

Meeting Minutes January 2025

Guests: Gary Niedbalski, D10 Commander; Tim Boykin – 2-time Iraqi Freedom Combat Vet had the flu, will attend next month.

Meeting opened at 1900 with 13 Members Present.

Officer Roll Call: All Officers were present except the Sr. Vice Commander, Jr. Vice Commander, Judge Advocate who were absent and the Guard who was excused as he is PCSing.

New Memberships: 4 Membership applications were read. Larry G. made the motion to accept, 2nd by Frank D. Motion passed.

Minutes: As minutes were emailed to all members and spare copies were available, motion to dispense with reading of the minutes was made by Frank D. and seconded by Marty S. Motion passed.

Reading of the Bills: None

QM Monthly & Quarterly Reports: Accepted subject to audit.

Community Service/Service Officer – Larry Gerlt – Tricare Users – 24 hour Nurse Advice website: [MHS Nurse Advice Line: Welcome to MHS Nurse Advice Line Beneficiary Portal](#) Can call, chat, or video chat to determine if you need to see a doctor, go to ER, etc. VA Health Connect – 24-hour hot line 801-582-1565 to make appointments, speak to a nurse, meet with medical provider by phone or video, get help with prescription.

Members in Distress: None

Members Deceased: Donald Estrada – Life Member

Committee Reports:

Membership - Larry Gerlt: We are now at 99.58% and only need 12 more to achieve 102% and qualify for All American. However, the Chief has added a new requirement – participation in “Say-of-Service” that must be held on May 3rd. Will discuss under new business. Next Membership drive will be scheduled for March as I am already booked all of February. If you have any family members, coworkers, neighbors or friends who are veterans and may qualify for the VFW, ask them if I can contact them about joining and pass me their contact info (at least name & phone number, address and email is good to have.)

Blood Drive/VA & Chaplain Report - Frank Durham: He spoke about the VA Hospital looking to put up two monitors. One will display all Medal of Honor winners and the other info on VA employees. The Xmas tree in the lobby ended up having 120 tags for gifts for needy veteran. It was tapped out in 15 minutes. He also showed photos of the intended new VA Hospital to be built in the current parking lot between the new parking garage and new clinic building. Projected cost, 1 Billion dollars! DAV helped the VA procure 5 new Ford Explorers whose total cost was \$300,000. VA also gave out \$600K in popcorn. The mental health clinic is over taxed and has a shortage of beds. There are 100 workers tasked with bringing the facility up to code and making improvements. They also need more volunteers, but it is taking 6 months after applying to complete all background checks and get ID card.

Meeting Minutes January 2025

Surgeon - Bernie Jennings: NR

POW/MIA - William Guy: He spoke about the recent visit of state and National leadership to the DPAA facility located on Offutt AFB.

Voice of Democracy/Patriots Pen/TOTY - Closed for this membership year.

Political Action - Matt Whitaker: NR

Webmaster/Facebook - Rick Imgrund: NR

Women Veterans - Sonja Hosler: Although this year's Women's Veterans Symposium is not yet confirmed, the dates have been announced. More info to follow when event is confirmed.

We remembered our National Home.

Correspondence – None

Old Business

- 1. Subj:** Xmas Party **Content:** We had 78 in attendance. Presented our VOD and PP winners their awards.
- 2. Subj:** Hams for New Visions Thanksgiving Dinner **Content:** Purchased and delivered!
- 3. Subj.** Dept. Raffle Calendars **Content:** We sold our twenty to qualify for All State.

New Business

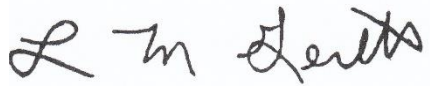
- 1. Subj:** Day Of Service – QM **Content.** The Chief has added a new requirement for All American – participation in “Day-of-Service” on May 3rd. We will perform a police-call around the DAV with a start time of 0900. Or we could also participate with Marty at the National Cemetery helping family members locate resting place of their loved ones. When I do the March & May News-letter I will add it to the schedule, I will also send an email prior to see who is interested in participating.
- 2. Subj:** ENVH Bingo – Larry **Content:** We are currently paying \$.50 per game for 24 games and two each \$4.00 Blackout games. With multiple winners, it sometimes cost us \$26-28 per night. The quarters are hard to deal with (get dropped a lot). \$.50 won't even buy a cup of coffee these days. If we increased our game payouts to \$1.00 per game and kept the 2 \$4.00 black out games with an option for a 3rd \$4.00 black out game it should keep the cost just under \$40 per month. I make a motion we pay \$1 per game for 3 rounds of 8 games and 2 blackout games \$4 per game with an option of a third game if all other games finish early. Seconded by Mary C. Motion passed.

Meeting Minutes January 2025

- 3. Subj:** VOD/PP Scholarship fund – Larry **Content:** Dept Adj/QM asked me if we intended to donate several hundred dollars to this. I personally put \$100 in for the Past State Commander's Scholarship. We have 121 posts in the state but only about 12 donate. Then there are 2 private donations by Companies owned by VFW/Auxiliary Members, the Past Dept. Auxiliary Presidents, and those who donate when they don't have an entry for one or both programs (which we have done in the past) I move we donate \$100 to the Dept. VOD/PP Scholarship fund. Motion seconded by Frank D. Motion passed.
- 4. Subj:** Aux. 2704 diaper drive **Content:** Nat. Aux. President Brenda Bryant is conducting a Diaper Drive for troops stationed overseas as they may have to pay twice as much for them as we do here in the states! Our Auxiliary is conducting their drive for the next 3 month and has asked for our help. Once collected, diapers are turned in to a central point, taken to an air base and transported by the military same as with personal supplies sent to our troops stationed overseas (shaving lotion/cream, deodorant, etc.). I move we donate \$150 to them for the diaper drive. Motion seconded by Gary T. Motion passed.

Good of the Order (*All guests should be invited to speak*)

- Our Commander talked about the 50 Mile March group. They have funded buying the farm just west of ENVH and will be building a facility for veterans.
- Rick I. let us know he lowered the flags at our monument at Graceland Cemetery, that the flags are getting worn and will need to be replaced.
- D10 Commander spoke about the possibility of having a district wide chili cook off in September. He also spoke about recruiting at the Boat & Travel show coming up 20-23 Feb and is looking for comrades to help man the recruiting booth.
- Added now: State Mid-winter Conference is 31 Jan & 1 Feb at the Cornhusker hotel in Lincoln.
- Post Membership to be scheduled for March.
- Our next meeting will be Wed., 26 Feb, 7pm, at the DAV, 4515 F St.
- Meeting closed at 19:50.



Larry M. Gerlt
Quartermaster