American Legion Post 229 Meeting
August 12th, 2026

I. Order of Business (if Not Otherwise Provided)

1. CALL TO ORDER – Harold Smith called meeting to order at 1901.

   Advancement of Colors
   Prayer
   Pledge
   Preamble

2. MINUTES – Minutes accepted as posted. Motion, by Doc Earl Miller seconded by Gunny Mo . **All in favor. No opposed. Motion passes.**

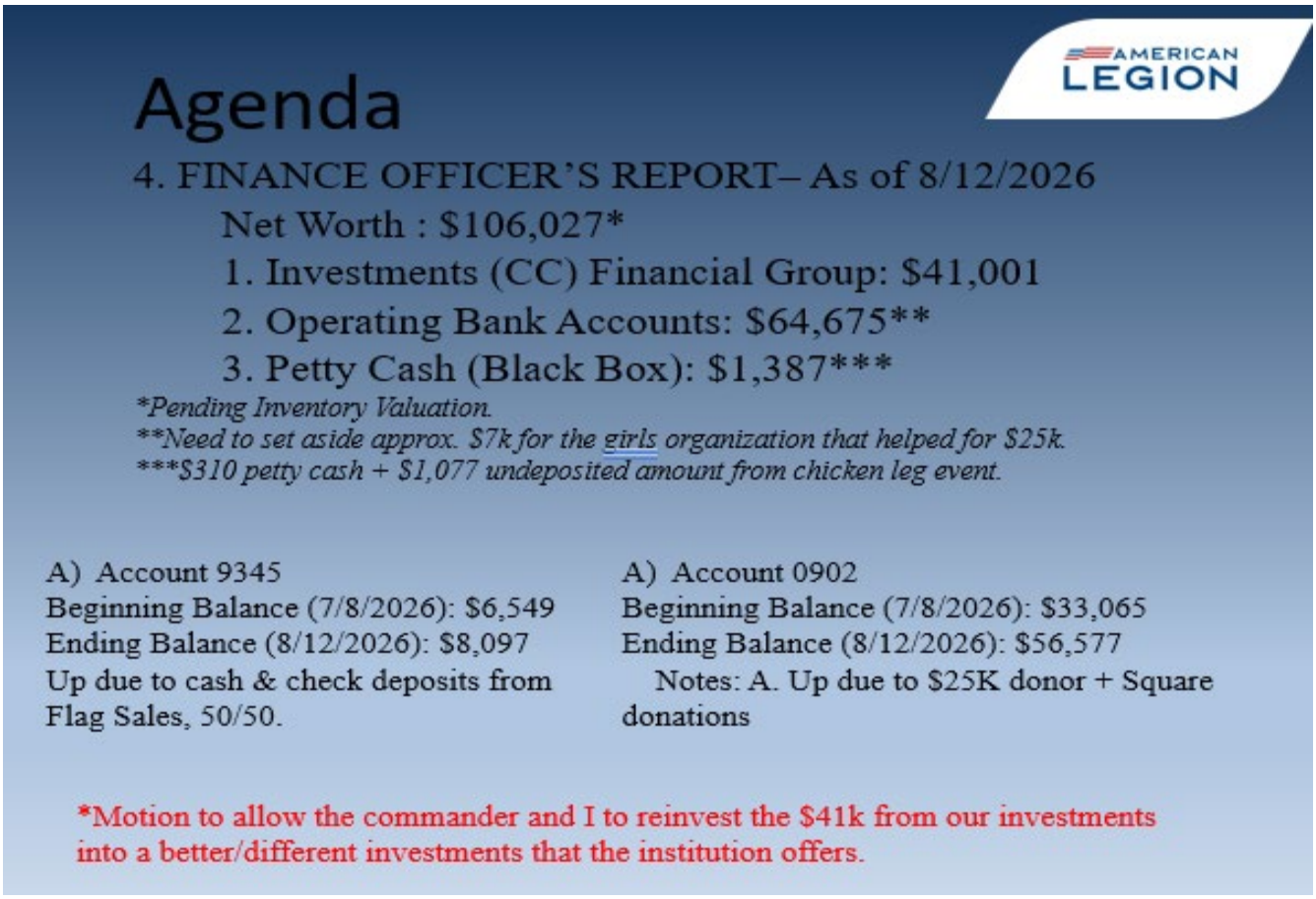
3. INTRODUCTION of Officers and Guests-

   Fred Alvarado, CEO Broken Warriors Angels- Fred spoke about the need to support unaccompanied veterans that are not able to be buried in Coastal Bend Cemetery due to not meeting the 2 year service requirements and how the County VSO and Veterans Organizations need to do more to support.

