

Officer's Meeting Minutes
09-09-2026

6:00 Meeting called to order by Commander Henson

- Pledge of allegiance
- Attendance – 9 Members Present- Henson, Korth, Huerta, Tarvestads, Welles, Libberton, Bearrows, Gruben, Roberts.
- Adjutant Report
 - Approval of Meeting minutes from August 12th meeting. Motion, Bearrows, 2nd Libberton
 - A new Roster is available. My printer is on its last legs so I didn't print a bunch. I can email if someone wants a copy to help with recruitment.
 - Our Target goal for 2027 is 54 Members
 - We are currently at 40 Members paid or 74% towards the Goal.
 - 100% by Veterans Day get \$100.00 Returned
 - Deceased and Expired member count towards our Goal and must be replaced.
 - We have 3 deceased and 2 expired to cover.
 - I have only one of the newest members from last year who have paid.
 - There are two members who will not renew on their own: Bob Hay and one other member who will not renew due to illness. Something to consider.
 - Last year we paid Bob Hay, Theresa Crystall and one other (can't remember) Theresa promised to pay us but didn't. She owes for 2 years. I will tell her that. She may not come through.
 - I will reach out to unpaid members this month. Everyone needs to make membership a priority!
 - Pay first year for new members? Is there other incentives?
- Rad at the Arsenal September 25. Retired Military Ap preciation Day. Brochure
- Donations for next year? Boys/Girls State, Little League, Boy/Girls Scouts. Others?
- Scholarships Program. Need a committee for High School. Trades? Military connection. Member relative Scholarship program determined.
- Appointments – Commander
 - Adjutant, Sgt at Arms, Community Activities, Publicity, Fund Raising, Scholarships, etc.
- Legion Store
 - Called yesterday, got right in.
 - Calls made on order, 4-13, 6-14, 6-18, 6-23, 7-31 and 9-8

- Oscar said he would “call the warehouse manager”. I told him the last person, Laura, lied to me about that. Asked how was I to know it would happen this time? He said, “Because I said it will!”
- I told him that if our order wasn’t shipped complete in five days, we would like a refund.
- VACOC Report.
 - A Special committee was appointed by the Commission to investigate operational issues at the VACOC.
 - A Special Closed meeting of the VACOC Commission Members was held to discuss the findings of this Special Committee.
 - The Commission directed the Post Delegates to take information back to their individual and through their own Special Meetings, return a recommendation to the Commission.
 - In a closed meeting where the Letters of Recommendations were presented, and by the rules of the MVAA, the Superintendent was removed by vote of the Commission.
 - The search is beginning for replacement.
 - Opening will be posted and public.
 - Must be a Veteran
 - VSO experience helpful but not required.
 - Skills running an office and enterprise most important.
 - Have three employees now: 2 VSOs, one office manager
 - Outreach programs suspended including Rochelle VFW.
 - Current Veteran claims are top priorities, but time sensitive claims will be given special attention.
 - With the assistance of the remaining employees and the County Officials, a Budget will be presented in time for the 2027 assessment.
 - HR issues still difficult to resolve with county, but progress being made.
 - The October VACOC Meeting is nominations for officers and directors. Election is in November. Anyone interested can put their name in consideration. After 10 + years of involvement, I will not accept any nomination for any office.
 - Jose Huerta is our Post Delegate. Comments from Joise?
 - I asked Luz Gilkey if she wanted to remain a member of our Post. She said she did. Her dues are paid.
 - Next commission Meeting Wednesday, September 16, 10:00 at the Ogle County Courthouse. Come and see the new office.
 - Motion to Accept Report: Moved-Huerta, 2nd – Libberton, Motion, Carried

- Finance report was given- Welles
 - Account balances available at the next meeting
 - Motion to Approve - Roberts, 2nd Libberton, Motion carried.
- Sr. Vice Report
 - Huerta gave a report on the situation at the VACOC and expressed that it was sad that the Commission had to act.
 - The letter from Post 403 expressed the Post's regrets and indicated that the Post had no concerns about the Superintendent as a member of Post 403, but would abide by the decision of the Commission,
 - The vote he placed in representing Post 403 was, "No".
- Jr. Vice Report-
 - Chuck Roberts volunteered to fill the Jr. Vice slot but only until someone else stepped forward. He did not want to progress up the ranks again as he has many times in the past.
 - He will continue the Publicity, Website and Memorial activities.
 - Bricks are still available at the Lawn Ridge Memorial for \$75.00
 - Trying to get Pedro Rosales, Boys State Attendee, for October Meeting's Presenter
 - Liandro Arellano is Guest Speaker for the 2026 Christmas Banquet
 - A check from the Ralph Papke Memorial for \$250. Was presented
 - There will be a WWII re-enactment September 26th & 27th at Midway Village.
- John Gruben Fund Raiser Report
 - We are at \$1520
 - Sales are slow-need more help from members
 - Will set up at the VFW on Queen of Hearts Tuesdays, Drawing will be at the VFW on Veterans Day.
- 7:00 PM Motion to ajourn
 - Libberton Motion Carried