

**THE AMERICAN LEGION  
MULBERRY MEMORIAL POST 72  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

**OCTOBER 13, 2026**

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| <b>OPENING</b>   | The meeting was called to order at Mulberry Memorial Post 72 on Tuesday October 13, 2026, by Commander Randy Ables at 6:00 PM. The colors were saluted and the Pledge of Allegiance recited. The POW/MIA empty chair covering was presented. The preamble was read. Chaplain offered the opening Prayer.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>ROLL CALL</b> | <p>Adjutant conducted Roll Call to determine if a Quorum is present:</p> <p>Post Commander: Randy Ables - Present<br/> 1<sup>st</sup> Vice: Jim Dearth - Present<br/> 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice: Richard 'Kirby' Ellis - Present<br/> 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice: Gloria Murphy - Present<br/> Financial Officer: Dan Gramman - Present<br/> Chaplain: Steven Laveck - Present<br/> Historian: Charleston Murphy - Present<br/> Adjutant: Lynn Price - Present<br/> Sergeant-At-Arms: James Ogletree - Present<br/> Veteran Service Officer: Scott May - Present<br/> Judge Advocate: Kevin Humphries - Present</p> <p><b>Resource Service Officers:</b><br/> Tom Bennett - Present</p> <p><b>Executive Committee:</b><br/> Lynn Price – Present<br/> Donnie Mims – Excused<br/> Tanya Wells -- Present<br/> Membership Present</p> <p>A quorum was present at this meeting.<br/> No Guests or other Members were present at this time of the meeting.</p> |
| <b>MINUTES</b>   | <p>Minutes are posted on the bulletin board and on the website to be reviewed before each meeting.</p> <p>Motion to accept minutes was made by Dan Gramman, seconded by Tom Bennett. Motion passed.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |

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| <p><b>COMMITTEE REPORTS</b></p> | <p>COMMANDER:<br/>Randy mentioned the Post Program Chair Report from the Program Chairs is needed for November meeting.</p> <p>QUEEN OF HEARTS:<br/>Chair, Gloria Murphy mentioned how well Queen of Hearts is going.</p> <p>TRUNK OR TREAT:<br/>Chair, Tanya Wells commented on the sign up sheet is up, working out parking arrangements. Volunteers needed, Randy will be here to help.<br/>Tanya is working on a banner for Trunk or Treat. Jim Dearth motioned to spend up to \$250.00 towards a double sided banner, seconded by Steve LaVeck. Motion passed. Jim also suggested getting some flyers for schools.</p> <p>CHRISTMAS GALA:<br/>Chair, Tanya Wells spoke on a formal event to be held on December 19<sup>th</sup>, raffles, catered meal, band if able. This fundraiser is supporting Wounded Warrior Project.</p> <p>The board approved a rifle raffle to be drawn at the Gala after some discussion on Florida laws and speaking with our Judge Advocate.<br/>Rifle Tickets restricted to members of the American Legion and affiliates.</p> <p>RED, WHITE AND FRESH MARKET:<br/>Lynn commented on Vendor request to switch to Saturday from Sunday, more people will be out going to garage sales and farmers market on Saturday versus Sunday.<br/>Per Randy, to move it to Saturday, it would conflict with Lakelands farmers' market.</p> <p>Also, the last Sunday in November and December comes after Thanksgiving and Christmas Holiday. Can we move the date to the third Sunday on those two months?<br/>Randy wanted to survey the vendors to see what their thoughts are.</p> |
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Tom Bennett mentioned the VA Benefits and Suicide Awareness Training that Post 72 is hosting on November 8, 2026, from 10 – 2, with Ed Padilla, VA Benefits and Entitlements Chairman and Larry Roberts VA&R Chairman

Randy will be out of town on Veterans Day and has given the duty of Veterans Day to 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Jim Dearth. Mission BBQ offered to provide food. Kirby and Tanya to assist.

## **POST OFFICER REPORTS**

### **FINANCE REPORT**

Report read as of October 13, 2026. Motion to accept Finance Report made by Lynn Price, seconded by Kirby Ellis. Motion passed.