Commander- Harold "Butch" Smith – Present	1St Vice Commander – Ken Ames - Present
2nd Vice Commander Scott Rogers – Excused	Adjutant Stephen Armstrong - Present
Historian Dan Thornton- Excused	Chaplain- Paul Hestand- Present
Hubmaster Bill Kreitzser- Present	VSO- Gunny Mo Moreno Present
Finance Officer- Steven Morrell- Present	Sargent at Arms- Eugene Peters – Excused
Judge Advocate- Phil Groll- Excused	

Executive Committee: Thomas Rodriguez- Present, Michael Austin- Present, Jeff Robinson- Excused, Danny Thompson- Present

4. FINANCE OFFICER'S REPORT – As of 7/8/26 Account $8,097 ccount 0902 $ **56,577**
Funds Accounts- Total 41,001.00 Petty Cash: $1387.00 **Combined Total of all accounts $ 10,6027.00**



Motion to approve financial report by Stephen Armstrong, second by Gunny Mo, **All for, none opposed, no discussion. Motion passed.**

5. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT – Executive committee meeting held July 3th to set agenda items as below ;

Event Committee	SAL Update
Grant Committee	50/50 AAR
American Legion Auxiliary	Boy's State
Bingo	Chicken Leg Quarter Sale
Flags for Freedom	

6. MEMBERSHIP REPORTS – New members – Motion by Stephen Armstrong Second by Jimmy Pena to accept new members. All for, none opposed. **Motion passes.**

   James Traxler – USA David Hawkinson- USN Clay Cavazos- USA

7. COMMUNICATIONS – None at this time.

8. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS – **Grant Committee**-

   Adj, Stephen Armstrong spoke about progress made:

1. All members should be able to bring a list of at least 10 names to start our monthly campaign master roster to reach out when we are ready to go live. Will need name, address, email address and cell phone number. **Still Pending**

2. Stephen will create a google document link that people can submit their information to be included in future notification. **Still Pending**

3. Legacy Giving campaign is donations from a will or trust after someone passes. Looking at different internet platforms that can help with this program. **Pending**

4. Motion by Butch Smith to go with Givebutter and Stephen be administrator with a $22.90 quarterly donation amount. Second by Phil Lafara, All for, none opposed. Motion passes. Stephen has set up the site and will work to have it ready to launch for next meeting. **Pending**

Event Committee:

1. Chicken Leg Quarter Sale – **See in new business**

Adopt-A-Beach Committee (Jeri Fontana, Committee Lead)

1. Next Adopt-A-Beach – **Next event is September 19th please sign up to help**.

Building Committee (Joe Rutter, Gunny Mo)

1. Searching possible locations, will bring up at future 2026 meeting. **No updates**

9. SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS – Mayor's Council on Veterans Affairs meeting (CCMC4V)-

1). Sept 19ht POW MIA day at Sherrell Park
2). Next Meeting September 14th.

10. VETERAN SERVICE OFFICER REPORTS – Gunny Mo nothing new to report, if anyone needs assistance, please contact him to assistance.

11. UNFINISHED BUSINESS –

1. Lisette Osborne spoke about requirements for starting Auxiliary. Forms handed out to get the required 10 members to start Auxiliary. Should meet minimum to be able to start Post**.** Update- Minimum has been reached need members that signed up to turn in Auxiliary member numbers to Lisette. Original 10 members have not been met. There are only 6 confirmed and the other 4 need to send Lisette their member numbers to be added to the list. still at 7 members and need 3 more. Have 3 more people that need to be signed up. Update- 4 new members have signed up and now there are enough members to start Auxiliary post. Also, Lisette will be attending Texas State Auxiliary Convention later in the month. **Update- there is enough membership to charter auxiliary. Will hold auxiliary meetings same date as legion meeting from 5:30 to 6:30 pm starting October 2026. Motion by Ernie Osborne, Seconded by Butch Smith for Legion post to cover cost auxiliary fees. All for, none opposed. Motion passes.**

