THE AMERICAN LEGION BILL ROPER COUNTRY POST 364
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES

- **Date:** July 1, 2026
- **Location:** 5323 Kostoryz Road, Corpus Christi, Texas
- **Status:** Draft, pending correction and approval by the membership

Call to Order
- The regular General Membership Meeting of Bill Roper Country Post 364, The American Legion, Department of Texas, was called to order at 6:00pm.
- First Vice Commander Domingo "Mingo" Moreno III presided in the absence of Commander Fernando Zaragosa Jr.

Opening Ceremonies
- The Sergeant-at-Arms presented the Colors and the POW/MIA flag.
- The membership saluted and recited the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by the Chaplain offering the opening prayer.
- The Preamble to the Constitution of The American Legion was recited.
- The presiding officer declared Bill Roper Country Post 364 officially convened.

Roll Call of Officers and Quorum
Officers
- **Commander:** Fernando Zaragosa Jr.
- **1st Vice Commander:** Domingo "Mingo" Moreno III
- **2nd Vice Commander:** Ed Roy
- **Adjutant:** Lenore Berry-Zaragosa
- **Finance Officer:** Lenore Berry-Zaragosa
- **Chaplain:** Ed Sample
- **Judge Advocate:** Ricardo Hankerson
- **Service Officer:** Leo Vasquez
- **Sergeant-at-Arms:** Ray Guillen
- **Historian:** Vacant

Executive Board Members
- Monica Carranza
- Sergio Benitez
- Henry Peña
- Jerry Coleman

- A roll call of officers was conducted.
- The Commander, Adjutant, and Second Vice Commander were reported excused.
- The First Vice Commander presided, with the Chaplain and Judge Advocate present.
- A quorum was declared.

Reading and Approval of Previous Minutes
- The minutes from the previous two months were not available.
- A member moved to waive consideration of both sets of minutes until the August meeting, where they would be provided.
- The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

Introduction of Guests and Prospective Members

- **No guests or prospective new members were introduced.**

Finance Officer's Report

The Finance Officer's report for June 2026 was presented as follows:

- Beginning balance: **$1,585.33**
- Ending balance: **$1,816.50**
- **Expenses:**
  - **City of Corpus Christi:** $652.93
  - **NRG Electric:** $858.50
  - **Frontier Waste Solutions:** $222.62
  - **AT&T phone and internet:** $99.30
  - **AT&T events phone:** $164.98
  - **Texas State Comptroller:** $100.69
  - **Building insurance:** $803.00

Income Discussion

- In response to a query about income, hall-rental income was acknowledged, but no specific amount was disclosed.
- Members emphasized the necessity for timely and thorough financial reports.
- A motion to accept the Finance Officer's report was made and seconded, passing via voice vote. The identities of the mover and seconder were not documented.

Membership Report

The membership report included the following details:

- New members: 2
- PUFL members: 64
- Renewals: 213
- Headquarters transfers: 13
- Total membership: 292
- Membership goal: 313
- Reported percentage: 93.29%

A member pointed out that at least seven deceased members remained on the Department membership roster, affecting the Post's membership goal. The presiding officer agreed to investigate this matter.

Sick Call

- Commander Fernando Zaragosa Jr. and his wife were reported to be unwell.
- Members were asked to keep them in their thoughts and prayers.

Service Officer's Report

- Service Officer Leo Vasquez reported that he began assisting veterans.
- He mentioned two cases of alleged disability-related discrimination.
- He plans to share his contact number and email address for veterans seeking assistance.

Unfinished Business

- No unfinished business was presented.

New Business
Roof Leaks

- **Leaks were reported in the hall, lounge, and near the men's restroom window.**
- **The Chaplain reached out to the roofer and expected to arrange an inspection the following week to identify the source of the leaks.**

Refrigerators

- **The front-lounge refrigerator malfunctioned and emitted smoke before being disconnected.**
- **A small refrigerator in the rear of the building also failed.**
- **Members discussed purchasing a replacement refrigerator costing approximately $139 from Walmart, with several offering personal contributions.**
- **No motion authorizing a Post purchase was recorded.**

TABC Compliance

- **Members confirmed that the required TABC compliance materials for both the front and back bars had been completed and submitted by the June 30 deadline.**
- **Required notices and materials were posted, with a processing time estimated at six to eight weeks.**

Spaghetti Dinner

A spaghetti dinner is set for July 10, 2026, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. in the front lounge.

- Ticket Price: $10 by donation
- Expected Plates: Approximately 50
- Ticket Holder: Henry
- Salad Provider: Joyce Rodriguez

Fundraising Events

Members discussed the idea of hosting more meal fundraisers to support an October Halloween costume dance and a New Year’s Eve celebration.

- Suggested meal options include pork, spare ribs, and brisket.
- The estimated cost for the New Year’s Eve band is $1,000, with a recommended admission fee of $40 per person.
- The Judge Advocate emphasized that events under Post authority should be designated and promoted as American Legion activities.
- No final motion or budget was approved during the discussion.

Executive Committee Vacancy

A member nominated Russell Shippee III for an Executive Committee vacancy.

- There was a discussion about whether the nomination should be submitted to the Commander and Executive Committee, leading to the proposal being withdrawn.
- It was agreed that Russell Shippy's name would be presented to the Commander and Executive Committee at the next meeting.
- Members noted that the Historian position is still vacant.

Announcements and Good of the Order
The following announcements were made:

- A health fair at VFW Post 8932 is scheduled for July 10 from 9:00 a.m. to noon.
- The July 4 ceremony at Sherrill Park has been rescheduled from 10:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.
- The Thursday Veterans Roundtable is returning to Del Mar and will start at 9:00 a.m.

Adjournment
A motion to adjourn was proposed and seconded, successfully passing through a voice vote.

Closing Ceremonies
- The Chaplain led the closing prayer.
- The Sergeant-at-Arms retrieved the POW/MIA flag and the Colors as members paid their respects with the appropriate salutes.
- The presiding officer officially declared the meeting of Bill Roper Country Post 364 adjourned, although the specific time of adjournment was not noted.

Respectfully submitted,
Lenore Berry-Zaragosa
Adjutant / Finance Officer

Fernando Zaragosa Jr.
Commander