



**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
15 April 2025**

DATE: 18 March 2025

OPENING:

Chaplain Steve Wentworth offered an opening prayer.

Commander Roger Palmateer conducted the POW/ MIA ceremony and a moment of silence, the Pledge of Allegiance and reading the Preamble of the Constitution of the American Legion.

Commander Roger Palmateer called the meeting to order at 1900 hours.

ROLL CALL:

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

Officers present: Commander Roger Palmateer, 1st Vice Commander Don Morris, 2nd Vice Commander Bonnie Phillips, Adjutant John McClure, Finance Officer Ron Paul, Service Officer Austin Forsythe, Chaplain Steve Wentworth, Asst. Chaplain Daniel Stearns, Sargent-at-Arms Elijah Nelson, and Executive Board Member Andrew Koopmans.

Officers Absent: Historian Weldon Sullivan and Executive Board Member Beth Williams

Members present:

A quorum was present.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS and NEW MEMBERS:

Guests at this meeting: Chris De La Garza – Base Camp Lindsey

New members at this meeting: None

SPECIAL PRESENTATION - Chris De La Garza:

John McClure introduced Chris De La Garza from Base Camp Lindsey to present on her organization. Base Camp Lindsey is a non-profit organization that assists homeless veterans and serves 11 counties in North Texas. The organization has 6 board members and less than a dozen volunteers. They believe veterans respond best to veterans and the most dangerous place for them is alone and isolated. Base Camp Lindsey offers shelter, food, and an individual case plan to address what got them on the street at no cost to veterans and no time constraint. They assist with getting them into apartments, finding jobs and offer a monthly food pantry. They have a phone that is answered 24 hours a day to assist homeless veterans and once the call is made they will get them shelter within 72 hours. Last year they got 5 veterans off the street and are already working with 4 this year. Chris shared that their hallmarks are transparency and accountability.

They purchased an old nursing home from the city of Wichita Falls for \$5,000 with the goal of turning it into a transitional home. The building has been vacant since 2007 and needs major renovation. Currently they are placing homeless veterans in hotel room and are looking for

empty homes to serve as transitional homes. All are welcome to visit them and get a tour of the building located at 1908 6th St., Wichita Falls. Their phone number is (940)613-3172 and is answered by Janet, a retired Navy Chief. They are always looking for donations, financial assistance, volunteers, and social events for veterans to attend. Upcoming events include a demo day on May 3rd where they will be removing all the old utilities from the attic and Give a Ruck on May 17th. For more information visit their website at <https://www.ntvrf.com/>

The organization is named after Sgt. Felix L. Lindsey. The life of Felix Lindsey is a testament to the passion and perseverance of African Americans after the Civil War to prosper and earn respect during a turbulent time in Texas and our nation. He was born in Gallatin County, Kentucky on October 10, 1847. His mother was mulatto and his father was full-blood Creek Indian. During the Civil War, Lindsey was tasked by the family with carrying food to Union soldiers camped nearby and he developed a fondness for the uniform. In 1882, Lindsey joined the U. S. Army and was assigned to the 10th Cavalry Regiment of "Buffalo Soldiers" at Fort Davis, Texas. In 1885, his unit was sent to Arizona to pursue Apache tribe leader Geronimo. He suffered three wounds in the Apache campaign, including a leg wound that ended his military career at Fort Sill, Oklahoma in 1893. After the service he moved to Wichita Falls, married and raised a family of 9 children. He died on September 14, 1939, at the age of 92.

Following the presentation Steve Wentworth made a motion that we place a donation jar at the Second Sunday Luncheon and send them a check for any monies raised. Seconded by Daniel Sterns. Motion carried.

MINUTES: Minutes for the 18 March meeting were available prior to the meeting. Bonnie Phillips made a motion to accept the minutes as presented and seconded by Steve wentworth. Motion carried.

FINANCE REPORT: Finance Officer Ron Paul presented the finance officers report that included our current account funds and the status of bills. A motion to accept finance officers report was made by Bonnie Phillips and seconded by Steve Wentworth. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

FINANCE COMMITTEE: Ron Paul, Chair

The first committee meeting was April 15 before the meeting and a temporary budget was provided for members to view. Eli Nelson made a motion we pay storage and building usage seconded by Steve Wentworth. During discussion John McClure informed the members of the previously voted on guidance for paying bills.