2. Hubmaster Bill Kreitzer- Website traffic is still going strong with over 200 views a month.

3. Bingo- Reserving with Rod at Hardknocks to run bingo from Sept to October. Rod said he will coordinate with Legion for Sept – Oct. Update- Will continue to plan for Bingo in September and October. Need members to sign up to run bingo. Will coordinate a team and discuss further**.** Update- will need members to join committees and will discuss plan at next meeting. Committees Sponsorship committee to get overall and weekly sponsors for door prizes,
Event Committee to get volunteers signed up to help every week and to coordinate bingo callers and bingo machine rental. roster of different committees will be emailed out to members

in advance of meeting and discussed on June 3rd Board Meeting. Sign Up sheets passed out to join committees. Stehen spoke about needing to get door prizes like dinners for two, yeti cups and small individual gift baskets. Will need at least 12 different door prizes per week for the entire 8 weeks. Stephen will work with Jimmy Pena to develop flyers and get sponsorship and door prizes coordinated. **Updates- still need members to sign up and to help with committees as well as day of events. Motion by Butch Smith, seconded Christie Even to move bingo to every Tuesday in October and November.**

4. Stephen Armstong spoke about the need that the Post purchase, 2 100qt coolers, 1 electric roasting pan, 2 big trash cans (1 black and 1 blue), 4 6 ft folding tables, 2 locks for storage lockers, 2 sets of solar lights for inside the storage containers. Motion by Stephen Armstrong, Second by Gunny Mo, All in favor, none opposed, motion passes to purchase these item**s.** 2 coolers, 2 tables, 2 trash cans and 2 locks purchased. **Update Still need to purchase 1 electric roasting pan, 2 6ft tables.**

5. Island Pride approached Adjutant Stephen Armstrong to hold a fundraiser and to place 250 flags along Park Road 22 in celebration of the Nation's 250 birthday. This event will be called Flags for Freedom. Cost of supplies and equipment is between $7,000 and 8,000. There will be three different price categories for sponsoring a flag.
There will be tags on the pvc piping so they can see that the flag is being flow in support of someone. TxDot is working on paperwork. To break even, we would need to sell 60 flags. Discussion was about in partnership with Island Pride group and the main job of Island Pride is to sell flags as well as Legion members to sell flags. Motion by Butch Smith, Second by Gunny Mo, All in favor, none opposed, Motion passes. Update- Butch Smith spoke about flyers that were passed out and members that need to send information out to everyone that they know to purchase flags. Further information for setting up flags along park road 22, folding flags, putting flags into cases and filling out certificates, messages will go out to members. Update- Event was a resounding success. Even though over 30 flags were stolen, there were 137 flags sold. Will work on distribution, folding, printing certificates and getting flags and cases to those who sponsored. Also, Finance Officer spoke that the original expected cost will go over original amount. Motion by Stephen Armstrong, Second by Eugene Peters to approve up to total of $10,000 for supplies and equipment. All for, none opposed, Motion passes. **Update- Motion by Butch Smith, seconded by Ken Lay, to give Island Pride $7,000 for help and assistance with the Flags for Freedom. All, for none opposed, motion passes. Motion by Steven Morrell, seconded by Jim Bob for Legion post to create a third account to deposit $7,000 for Island pride and to allow executive board to approve disbursal funds as needed to Island Pride. All for, none opposed, motion passes.**

6. Finance Officer Steven Morrell spoke about Post needing to research CPA's to complete our previous years taxes. Currently, previous board had someone that was supposed to complete it, but it was never filed, the financial person stated we will have to pay a penalty to file previous tax information for 2022 to 2026. Steven will research for other tax professionals to see about pricing. Update- Steven Morrell did research a few different CPA's and they would all cost much more than the quote of $3,200 from current financial person to bring our taxes current. Motion by Steven Morrell and second by Jim Sullivan to go with current tax professional. All for, non opposed, motion passes. **Update- CPA should be submitting 990's by August 17th.** .