### **1st Vice**

Complaints and comments have been coming in. We need to get along and stop the gossip. Charleston mentioned new house rules are in place. If we hear gossip, we need to address it on the spot.

### **2nd Vice**

Mini split is in, as soon as the electrician comes in we will have AC and/or heat in the back room. Also, there is a repair sheet behind the bar, if you know if something is broken or in need of repair. . please write it down on the sheet so I can check it out before it breaks.

### **3rd Vice**

10/23 is legion dinner

10/30 is our Spooktacular Buffet, all you can eat for \$12.00

10/31 is Trunk or Treat

11/5 Car Bob wants the hall for his Birthday. That is a Barnyard Bingo night. Jim to cancel Barnyard.

11/7 Son's Fall Fest will be an evening event. 5 – 10 PM

11/8 VA Benefits and Suicide Awareness Training

11/11 Veteran's Day.

**3rd Vice (Continued)**

11/14 Blues night – Salute to Veterans – Jim Dearth motioned to pay \$400.00 for band, Steve LaVeck seconded. Motion passed. James motioned to have an open License for that weekend. Seconded by Charleston Murphy. Motion passed. Bring a Vet -

11/26 Thanksgiving Day meal – See Committee Reports

**Chaplain –**

Steve was approached to have a prayer for Gunny on 11/6. Randy said as Chaplain, Steve is our POC. Go through the Chaplain with any news. Dan directed Gunny's family to Steve to arrange something at the Legion.

**Historian – NTR****Judge Advocate –**

Amendments and Bylaws are still being worked on. Kevin printed out some information on the gun laws for the raffle. Very much appreciated. Randy added Veteran Resource Officer to the By-laws. Checking with District on it.

**Veteran Service Officer –**

Will have something later.

**Adjutant –**

Mentioned an email that came through on a Veterans golf tournament. Randy researched it and decided against supporting. - Tabled.  
Spoke on the amount of Alcohol being served. Serving a double for a single price. Randy agreed it is cutting into the Legions profit.

**Commander:**

Mentioned having a waving sign to specify OPEN POST that we could display during certain events.

#### Unfinished Business:

Charleston mentioned the beer cooler in the hall isn't keeping the beer cold. Randy to have someone look at it.

Bar stools are all fixed. Kirby has two extra swivels at this time.

Boat ramp is ours to use. However, the lake is private. We cannot enter the water without a permit. We need to request a permit from the HOA next door.

Office is secure, combination has been changed.

Charleston asked about Cintas, has the service gotten better. Randy said service has gotten better. Kirby asked for an extra key for the paper towel dispenser. There is one in the office.

Jim asked about the pricing of Cintas, the pricing is the same, Cintas is providing better service per Randy.

Jim – we need to reevaluate and get our cost again for Connex out back, \$2,000 - \$2,500 delivered. Tabled for now.

#### New Business

Gloria asked about flyers on the door looking tacky. We need to find an alternative.

The door is in need of painting.

Scott brings snacks in all the time. He would like to put a cabinet in here with food for Veterans. Asked if there was any legal liabilities to doing it. Judge Advocate said as long as they haven't expired, we're good.

Randy said once we get a connex in the back, we should be able to store food there.

Scott has access to a glass case – Randy has a possible place.  
TBD

Commander – we have a member who is good at marketing. Wendy Benton said she is willing to do the marketing for us. Is there any opposition to this.

Randy is asking for the Board to give Wendy a chance.

Each department needs to have SOP's done by January.

#### **FOR THE GOOD OF THE LEGION**

Charleston mentioned something at the Bartenders Meeting where Randy mentioned a family was untouchable. According to the By-laws, they are under the legion rules.

#### **CLOSING CEREMONY**

Chaplain offered Closing Prayer. POW flag retrieved and salute to the colors.

#### **NEXT EC MEETING**

Tuesday, November 10, 2026 at 6:00 PM

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting was adjourned – Date: October 13, 2026 at 8:06 PM