



**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  
16 December 2025**

**DATE: 20 January 2026**

**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, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander Don Morris, Adjutant John McClure, Finance Officer Ron Paul, Service Officer Austin Forsythe, Chaplain Steve Wentworth, Asst. Chaplain Daniel Stearns, and Historian Weldon Sullivan

*Officers Absent:* 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander Bonnie Phillips

*Members present:* Eddie Kelton

A quorum was present.

**INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS and NEW MEMBERS:**

*Guests at this meeting:* Chuck Barrett, Commander, Pat Carrigan Post 120 Wichita Falls

*New members at this meeting:* Dena Berger

**MINUTES:** Minutes for the 18 November meeting are available to members prior to the meeting. John McClure made a motion to accept the November minutes as presented. Ron Paul seconded. Motion carried.

**ADJUTANT'S REPORT:** Adjutant John McClure reminded members to present their DD-214 to the Adjutant so a signed form can be placed in a binder confirming eligibility. John gave an update on post membership: 21 renewed for 2026, 15 will expire in 2025, 6 expired in 2024 including 1 duplicate and 1 moved out of state, and 3 members expired in 2023 including one who passed away last week, Ron Webb. John also discussed the need for Facebook followers, we must have at least 100 followers before we can live stream.

**FINANCE REPORT:** Finance Officer Ron Paul presented the finance officers report that included the net profit for the second Sunday luncheon, our current account funds, and status of bills. A motion to accept finance officers report was made by John McClure and seconded by Steve Wentworth. Motion carried.

*December 2025*

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

### *FINANCE COMMITTEE: Ron Paul, Chair*

Finance Committee Chair, Ron Paul reported the committee discussed the requested possible monthly expenditure and upon review decided \$450 was feasible. Ron also reported that the 2026 budget will be worked on and finalized before the next meeting. John McClure made a motion to set up an account at True Value utilizing our tax exempt number which they will keep on file. Eddie Kelton seconded the motion. Motion carried. Ron will contact True Value to get the account set up.

### *UNIFORM COMMITTEE: Vacant, Chair*

The Wreaths Across America Ceremony on December 13<sup>th</sup> was discussed. There was a problem with shipping, and we did not receive the correct number of wreaths. Wreaths Across America credited, and doubled, the missing wreaths so we are starting next year with 76 wreaths prior to sponsors. Overall, it was believed to have gone well. The weather was poor, and the turnout was less than last year. It was mentioned that Clay County Judge Mike Campbell did not show, and Henrietta ISD Superintendent Jamie Clark was asked to speak last minute. All speakers did a wonderful job. John spoke with Deborah Bachman who said she will put something in the paper this week and try to have a bigger article next week. The ceremony was livestreamed on Facebook and shared to our page and has had over 500 views. It was brought up that Rick Langford had requested a grave specific wreath that did not get placed. It was discussed that we currently have no way to track the grave specific and unless they show up to the ceremony it doesn't get placed. John made a motion to add the grave specific wreaths to Wreaths Across America. Eddie Kelton seconded the motion. During the discussion, there were concerns about needing to place those wreaths. It was mentioned there are members who would be more than willing to spend as much time as needed placing those wreaths. Motion carried.

### *SOCIAL/FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE: Bonnie Phillips, Chair:*

Adjutant John McClure reported for Bonnie Phillips. The planned bake sale was canceled due to fears of not having enough patrons to make it worth it. It was mentioned that the cancelation was not shared with everyone and some still made items. In the future, a better effort will be made to share this information. The Adopt-a-Highway trash clean-up scheduled for 6 December was canceled for safety concerns due to dense fog. Daniel Stearns made a motion to not reschedule the clean-up and conduct it at the March 7<sup>th</sup> scheduled time. Ron Paul seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### *EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: Roger Palmateer, Chair:*

There was no information to be shared.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### *CLAY COUNTY TEXAS WAR MEMORIAL*

There are no new updates at this time.

### *WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA*

See Uniform Committee Report above.

### *POST T-SHIRTS*

John McClure reported he does not have a new design at this time. If anyone has suggestions please contact him.

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*QR CODES AND MOBILE APPS*

John stated he has not set these up yet and still needs to meet with Ron on getting the account information.

*VACANT OFFICER POSITIONS*

The Sergeant-at-Arm and Executive Board Member positions are vacant. See New Business - Officer Elections for additional discussion.

