



Post 552

American Legion Meeting Minutes

February 20, 2025

Meeting Called to Order: __6:00____pm

Officers Present:

Commander	Kent Van Horn	
1 st Vice	Mike Hill	Absent
2 nd Vice	Bill Marsh	
Adjutant	Doug Benzel	
Finance Off.	Mark Seamon	
Chaplain	Bill Bartle	
Service Officer	Dave Schmidt	
Sergeant-At-Arms	Jim Vander Ploeg	
Asst Adjutant	Travis Methvin	Absent

Other members: Bill Heard, Brad Johnson and Jim Winn

Reading of the Minutes: Minutes of the January meeting were shown and approved.

Committee Reports:

Finance: Returns from the QYLD stock have been good. Two checks were written for the Boys State supporting three boys.

Membership: 123 of our 149 members have renewed for 2025. This is 82.55%. The District average is 80.62%.

Boy Scouts: Travis was absent so no update was provided.

Sick Call: Bill Cauley is recovering from his fall. Mike Hill is at home recovering from pneumonia.

Unfinished Business:

Guest Speakers: Bill Heard has selected retired Navy Captain John Enschede as our next guest speaker. He fought in the Vietnam War and became a POW. He served on the staff of the Chief of Naval Operations and was the Assistant Chief of Staff for Operations with Carrier Group SIX. He received the Navy Cross. [His biography is attached.](#)

Fundraisers: Bill Marsh reported our next fundraiser is April 5 and will be Bingo. He wants each of us to provide two donations and is looking for food service. A detailed plan will be provided in March. Those wishing to participate need to contact Bill directly.

New Business:

Boys State: The Commander reported we are supporting three boys this year. We are awaiting a list of the boys to be interviewed. The submission must be made by the end of March. Kent, Jim Vander Ploeg and Bill Marsh will conduct the interviews.

Elections: Doug reported nominations for Commander, 1st Vice and 2nd Vice will be accepted at our March and April meetings. Election of these officers will be at our May meeting. He recommended that all people review our by-laws for the responsibilities of these positions. It is encouraged that any nominee for election be present at the meeting so they can accept or decline.

Good of the Order: Jim Vander Ploeg wore a T-shirt that can be made for advertising the American Legion at beach clean ups. If anyone is interested they should contact Jim directly.

Dave Schmidt is now our Service Officer. He has received 20 hours of training and will report his ability to support members at our future meetings.

Bill Heard has invited anyone interested in attending the ground-breaking for an amphitheater at the Miramar Cemetery on March 3.

Meeting was adjourned at ___ 6:34 pm ___

/s/Signed February 24, 2025

Adjutant