

MINUTES OF THE ONION CREEK POST 326

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

July 6, 2011

Commander Ken Baucom called this Regular Meeting of the Onion Creek Post 326 to order at 3:30 in the Demaret Grille, Onion Creek Club. It was determined that a quorum was present. Copies of the official Agenda were either emailed to members prior to the meeting or otherwise made available at the meeting. A copy of the Official Agenda is attached to these minutes.

Present were: Commander Ken Baucom, Fred McCarthy, Chaplain, Don Jones, Past Commander, Clyde Walls, First Vice Commander, Mike Rodriguez, Chairman of the Scholarship Committee, Bob Purcell, Post Service Officer, Rocky Eubank, Post Finance Officer, The following guest were present: Bill Stagner and Jim Locke, Post Finance Officer Nominee.

Post Adjutant Jerry Prestridge was unable to attend the meeting. A Motion was made, seconded and passed to waive the reading and approval the Minutes of the May 5, Executive Committee Meeting and the June 1, 2011 General Membership Meeting until the next regularly scheduled meeting. Commander Baucom agreed to keep notes for minutes of the meeting and would provide a draft to review for any changes or corrections.

Post Finance Officer Rocky Eubank presented the Post 326 financial report update, balances in all accounts and the 2010-2011 General Operating Budget vs. Actual as of June 1, 2011. A copy of the financial report documents is attached. Following a detailed discussion of the budget and actual YTD balances, several corrections were recommended in the classification of certain revenue and expense categories. It was noted that overall, the Post is operating within the guidelines of the 2010-2011 general operating budget. A few expense categories are exceeding budget, while other expense categories have unused balances creating positive variances. A Motion was made, seconded and passed to approve the financial reports as amended and corrected. Commander Baucom inquired if all corrections or amendments were filed with the IRS regarding the 2009 and 2010 Forms 990. Post Finance Officer Eubank stated that all corrections had been filed and that the Post was in good standing with the IRS as it relates to the filing of Forms 990 for the years in question.

Commander Baucom reminded everyone who contributes articles or input to the Post August newsletter to submit those items via email no later than Friday, July 15, 2011. It was discussed that the next General Membership meeting will consist of the annual Installation of Officers Ceremony and that 10th District Commander Bill Moore will be the Installations Officer.

Following a discussion of not having an official program speaker other than the Installation Ceremony for the August 3rd General Membership meeting, Mike Rodriguez suggested that perhaps we could invite our current Texas House of Representative Paul Workman. Mike agreed to contact Representative Workman's office and see if his schedule is open and extend the invitation.

Past Commander Don Jones, currently serving as Chairman of the 2011 Nominations Committee distributed a Report and Recommendation for the elected officer positions on the 2011-2012 Post Executive Committee. Recommended for nomination includes Mike Rodriguez, Commander, Clyde Walls, Vice Commander (Incumbent), Don Jones, Acting Adjutant, Mike Jackson, Sergeant-at-Arms (Incumbent), Jim Locke, Post Finance Officer, Bob Purcell, Post Service Officer (Incumbent), Fred McCarthy, Post Chaplain (Incumbent), John Vinciguerra, Post Historian (Incumbent), Fred Hannah, Member-at-Large Non-Voting (Incumbent). It was noted that at this time, only one position remains unfilled being Member-at-Large (Voting). Past Commander Jones said that he has had several recommendations to fill that position. It was also noted that the following Committee Chairman had agreed to remain for 2011-2012 fiscal year subject to the approval of the incoming Commander: A Motion was made, seconded and passed approving the Report & Recommendation as presented by the Nominating Committee.

Chairman Membership Committee-Tom Harder, **Chairman Scholarship Committee**-Mike Rodriguez, **Boys/Girls State Chairman**-Vacant, **Chairman Golf Tournament Committee**-Vacant. It was noted that newly elected Executive Committee members upon taking office would be discussing new options providing for an initial 4 member 2012 Golf Tournament Committee. The Committee will initially be composed of Roy Dalton, Bob Caudill, Dick Meyer and Bruce Conover.

Commander Baucom presented and recommended the following members be appointed and/or re-appointed to serve on the following committees through the end of the fiscal year 08/31/2011.

Post Finance & Budget Committee: Vice Commander Clyde Walls, Chairman, Second Vice Commander Tony Nuccio (term ends 08/31/2011), Post Finance Officer Rocky Eubank (term ends 08/31/2011), Post Finance Officer Nominee Jim Locke, and Mike Rodriguez, Commander (Nominee).

Post Audit Committee: First Commander Vice Commander Clyde Walls, Dick Meyer, Past Commander, Robbie Robertson, Past Commander and Jim Locke, Post Finance Officer (Nominee).

