



**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  
21 January 2025**

**DATE: 18 February 2025**

**OPENING:**

Commander Don Morris called the meeting to order at 1906 hours.

Sergeant-at-Arms Eli Nelson advanced the Colors.

1<sup>st</sup> 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 Board Members.

*Officers present:* Commander Don Morris, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander Steve Wentworth, Adjutant John McClure, Historian Bonnie Philips, Service Officer Roger Palmateer, Sargent-at-Arms Elijah Nelson, and Executive Board Member Ron Paul.

*Officers Absent:* 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander Austin Forsythe, Finance Officer Beth Williams, Chaplain Daniel Stearns, Asst. Chaplain Eddie Kelton, and Executive Board Member Weldon Sullivan

*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

**MINUTES:** Minutes for the 8 December meeting were available before the meeting. Roger Palmateer made a motion to accept the minutes as presented and seconded by Eli Nelson. Motion carried.

**FINANCE REPORT:** Finance Officer Beth Williams was absent and Adjutant John McClure shared the spreadsheet he was provided and informed that 6 months advertising, storage unit, and Community Center meeting room usage were paid. The post never received anything from the Pioneer Reunion Association regarding what we owed and Beth Williams sent them a check for \$25 with a letter explaining what the payment was for. During a discussion several questions were asked related to the building account, missing information, second Sunday rental, and budget. Ron Paul made a motion to accept the finance officers report deferring explanations to next month and seconded by Eli Nelson. Motion carried with one opposed. Bonnie Phillips made a motion that a spreadsheet of checkbook register and copy of current bank statement be provided to members at each meeting. Ron Paul seconded. Motion carried. Roger Palmateer

made a motion to approve the 6 months of payments as paid, seconded by John McClure. Motion carried. John McClure made a motion that payments greater than a month at a time be voted on and approved by the Executive Board and can be done through text messaging or at meetings. Roger Palmateer seconded. Motion carried.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

#### *UNIFORM COMMITTEE: Eli Nelson, Chair*

Eli Nelson discussed the Officer's Guide has suggested activities/focuses for each month. In January we are supposed to give flags to the schools and discuss flag etiquette, but it too late to do that this year. Four Chaplains Day is February 3<sup>rd</sup> and Daniel Stearns has agreed to do a ceremony at the Clay County War Memorial that evening to tell about the Four Chaplains and recite the Chaplain's Prayer. March in the American Legion's Birthday and when we will be installing the Post Officers. A discussion was had on those events, and it was decided we would have a meal as part of ceremony. Bonnie Phillips suggested seeing if any local area restaurants are willing to donate food for the event. John McClure made a motion to approve the expenditure of funds necessary to have a meal during the March meeting for the American Legion Birthday and Post Officer installation. Ron Paul seconded. Motion carried. Eli Nelson also introduced and welcomed the newest member of the Uniformed Committee, Andrew Koopmans.

#### *FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE: Eddie Kelton, Chair*

Following a discussion of needing a new committee chair, John McClure made a motion to combine the fundraising and social committees and nominate Bonnie Phillips as the chair. Steve Wentworth seconded. Motion carried.

#### *SOCIAL COMMITTEE: Austin Forsythe, Chair:*

No report

#### *EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:*

An update was given on the financial assistance to a veteran discussed by the committee.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

#### *COMMUNITY CENTER FLAGS*

Eli Nelson made a motion that Ron Paul takes over the research on another flagpole and report back. Bonnie Phillips seconded. Motion carried.

#### *PRINTER DONATION*

Don Morris spoke with Lisa and we have the approval to set up the printer in our meeting room. He will contact Beth Williams to find out what help is needed to get it moved, and John McClure will assist in getting the printer set up.

#### *PIONEER REUNION PAYMENT*

As discussed in the Finance Officer's Report: The post never received anything from the Pioneer Reunion Association regarding what we owed and Beth Williams sent them a check for \$25 with a letter explaining what the payment was for.

#### *BOYS STATE*

Roger Palmateer received two names from Henrietta. He knows both of the individuals and stated they are good kids and would represent the Post well. Eli Nelson is still trying to get in touch with Bellevue for names. Don Morris is still waiting for contact back from Petrolia regarding names. Ron Paul is waiting for a response from Midway. Interviews will be scheduled

for the 18 February meeting and arrangements will be made with the individuals we have names for by then.

**BRASS BAND**

Roger Palmateer spoke with the Band Director, and he is more than willing to help put a group together. He mentioned that the school is wanting the band to be in the community more so this would be a good partnership. Roger will share Eli Nelson's contact information with the Band Director and they will discuss details.

**OFFICER ELECTIONS**

John McClure read the title of each officer and nominations were taken for each position. Notice of Election of Post Officers will be sent out this week. Voting will occur by closed ballot before the 18 February meeting from 1830-1900. Post Officers installation will be held along with a meal and celebration of the American Legion's Birthday on March 18<sup>th</sup>. Post Officer nominations are as follows: **Commander:** Don Morris, Roger Palmateer; **Adjutant:** John McClure; **1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander:** Don Morris, Roger Palmateer; **2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander:** Bonnie Phillips; **Finance Officer:** Ron Paul; **Service Officer:** Austin Forsythe; **Chaplain:** Steve Wentworth; **Assistant Chaplain:** Daniel Stearns; **Sergeant-at-Arms:** Eli Nelson; **Historian:** Weldon Sullivan; **Judge Advocate:** Vacant **Executive Board Member (2):** Andrew Koopmans, Beth Williams

**NEW BUSINESS**

**HIGHWAY CLEAN-UP**

Eli Nelson mentioned that our highway clean-up is set for the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the quarter which would be 2 February. Roger Palmateer made a motion that we move the clean-up to the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday in March (2 March) with the time to be set at the next meeting. Seconded by John McClure. Motion carried.

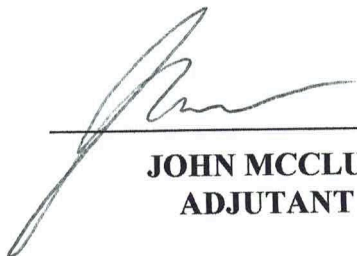
John McClure made a motion to adjourn, Roger Palmateer seconded. Motion carried.

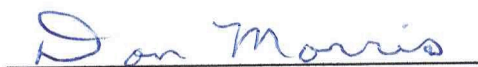
**CLOSING**

Assistant Chaplain Eddie Kelton 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 February 2025 General Meeting

  
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**JOHN MCCLURE**  
**ADJUTANT**

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

**Upcoming events:** Please visit our website: [americanlegionpost0018.com/calendar](http://americanlegionpost0018.com/calendar)

**February:**

- 3<sup>rd</sup> – Four Chaplains Day Ceremony, Clay County War Memorial, time TBD
- 9<sup>th</sup> – Second Sunday Lunch, preparation 0800, lunch 1130 - 1300
- 11<sup>th</sup> – Uniform Committee Meeting, 1830
- 18<sup>th</sup> – Voting Post Officer Elections, 1830
- 18<sup>th</sup> – General meeting, 1900 – Boys State Interviews

**March:**

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

**April:**

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

**May:**

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

**June:**

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

**July:**

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

**August:**

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

**September:**

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