

The American Legion
Executive Board Meeting
July 14, 2026

OPENING	The Executive Board meeting was called to order at Mulberry Memorial Post 72 on Tuesday July 14, 2026 by Commander Randy Ables at 6:04 PM. 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.
	Adjutant conducted Roll Call: Post Commander: Randy Ables – Present 1st Vice: David Bryant – Present 2nd Vice: Jim Dearth - Present 3rd Vice: Gloria Murphy -Present Financial Officer: Dan Gramman - Present Chaplain: Steven Laveck - Present Historian: Charleston Murphy – Present Adjutant: Stephanie Bryant –Present Sergeant-At-Arms: James Ogletree—Present Service Officer: Don Bires—Present Veteran Resource Officers: Scott May Nichole Angel Judge Advocate: Kevin Humphries—Present Executive Committee: Donnie Mims--Present Lynn Price– Present Mark Winchester --Present A quorum was present at this meeting.
MINUTES	Minutes are posted on the Bulletin Board and on the website to be reviewed before each meeting.

	Steven Laveck made a motion to accept the minutes as posted. Seconded by James Ogletree. Motion Passed.
	Committee Reports: Farmer's Market Committee: We made about \$200 at the first Farmer's Market. I will be out of town, so Randy and Gloria are managing it Please come out and report. Comedy Night Committee: About 60 tickets sold. About 40 left. Please come out and support. Bar Committee: NTR Events Committee: NTR Boys State Committee: NTR Scholarships: NTR Hall Rental Committee: NTR Officer Reports: Finance: Report given for July 14, 2026. Finance report can be requested at any time. -General Operating Fund: \$5,631.53 -Outstanding Checks: \$64.18 -Mailed 2 scholarship checks over the weekend. Completed one this morning that is not included. -Will be visiting with LPL later this year to review the fund for our investment account. Motion by Charleston Murphy to accept Finance Report as read Seconded by Jim Dearth Motion passed

Commander:

- Our program chairs are due to Department by September 4. Please review the list and bring your forms back to next EC meeting.
- If you have not done Legion Basic Training, please do it ASAP!
- We will present Abel Santos with a plaque and Wayne Johnson with a certificate of Appreciation at the next general meeting.

1st Vice:

- Conducting membership drives during our Legion Dinners over the next few months. If you come in and present your 2027 Membership card, you get one free broasted chicken meal.
- District will be helping us conduct email membership drives targeted at the 400s.

2nd Vice:

- Kirby & Tanya's husband is helping with maintenance.
- Working on getting estimates for new carpet in the canteen.

3rd Vice: See Calendar for full List of Events.

- July calendar is posted.
- District 7 Women Meeting is Saturday, July 25 from 10-Noon.
- July 30 Barnyard will be pulled pork.
- 5th Friday meal is not set. It was supposed to be Auxiliary, but Calendar says Legion, so it is still up in the air.
- August 8th is comedy night. Get your tickets!

Chaplain: Shane Bishop is not feeling well and Steve Z. Also, Auxiliary member Cecilia Walker.

Historian: NTR

VSO: NTR but we are welcoming Scott May and Nichol Angel as the new Veteran Resource officers for Post 72. Nichol is working with member Rick Hume to get him next steps. Scott wants work with Farmer's Market to promote and give groceries to Veterans. Steve Laveck has a Veteran that may need assistance and he will get him in contact with Scott.

Judge Advocate: Reviewed Queen of Hearts information and has recommendations if we decide to move forward with it. Wording is important. By Law we cannot mandate people pay to play. It is a recommended donation. Commander recommended we create a Queen of Hearts committee to compile info and best practices.

Adjutant:

- Starting a Newsletter. If anyone has suggestions or wants to assist.
- Buddy Checks will scheduled for November 2026/February 2027.

Unfinish Business:

- Legion Website: Stephanie Bryant made a motion to switch from GoDaddy to Legionsites for our Post website. Seconded by Gloria Murphy.
- Ad for Polk County Press was updated to Farmer's Market. If you want to switch to Comedy Night, we just have to tailor an ad for it. Or any future event. Just let me know.
- Barstools: Swivels are worn. 1st Vice said he did some research and Barstools are about \$160-\$180 apiece. Dan Gramman said previously we had chairs available and people would donate to purchase their own chair or buy one in memory of someone. Mark Winchester has a contact and will get some additional pricing from a local company.
- Boat Ramp Permit: Commander with sit down with Bonnie Titus to talk about Boat Ramp.