7. Bill Kreitzer spoke about starting Sons of American Legion and who is allows to join. Motion by Bill Kreitzer, Second by Earl Miller, All for, none opposed, motion passes. **Update- Currently there are 3 people that have signed up. Need a total of 10 to start the SAL chapter.**

8. Butch Smith spoke about the Post having the opportunity to be able to do a 50/50 on July 17th at Champions for Change BBQ cookoff and Car show. Post will need volunteers and it is a great idea to get members to help out. Motion by Butch Smith to have event, seconded by Jim Sullivan, all for, none

opposed, motion passes. Paul Hestand, Danny Thompson, Earnie and Lisette Osborne and Michael Austin and his wife all will assist with holding the event. **50/50 raffle was not a great success, but post made over $300 and appreciate the time and effort from members to support and help. Will revisit support for next year.**

9. Butch Smith spoke about chicken leg quarter sale is upcoming and proposed dates are Aug 8th or Aug 15th. Thomas Rodriguez has a group that is willing to come out and cook for us and legion will just need to supply manpower to sell and hand out food. Ken Ames spoke about the organization that runs the markets is asking for us to be at their next one on August 8th. Motion made by Butch, seconded by Stephen for sale on Aug 8th at Seashore Learning School on Encantada St. All for, none opposed, motion passes. Roster and flyers will be emailed out within the next two weeks. **Butch Smith updated that Chicken Leg sale made $1,077 profit**

10. Scott Rogers spoke about starting a Texas Boys State program within the legion. Boys State is one of the Legions pillar events and Legion should now be able to support. Scott passed around Boys State information flyers showing what the program is and how it is run. Phil Groll spoke about the benefits and how well it looks on college applications and for Service Academies. Scott Rogers made a motion, seconded by Dan Thornton to start the Legion Boys State program within our Post. Members on the committee so far will be Scott Rogers, Butch Smith, Phil Groll, and Danny Thompson, All in favor, none opposed. Motion passes. **No new updates.**

NEW BUSINESS –

1. Butch Smith was approached by Vice District CDR Tony Lopez. District is looking for someone to start a District and Post position for Junior Shooting Sports Program Coordinator. Butch spoke about how this falls into the pillars of the legion. Paul Hestant volunteered. Motion by Butch Smith, seconded by David Hawkinson to create a post program for Junior Shooting Sports program and appoint Paul Hestand as coordinator, All for, none opposed, motion passes.

2. Future Events- La Posada Boat Party- looking at having a Boat Party at a members house to support Toys for Tots and have an evening of camaraderie. Also, work with area to have Army/Navy game at Hardknocks and advertise to come out and support.

3. Group that hosts the chicken leg quarter sales has asked the Legion to be a part of a Salt and Sand Market that will be at the Mega Appliance Warehouse off if SPID on Sunday September 13th. The market is asking the Legion to be there to sell at the market. Ken Ames made a motion to have leg quarter sale that day, Seconded by Christi Even, All for, none opposed. Stephen Armstrong made motion to spend up to $1000 to buy items and supplies, seconded by Earl Miller, All for, none opposed, motion carried.

4. Steven Morrell spoke about the need to diversify post funds to different accounts for better investments. Steven will work with financial advisors to maximize potential returns. Steven Morrell makes motion to move funds as needed in coordination with CDR Butch Smith, Seconded by Jim Sullivan, All for, none opposed. Motion passes.

5. National is sending out 2027 dues in the mail. Please see Stephen Armstrong to pay dues, do not mail it in as it is going to the wrong address.

6. Butch Smith spoke about the need to add another member to executive board due to growing numbers. Butch Smith makes motion, seconded by Ken Ames to add Jimmy Pena to executive board. All for, none opposed.

FOOR GOOD OF THE ORDER –

Jim Sullivan Spoke about Sub Vets National Convention Sept 6th to 11th at Omni downtown. Information will be posted.

Alan O'Martin spoke about Honor Flight and the purpose behind the organization. Alan was a recipient to go to DC and tour all of the different areas in DC. Alan will send email on how to apply and a synopsis of program.

ADJOURNMENT – Motion to Adjourn by Butch Smith, Second by Ken Ames, all in favor, meeting adjourned at 2025.

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Post Adjutant
Stephen Armstrong