

**The American Legion**  
**Executive Board Meeting**  
**December 9, 2025**

<b>OPENING</b>	<p>The Executive Board meeting was called to order at Mulberry Memorial Post 72 on Tuesday December 9, 2025 by Commander Randy Ables at 6:00pm. Colors were saluted and Pledge of Allegiance recited. The POW/MIA empty chair covering was presented. The preamble was read. Chaplain offered the opening Prayer.</p>
	<p>1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander conducted Roll Call:</p> <p>Post Commander: Randy Ables – Present 1<sup>st</sup> Vice: David Bryant – Present 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice: Jim Dearth - Present 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice: Gloria Murphy - Present Financial Officer: Dan Gramman - Present Chaplain: Able Santos - Present Historian: Charleston Murphy – Present Adjutant: Stephanie Bryant – Present Sergeant-At-Arms: James Ogletree—Present Service Officer: Don Bires—Present Judge Advocate: Kevin Humphreys—Absent Executive Committee: David Waterman – Present Wayne Johnson – Present Donnie Mims--Present</p> <p>Adjutant reported a quorum is present at this meeting.</p>
<b>MINUTES</b>	<p>Motion by James Ogletree to waive the reading of the minutes. Seconded by David Bryant. Motion passed. Moving forward Meeting Minutes are posted on the bulletin board at the Post and online on the website. They can be reviewed prior to each meeting.</p>

**Officer Reports:**

- **Finance:** Report given. Motion by James Ogletree to accept Finance Report as read. Seconded by Donnie Mims. Motion passed  
-Reminder that any member can request to view the Finance Report.

**Commander:**

- Been in contact with CINTAS and have been presented with a proposed contract that covers all paper, cloth (towels, rags), lavatory products, handwash units and scented air in the bathrooms. Proposed cost will be \$440-\$480 in price. Don Bires made motion to switch from Sysco purchasing to CINTAS. Seconded by Donnie Mims. Yays: 3 Nays: 4. Motion Not Passed.
- Christmas Dinner sign up for sides at the Canteen. Commander will be out of town. Asking for volunteers to help with the dinner.
- Gary Clark asking local Veteran Organizations to support send off for local Guard unit that is deploying on Sunday, Dec. 14 at Sun N Fun.
- Veteran John Palmer is a member and has lost use of his commercial kitchen. His small business makes candied nuts. He is asking to use our Kitchen and is willing to pay a weekly donation of \$300 a week if allowed. No motioned made.
- James Ogletree made motion that we pre-pay to renew the 15+ Continuous Years members to help meet our Member Quotas. Seconded by David Bryant. Yays: 6 Nays: 4. Motion Passed.

**1<sup>st</sup> Vice:**

- NTR

**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice:**

- Building has been painted. New shelves in the dungeon.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Vice:** Went over upcoming Calendar events. 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice noted immediate upcoming events:

- Kids Christmas Party on November 29 went very well.
- Blood Drive Dec 10, 10-2
- Mulberry Christmas Parade is Saturday, Dec. 13.
- White Elephant Part Dec. 23, Family Friendly Event. Sign up at Canteen.
- Christmas Dinner 2-5 PM, Post closes at 6 PM
- Potluck Dec. 26 since no Legion Dinner. Will be celebrating Gloria's Birthday. DJ for entertainment.
- No ALR breakfast on the December 28
- Casino Night Tickets are available!

**Chaplain:** NTR

**VSO:** Completed 5 cases since last meeting.

**Adjutant:**

- No correspondence
- Membership is at 68.9 %. Next Department Goal is 80% by Jan 7.
- Requested updates on Volunteer Hours for CPRs.

**Unfinish Business:**

- Charleston Murphy notified us that new contracts for Hall Rentals have been completed and reviewed by Judge Advocate. Will be implemented in January.

**New Business:**

- Nancy Thomas tasked as chair to coordinate the Four Chaplains Ceremony in February. Date set for February 1 at 2 PM. Volunteers for Committee to assist include Abel Santos, Randy Ables, Donnie Mims and James Ogletree.
- James Ogletree brought up that Post 72 is hosting District 7 Meeting in February. It is scheduled for Feb 14

at 10 AM. It will be in conjunction with a Family Picnic. David and Stephanie, Randy will assist James. More details to follow.

- Donnie Mims brought up the buying of new chairs for the canteen. Wants to ensure the memorials on current chairs get saved and consolidated in with a new plaque or memorial. Donnie made a Motion to move forward with research and purchase of new chairs. and Seconded by Charleston Murphy. Motion passed.
- Stephanie Bryant brought up discussion on subscribing to a texting platform to help boost communication with membership. David Bryant made motion to sign up for texting platform not to exceed 97\$ a month. Seconded by Don Bires. Motion passed.
- Abel Santos brought up increasing Canteen Manager credit card because he is doing more purchasing with credit card at local stores than with distributors. Jim Dearth made motion to increase Canteen Manager credit card from \$2000 to \$3000 spending limit. Seconded David Waterman. Motion Passed.
- James Ogletree brought up that we would like to institute a sign up sheet for General Member Meeting to start tracking attendance.
- Dan Gramman brought up the interest in having a permit to Open the Post December 19-21 to raise money for Canteen Volunteer in Need.
- Wayne Johnson brought up that we have a veteran in need of furniture for new home. He cannot accept furniture until Dec 31 so Wayne made a motion that we use the POD to store furniture temporarily and anything not used he will personally transport to the dump. Seconded by Abel Santos. Motion Passed.

**Good for the Post:**

- Stephanie Bryant mentioned a local Wreaths Across American Event at Lakeland Veterans

	Memorial Park on Saturday, December 13 that is being held by a local Military Woman Across the Nation group. They would love our Post's Support.
<b>CLOSING CEREMONY</b>	Chaplain offered Closing Prayer. POW flag retrieved and salute to the colors.
<b>ADJOURNMENT</b>	Meeting was adjourned – Date: December 9, 2025 at 8:12 PM