- POW/MIA Chair- Charleston made motion to table purchasing the chair. Seconded by Dan Gramman. Motion Passed.
- Security access for new access code. Commander said board are mostly the same so we will be tabling it for now. Only thing that really has to change is Safe Code and Dial may need replacing.
- Kitchen License: Did we post new copy of the license?

New Business:

- Jim Dearth updated Bingo Game Play Rules/SOP because it was outdated. Gloria Murphy and Kevin Humphries review it.
- Gloria Murphy brought up that Wendy Benton had asked for the Legion to cover half the cost of the Canva program because she makes flyers for Auxiliary and Legion events. Charleston Made a motion to create a Canva Account for the Post to use for Flyers and graphics at the cost of 20\$ a month. James Ogletree seconded. Motion Passed.
- Gloria stressed the need for Committees for events to keep people on tasks for planning and Executions. Gloria would like to hold a Christmas Ball and Commander told her to find someone to chair it and he will bring it to the Leaders' meeting for Family Participation. Dan Gramman also asked that one person be designated to handle Finances/budgets for each event. Gloria volunteered to be chair for Queen of Hearts committee.
- Gloria brought up that Steve Z has curtains he needs help hanging curtains for Comedy Night and she will make sure he contacts Jim Dearth about coordinating a time for that.
- District 7 Women's Veterans Meet Up is July 25. Stephanie Bryant asked for funds to put the meet up on. Jim Death motioned give funds for event not to

	exceed \$200. Seconded by Kevin Humphries. Motion Passed. • Stephanie Bryant brought to the board that the Mulberry Youth Softball is going to the World Series in Alabama and they are needed donations to help support the girls travel. Dan Gramman made motion to donate \$500 to the Mulberry Youth Softball team to help with their travel to the World Series. Seconded by Scott May. Charleston asked the commander to ask the other Families to donate also if they can. • Jim Dearth is researching adding Bingo to Saturday Nights. David Bryant requested that for the first couple Bingo's Jim use existing supply before purchasing more just in case people don't come out. Jim Dearth made motion to start Saturday Bingo. Steven Laveck seconded. Discussion: Charleston Murphy felt doing bingo every single Saturday is overkill and made try 2 Saturdays a month. Stephanie Bryant suggested trying one Saturday a month to see how it goes because Auxiliary Bingo is already on the 1st Saturday of the month. Jim said that being consistent every Saturday is what will make it successful. Hours have not been discussed. Steve Laveck noted that Bingo had 6 new members on Monday and he agreed with Jim that it will bring people in. Dan Gramman inputted that we cannot have open liquor license on the weekend we have Bingo. Motion retracted. Jim will research and make a presentation for the next EC Board meeting. • Charleston Murphy got with Kevin Humphries and David Bryant and amended the rough draft of the updated Canteen/House rules. Commander will review for approval. • Scott May brought up that there will be a Poker Run on September 12 that will stop at the post. • Honor Flight is scheduled for next spring 2027. Steve Laveck has volunteered to chair for this Flight. Scott May will assist. Polk County Veterans Council has the
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	same meeting night/time as us. Scott will go represent in a future meeting to participate. • By Laws and Constitution will need to be reviewed this year. Kevin Humphries will chair this committee. Randy and David will be on committee to assist Kevin. They will definitely be amended to include the new Veteran Resource Officer position. • Lakeland Police Department is having a Heroes Dinner and Silent Auction. They have different tiers of support. Dan Gramman made motion to table the discussion. Seconded by Charleston Murphy. Motion Passed. • Mark Winchester has donated new business cards that all Post 72 Officers can use. That way you always have a professional card to give someone when you are conducting business for the Legion. Good for the Post: • David Bryant reminded everyone that National, Department, and Post Bylaws are mandatory. They are not suggested. There was an issue at convention recently where a past auxiliary present was not allowed to be a delegate because a non-member was signed in as a delegate and that violates our integrity. As well as non-members handling monies. Our job as officers is to ensure this post maintains compliance.
CLOSING CEREMONY	Chaplain offered Closing Prayer. POW flag retrieved and salute to the colors.
ADJOURNMENT	Meeting was adjourned – Date: July 14, 2026 at 8:15 PM