American Legion Post 229 Meeting
September 9th, 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

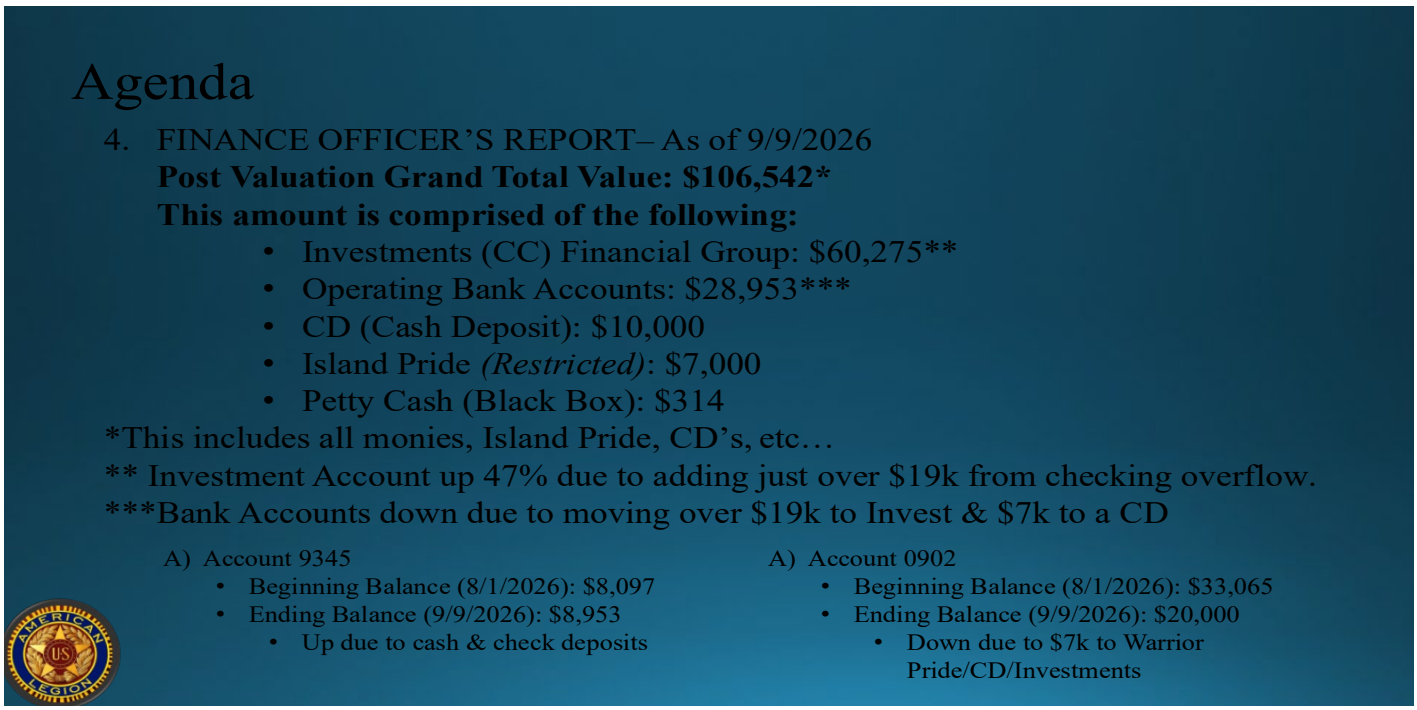
2. MINUTES – Minutes accepted as posted. Motion, by Doc Earl Miller seconded by Eugene Peters . **All in favor. No opposed. Motion passes.**

3. INTRODUCTION of Officers and Guests-

Debbie Wall and Marguerita Willett (Island Pride) – Received a ceremonial check of $7,000 for help with Flags for Freedom Fundraiser.

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 – Present
Judge Advocate- Phil Groll- Present
Executive Committee: Thomas Rodriguez- Present, Michael Austin- Present, Jeff Robinson- Present, Danny Thompson- Present, Jimmy Pena- Present

4. FINANCE OFFICER'S REPORT – As of 9/9/26 Account 9345 $8,953 Account 0902 $ **20,000** Funds Accounts- Total 60,275.00 Petty Cash: $314.00, CD (Cash Deposit) $10,000, Island Pride (Restricted) $7,000 **Combined Total of all accounts $ 106,542.00**



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 September 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
Raffle	La Posada Boat Parade Party / Toys for Tots

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 19th POW MIA day at Sherrell Park
2). Next Meeting September 14th.
3). Nueces County Historical Society is free for veterans. Research county website for information

10. VETERAN SERVICE OFFICER REPORTS – Gunny Mo states that eligible members can access base services like golf course, exchange and commissary, need to bring dd214 and VA information and bring to Pass and ID building next to front gate to sign up.

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. **Auxiliary meeting will be same date in Oct but at 5:30 pm before Legion meeting.**

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. **Sign up rosters are at front table to sign up. Emails will be sent to ask for more volunteers.**

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. **Event completed, can be removed after next meeting.**

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. CPA should be submitting 990's by August 17th. **Update- As of September 8th, no information from CPA.**

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. **Still pending more members.**

8. 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.**

9. 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.

10. 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. **Update- Sign up sheet for chicken leg quarter will be at front table check in area.**

NEW BUSINESS –

1. Butch Smith and Ken Ames spoke about having a raffle to increase Post funds. Jeff Robinson has donated a pellet smoker as main prize and post will add four additional weber grills that are in storage. Tickets will be $5 each and drawing will be November 24th at the last Bingo. **Motion to do raffle by Ken Ames, Seconded by Phil Groll, all for, none opposed, motion passes.**

FOOR GOOD OF THE ORDER –

Alex Karis spoke about PINS Candidate forum in September, see PINS Facebook page for details.

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