Golf Tournament Committee: Chairman Tony Nuccio is currently on vacation and was not able to attend the meeting. No report was presented at this time, but a full accounting will be provided in writing and attached to these minutes.

Post Membership Committee: Chairman Tom Harder was volunteering with the CTVHCS Volunteer Services transporting veterans to the VA Hospital in Temple. No report was presented at this time, but a report will be submitted in writing and attached to these minutes.

Post Scholarship Committee: Chairman Mike Rodriguez pointed out that we have 16 students currently under scholarship (12 new and 4 from prior years), and up to \$2500 remaining liability from last semester from students who had not communicated their required information of grades and continued full-time enrollment confirmation. Chairman Rodriguez reported that we have already heard from several and will be paying for the Fall term for most in the next month. Chairman Rodriguez also read highlights from two letters from a couple of our current recipients who are excelling.

Request For Financial Assistance Disabled Veteran. First Vice Commander Clyde Walls reported on a request received from a disabled veteran to Commander Baucom which was referred through the 10th District Commander's office. The veteran is living in South Austin with custody of his 3 children had requested limited financial help to pay his City of Austin electric bill. Based on information provided by the veteran, his wife had stopped paying monthly child support payments. As a result, the veteran reported he was in jeopardy of having his electricity service disconnected.

An installment agreement was offered by the City of Austin, but it required the down payment of approximately \$600, and the balance of \$400 payable in \$69 monthly installments, along with his regular monthly utility bill which was averaging \$195-\$200 per month. The veteran said that after paying his rent on July 1st and the garnishment of his pay check he did not have the funds to honor the installment payment agreement. FVC Clyde Walls agreed to contact a resource and key contact with the City of Austin who works with veteran's services to see what financial aid might be available. Following discussion, FVC Walls offered a Motion, which was seconded and passed to approve a donation for the benefit of the disabled veteran up to a maximum of \$400. Any funds would be contributed directly to the City of Austin for payment of the veteran's past due utility bills. If the City of Austin utilities is able to adjust or decrease the utility bill, the donation by the Post will be reduced accordingly. FVC Walls agreed to notify his contact with the City of Austin of the approved donation by the Post and to coordinate communications between the Post and the City of Austin regarding this matter.

2011 July 4th Parade and Picnic: Commander Baucom introduced and recognized Bill Stagner for his past fourteen (14) years of service as the Onion Creek HOA July 4th parade coordinator during period of 1996-2010. Last year the HOA Board of Directors requested the American Legion, Onion Creek Post 326 assume full sponsorship beginning with the 2011 July 4th Parade and Picnic. Bill Stagner was appointed and served as Parade Marshall for the 2011 July 4th Parade and Picnic. Bob Purcell, Chairman of this year's event said more advanced planning and publicity will be needed to increase community support and participation for the 2012 event.

Chairman Purcell reported that the expenses for the 2011 event exceeded the sum budgeted and recommended an increase in future funding for this event. Chairman Purcell noted that most of the increase was attributable to an unexpected increase in the cost of paying for two (2) off-duty City of Austin Police Officers to help provide safety and road blocks allowing the parade to move without interruption by traffic.

Mike Rodriguez questioned the need to pay for these expenses (Police Officers \$58.00 per Officer/Per Hour-Minimum of 2 Hours Billed) and suggested that the incoming Executive Committee will need to revisit plans for the event and perhaps enter into discussions with the HOA regarding a cost-sharing arrangement or joint sponsorship. Bill Stagner offered an explanation that the City of Austin permitting process allowing the parade requires the Police Officers presence for a permit to be authorized. It was also suggested that a potential legal liability might exist if a person was injured as a result of the sponsor (Post 326) not having traffic control or protection.

Commander Baucom presented Bill Stagner with a Certificate of Appreciation commending his past support and service to the Onion Creek community and the American Legion Post 326.

Also recognized and presented a Certificate of Appreciation was Bob Purcell, Post Service Officer and Chairman of the 2011 July 4th Parade and Picnic. Bob is currently serving as a Captain in the Texas State Guard has served the community and the people of the State of Texas during times of natural disasters, storms and hurricane destruction in many communities. The Texas State Guard has no state or federal funded and depends entirely on the donations of the men in his Regiment and other donations. Commander Baucom presented a \$500 donation from Post 326 to the Texas State Guard which was included in the 2010-2011 general operating budget.

There being no further business to come before the Executive Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 4:45 PM. The next regular meeting of the Executive Committee will be Wednesday, September 7, 2011.

THE AMERICAN LEGION
ONION CREEK POST 326

KEN BAUCOM, COMMANDER

*Prepared for Jerry Prestridge, Adjutant, July 10, 2011