;

2nd Vice Commander: (10)**Bonnie Phillips**;

Finance Officer: (10)**Ron Paul**;

Service Officer: (10)**Austin Forsythe**;

Chaplain: (10)**Steve Wentworth**;

Assistant Chaplain: (10)**Daniel Stearns**;

Sergeant-at-Arms: (10)**Eli Nelson**;

Historian: (10)**Weldon Sullivan**;

Judge Advocate: (1) Andrew Koopmans;

2 Executive Board Member: (4)**Andrew Koopmans**, (9)**Beth Williams**

NEW BUSINESS

WEBSITE/CALENDAR

John McClure reported that our website is now connected to our Google calendar so the public can see our events. The website is being updated and he is working to get a new Facebook page going.

TURKEY FEST

John McClure reported that Turkey Fest is April 12th from 1000-1500hrs. John McClure made a motion that we do a 50/50 raffle and a raffle for the Second Sunday Luncheon using the same pricing structure as the past. Roger Palmateer seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Roger Palmateer made a motion to adjourn, Austin Forsythe seconded. Motion carried.

CLOSING

1st Vice Commander Steve Wentworth offered a closing prayer.

Sergeant-at-Arms Eli Nelson retired the Colors.

Commander Don Morris declared the meeting adjourned at 2026 hours.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved at the 18 March 2025 General Meeting



JOHN MCCLURE
ADJUTANT



ROGER PALMATEER
POST COMMANDER

Upcoming events: Please visit our website: americanlegionpost0018.com/calendar

March:

- 9th – Second Sunday Lunch, preparation 0800, lunch 1130 - 1300
- 11th – Uniform Committee Meeting, 1830
- 18th – General meeting, 1900 – American Legion Birthday Celebration, Post Officer Initiation, Boys State Final Preparations

April:

- 8th – Uniform Committee Meeting, 1830
- 12th – Turkey Fest, 1000 - 1500
- 13th – Second Sunday Lunch, preparation 0800, lunch 1130 - 1300
- 15th – General meeting, 1900
- 26th – District 13 Convention

May:

- 11th – Second Sunday Lunch, preparation 0800, lunch 1130 - 1300
- 13th – Uniform Committee Meeting, 1830
- 17th – Armed Forces Day
- 20th – General meeting, 1900
- 26th – Memorial Day

June:

- 8th – Second Sunday Lunch, preparation 0800, lunch 1130 - 1300
- 8th - 13th – Texas Boys State
- 10th – Uniform Committee Meeting, 1830
- 14th – Flag Day
- 17th – General meeting, 1900

July:

- 4th – Independence Day
- 8th – Uniform Committee Meeting, 1830
- 13th – Second Sunday Lunch, preparation 0800, lunch 1130 - 1300
- 15th – General meeting, 1900

August:

- 10th – Second Sunday Lunch, preparation 0800, lunch 1130 - 1300
- 12th – Uniform Committee Meeting, 1830
- 19th – General meeting, 1900

September:

- 19th – Uniform Committee Meeting, 1830
- 11th – September 11th
- 14th – Second Sunday Lunch, preparation 0800, lunch 1130 - 1300
- 16th – General meeting, 1900
- 18th - 20th Pioneer Reunion