**AMERICAN LEGION 436 ATASCOSA COUNTY**

**MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES**

**DATE: JANUARY 15, 2025**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Commander Willie Leal called the meeting to order at 18:01 hours, at Post 436 facility.

**OPENING CEREMONY:** Commander opened, reading the Chaplain's prayer (Chaplain absent). POW/MIA Chair Ceremony, Pledge of Allegiance, and reading of American Legion Constitution preamble conducted.

**ROLL CALL:** Quorum confirmed. Commander, Adjutant Stephanie Barr (Acting), Finance Officer Patty Hewitt, Sergeant at Arms Baron Behrle present.

**READING AND ADOPTION OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING:** Minutes from November 2024 meeting were briefly reviewed (topics: door fix, office hours, bus stop, cleaning, doorbell, Christmas party). Motion made and seconded to approve the November minutes. Motion passed.

**INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:** None.

**INTRODUCTION OF PROSPECTIVE NEW MEMBERS:**

* Carrie Jones (Army)
* Julie Norris Jones (AL Air National Guard)

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

* **Financial (as of end Nov/Dec '24):**
  + Total Funds: $23,562.35
  + General Fund: $6,140.00
  + Bingo Fund: $95.00
  + Building Fund: $5,907.42
  + Cash on Hand: Included in total (specific amount not reiterated here)
  + Other: Venmo ($1209.14), Cash App ($1504.75), PayPal ($244.50)
* **Bingo:** No check received last quarter. Next check expected end of Jan.
* **Membership & Renewals:** Discussed need to update officer list (Adjutant, Chaplain, etc.) on myLegion.org via official form submission. Meeting planned Jan 25th for Adjutant transition (Rachel to Stephanie).
* **House (Building & Maintenance):**
  + Digital Sign: Discussed height limits (14ft max w/o permit), getting materials from PMI, installation pending weather. Electrical done.
  + Barn Door (Office): Hardware obtained, needs cedar wood & assembly.
  + Security Cameras: Existing system non-op. Discussed checking DVR before buying wireless. Key fob system for office door proposed as alternative/addition.
  + Storage Area Cover: Still pending action from Mr. Soprano.
  + Plumbing: Urinals working but spare parts needed. External PVC pipe leak requires plumber - need quote.
  + Bathroom Signs: Neon signs received, need electrical installation (USB powered).
  + Ring Doorbell: New battery one needs installation.
  + Service Flags: Need ordering.
  + Safety Lights: Broken baseboard lights; plug-in nightlights suggested.
  + Winterizing: Discussed turning off water/draining spigots or using freeze-misers for upcoming freeze.
  + Parking: Issues with parking on front grass during events need addressing.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS (Continued):**

* **Gaming:** Planning monthly game night (cards, dominoes), potentially starting second Sunday in Feb (9th) at, 1400 hours. Aim to engage local veterans.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

* Memorial Service: Request received for service for Henry "Bud" Weiss (Navy Vet) at Argent Court Jan 17th. Chaplain Pastor Marcus agreed to officiate.
* Beautiful You Project: Setup Jan 19th, first showing Jan 20th (for ROTC Gala Feb 15th). Discussed need for permanent year-round space. Diana Leal's Humanitarian of the Year award mentioned.
* Flag Retirement Ceremony: Scheduled for Jan 25th at 9 AM. Need new burn barrel. Fire dept notification discussed.
* CAST Donation Request: Motion approved to donate hall use for "Breakfast with Santa" Dec 13, 2025.
* Little League Sponsorship: Discussed possibility of sponsoring Tri-Cities Little League team or billboard. Need to contact league organizers.
* Strawberry Festival Shuttle: Discussed coordinating shuttle service with ACOG from post to grounds. Festival board supportive. Need logistical planning (days, times, drop-off, advertising). Selling water/sodas at post discussed.

**FOR THE GOOD OF THE POST:**

* ROTC Military Gala: Feb 15th, "Old Hollywood Glamour". Extra ticket available for post representation.
* District Commander Update: Current DC resigned, Sr. Vice taking over. District meeting upcoming. Post membership at 60%.
* Community Service Hours: Discussed coordinating opportunities.

**MOTIONS/MEMBERSHIP VOTING:**

* Motion made and passed to approve donation of hall use for CAST event Dec 13, 2025.

**UPCOMING EVENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

* Next Meeting: Feb 19, 2025 (3rd Wed).
* Vendor Market: Feb 8, 2025.
* Beautiful You Setup: Jan 19, 2025.
* Beautiful You Showings Start: Jan 20, 2025 (Mondays 5:30-7 PM).
* Flag Retirement Ceremony: Jan 25, 2025, 9 AM.
* Executive & House Committee Meetings: Jan 25, 2025 (after flag ceremony, ~11 AM).
* ROTC Military Gala: Feb 15, 2025.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Meeting adjourned at, 18:56 hours.

Respectfully submitted,

Post 436 Adjutant