UNIFORM COMMITTEE: Eli Nelson, Chair

Eli Nelson shared that we received nation recognition for our American Legion Birthday Celebration and thanked the uniformed committee for their work in preparing a successful event.

Eli discussed plans for the Memorial Day Ceremony at 0900 hrs on May 26th at the Clay County Texas War Memorial. The uniformed committee will be meeting weekly to prepare the ceremony and practice.

Eli discussed the idea of a 4th of July celebration.

SOCIAL/FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE: Bonnie Phillips, Chair:

Bonnie Phillips shared that the committee will meet after the next uniformed committee meeting to discuss future social events.

Information was shared regarding the Second Sunday Luncheon and Turkey Fest. The 50/50 raffle was won by Bonnie Stone who donated her winnings back to the post. No one entered the raffle for the Second Sunday Luncheon.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: Roger Palmateer, Chair:

There was no information to be shared.

POST MEMBERSHIP: John McClure, Adjutant:

John McClure shared there were no updates to our membership roster and that we currently have 40 members. 29 members have renewed their dues for 2025 including 1 new membership. John received a call from a veteran in Bellevue who was looking for assistance with the VA. He paid his dues and they are being processed. 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. 1 veteran, Alvin Vieth passed away.

Ron Paul added to mylegion.org to assist with accessing and processing membership.

Eli Nelson made a motion that the post get whatever we need to conduct a post everlasting ceremony. Motion tabled to the next meeting.

Bonnie Phillips asked if we could connect with the funeral home in Henrietta to find out if we can be notified of veteran deaths. John made a motion that Austin Forsythe will reach out to the funeral homes. Ron Paul seconded. Motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

COMMUNITY CENTER FLAGS

Ron Paul presented details for the purchase of a new flagpole. John McClure made a motion that the fundraising committee look into how to raise funds. Roger Palmateer seconded. Motion carried.

BOYS STATE

Roger Palmateer informed the members that George Slagle is at regionals and unable to attend. If they win, he will be attending states which will fall during boys state. John made a motion that we accept him pending the results of regionals. Ron Paul seconded. Motion carried.

Eli Nelson made motion that we designate the Boys State funds to the flagpole should he not be able to attend. Don Morris seconded. Motion carried.

BRASS BAND

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

POPUP CANNOPY

Don Morris purchased a 12x12 pop-up for \$169 and used the tax exempt. The judge is working on getting that reimbursed.

WEBSITE/CALENDAR

John McClure presented the new updates to the website

TABLE CLOTHS

John McClure has not purchased these yet and will get with Ron Paul when he locates them.

NEW BUSINESS

DISTRICT CONVENTION

The 13th District Convention will be at Post 120 in Wichita Falls on Saturday the 26th. All members are encouraged to attend.

John McClure made a motion to adjourn, Bonnie Phillips seconded. Motion carried.

CLOSING

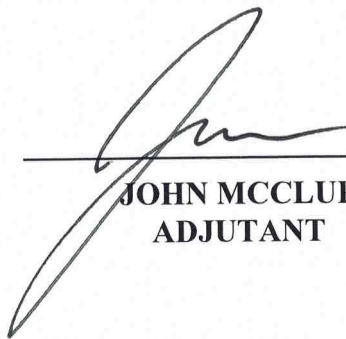
Chaplain Steve Wentworth offered a closing prayer.

Sergeant-at-Arms Eli Nelson retired the Colors.

Commander Roger Palmateer declared the meeting adjourned at 2027 hours.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved at the 20 May 2025 General Meeting



JOHN MCCLURE
ADJUTANT



ROGER PALMATEER
POST COMMANDER

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

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:

- 7th – Highway cleanup, 0900
- 8th – Second Sunday Lunch, preparation 0800, lunch 1130 - 1300
- 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

October:

- 12th – Second Sunday Lunch, preparation 0800, lunch 1130 - 1300
- 14th – Uniform Committee Meeting, 1830
- 16th – General meeting, 1900

November:

- 9th – Second Sunday Lunch, preparation 0800, lunch 1130 - 1300
- 11th – Veterans Day
- 18th – General meeting, 1900
- 27th – Thanksgiving

December:

- 9th – Uniform Committee Meeting, 1830
- 14th – Second Sunday Lunch, preparation 0800, lunch 1130 - 1300
- 16th – General meeting, 1900