**NEW BUSINESS**

*OFFICER ELECTIONS*

Commander Roger Palmateer discussed the vacant positions and suggested we leave them vacant until the upcoming election. In 2025, nominations were made in January, and the Election Notice was sent out following the meeting. Elections were held in February, and Officer Installation was conducted in March in conjunction with American Legion Birthday Celebration. John McClure made a motion we follow the same timeline as last year, and invite Chris Garcia, 13<sup>th</sup> District Commander to addend and install the officers in March. Don Morris seconded the motion. Motion carried.

*FOUR CHAPLAINS DAY*

Adjutant John McClure brought up Four Chaplains Day on February 3<sup>rd</sup>. He made a motion we have a ceremony on February 1<sup>st</sup> at 1300 at the Clay County War Memorial. Steve Wentworth seconded the motion. Motion carried. John will work on a script for the ceremony.

*BOYS STATE*

Adjutant John McClure reached out to others in the district as the 2026 dates are not online. This year it will be held June 7<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>. Registration is due May 1<sup>st</sup>. John will attempt to get printed materials to be given to the schools. The following members have agreed to contact the school districts in Clay County: Don Morris - Petrolia, Ron Paul - Midway, Roger Palmateer - Henrietta, and Eddie Kelton - Bellevue.

**CLOSING**

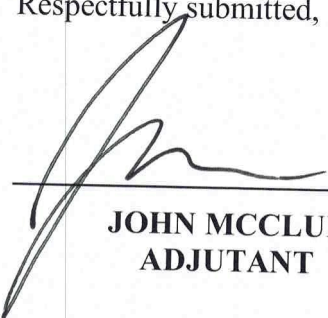
Ron Paul made a motion to adjourn, and Weldon Sullivan seconded. Motion carried.

Chaplain Steve Wentworth offered a closing prayer.

Member Eddie Kelton retired the Colors.

Commander Roger Palmateer declared the meeting adjourned at 1959 hours.

Respectfully submitted,



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**JOHN MCCLURE**  
ADJUTANT

Approved at the 20 January 2026  
General Meeting



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**ROGER PALMATEER**  
POST COMMANDER

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

**January:**

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

**February:**

- 3<sup>rd</sup> – Four Chaplain's Day
- 8<sup>th</sup> – Second Sunday Lunch, preparation 0800, lunch 1130 - 1300
- 10<sup>th</sup> – Uniform Committee Meeting, 1830
- 17<sup>th</sup> – General meeting, 1900

**March:**

- 7<sup>th</sup> – Adopt-a-Highway Clean up, 0900
- 8<sup>th</sup> – Second Sunday Lunch, preparation 0800, lunch 1130 - 1300
- 10<sup>th</sup> – Uniform Committee Meeting, 1830
- 15<sup>th</sup> – American Legion Birthday
- 17<sup>th</sup> – St. Patrick's Day
- 17<sup>th</sup> – Post Officer Installation, American Legion Birthday Celebration, General Meeting, 1900

**April:**

- 5<sup>th</sup> – Easter Sunday
- 11<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> District Spring Convention, Olney
- 12<sup>th</sup> – Second Sunday Lunch, preparation 0800, lunch 1130 - 1300
- 14<sup>th</sup> – Uniform Committee Meeting, 1830
- 21<sup>st</sup> – General meeting, 1900

**May:**

- 1<sup>st</sup> – Boys State Registration Due
- 10<sup>th</sup> – Mother's Day
- 10<sup>th</sup> – Second Sunday Lunch, preparation 0800, lunch 1130 - 1300
- 12<sup>th</sup> – Uniform Committee Meeting, 1830
- 15<sup>th</sup> – Peace Officer's Memorial Day
- 19<sup>th</sup> – General meeting, 1900
- 25<sup>th</sup> – Memorial Day

**June:**

- 6<sup>th</sup> – Adopt-a-Highway Clean up, 0900
- 9<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup> – Boys State
- 9<sup>th</sup> – Uniform Committee Meeting, 1830
- 13<sup>th</sup> – Second Sunday Lunch, preparation 0800, lunch 1130 - 1300
- 14<sup>th</sup> – Flag Day
- 16<sup>th</sup> – General meeting, 1900

**June:**

- 4<sup>th</sup> – Independence Day
- 12<sup>th</sup> – Second Sunday Lunch, preparation 0800, lunch 1130 - 1300
- 14<sup>th</sup> – Uniform Committee Meeting, 1830
- 21<sup>st</sup> – General meeting, 1900

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