4 SEPT 2025 American Legion Post 49 Membership Meeting Minutes

After the opening Ceremony was conducted, Commander Bob Dargis called the meeting to order at 1900 hours.

Order of Business

Adjutant Roll Call: Cmdr. Bob Dargis, 1st Vice Cmdr. Earl Lash, 2nd Vice Cmdr Jim Addessi**,** Adjutant Dan Thompson**, Finance Officer Sean Russell , Judge Advocate Jason Turner, Sgt. at Arms Sieg Freitag**, **Chaplain Larry Girard**, Service Officer Steve Hamilton, **Service Officer Jason Mayer, Trustee Dan Gomez, Trustee Willie Reinhardt, Trustee Chuck Aubrey**, Trustee Guy Cherry, **Trustee Rich Ely**, **Ordnance Officer Mike Andruch**, **Past Cmdr. John Barkley, Member Jim Neely**, Member Marty Welker, **Member Bruce Thatcher**, Member Leo Flory

"Is a quorum (of at least 5 Legion members) present? YES

Introduction of guests and prospective new members - None

Award Presentation(s) On behalf of Operation injured Soldier, Bruce Thatcher presented post 49 with a Certificate of Appreciation for the Salute to Veterans on August 15-16, 2025.

Reading/approval of last meeting minutes- Membership Mtg dated **7 AUG 2025.**

Motion by Jason Turner, properly seconded, minutes were approved by Members.

Committee Reports

1. Finance.

-Account status:$229,006.57

-Quickbooks: $7,080.46 vs. 49,632.03 June 2025 vs. $10,659.40 July 2024

General account includes $38,437 donation money.

-Finance Report motion for approval, subject to Audit, was made by john Barkley, properly seconded, was approved.

-SAL funds available: $18,394.00, plus $10,000 CD. ($28,394 total.)

-Aux funds available:$23,347 (excl. 10k set aside for ADA improvements) $6,579.99 CD

2. Adjutant

-Membership report: As of 6-29-25: 45 new, 47 PUFL, 546 Renewals, 6 transfers = 644/667 for 96.55%. Goal was 100% by May 14, 2025. Note the report is from 6/29, since 7/1 Adjutant has processed approximately 160 renewals. (The department website has not been updated since June 2025.) -No new member applications to consider, Motion to approve Adjutant report was made by Chuck Aubrey, properly seconded, was approved.

3. Service Officers report -

Jaso Mayer mentioned that a Vet needed Gas cards for travel, $200 approved.

4. Club Facilities and Operations Committee

SEPT/OCT 2025 calendars were reviewed highlighting certain events, hall reservations

5. AL Events

-5 Sept, flywheelers salute with honor guard support for scouts 1900, bus leaves post at 1815.

-**6 Sept** honor guard support for funeral at noon Robins funeral home Benton Harbor, bus leaves at 1100.

-**11 Sept** 12 noon salute to veterans at the post.

- 11 Sept Patriot Day, 18 Sept Air Force Birthday, 19 Sept National POW/MIA Recognition Day, 26 Sept Michigan Indian Day, 28 Sept Gold Star Mother's Day,

-Oct 13 Oct Navy Birthday, 25 Oct Children's Halloween Party at Post 49, 31 Oct Halloween

6. **SAL Events:**

-50/50 fund raising raffle in the works, will end Dec 15.

-Working with architect Peterson on indoor ADA Improvements, door openers.

7. Aux Events

-500 flags distributed at salute to Vets in July.

-24 Sept Happy hour, possible giving tree for this coming Xmas

Old Business

-Lakeview Cemetery Flag/holder replacement - no update

-Landscape leveling proposal plan: On motion of John Barkley, properly seconded, the members approved an initial payment of $43,880 to Debest for the Landscape project from the General Operating fund to be made ASAP in order for work to start. At present, a loan application is pending to cover the second payment of $43,880 to be made upon completion of work.

-State funding for Post 49 major improvement projects TBD.

- Labor day breakfast net profits were $3,246 approx 332 served.

Other/New Business

-Fund raising status: $38,437 total (incl $8,000 last year): $31,354 ADA-E, $4,255 ADA-I, $2,828 General.

- Discussion/approval of donation to Amish **Shetler family** who recently suffered tragic Accident. On motion of John Barkley, properly seconded, Membership approved $1,000 donation from general funds and $500 additional donation from Aug 31 breakfast funds to be made to the family. Checks (as well as from SAL and AUX, if any) to be presented possibly on Sept 13 at fundraiser to be held for Family, location TBD.

Memorial to a departed post member - None

Sick call: Dan Farmer, Steve Hamilton, Larry Smith, Josh Gunneson.

Communication & Donation Announcements (to/from AL).

Certificate of Appreciation and letter was sent to Huron Valley Ambulance acknowledging Van donated to the post Honor Guard. Photos of Honor Guard with van also to be sent. Mike Andruch provided photos taken by his daughter which will be sent to Huron Valley Ambulance.

Next meetings

-Membership Mtg 1900 2 OCT 2025.
-Exec Com Mtg 1600 25 SEPT 2025

For The Good of The American Legion,

Sep: 1Sep Labor Day, 2Sep V-J Day, 7Sep National Grandparents Day, **11Sep Patriot Day**, **18Sep Air Force Birthday,** 19Sep National POW/MIA Recognition Day, 26Sep Michigan Indiana Day, **28Sep Gold Star Mother's Day**
Oct: 13 Oct Columbus Day and Navy Birthday, 25 Oct Children's Halloween Party at Post 49, 31Oct Halloween
Nov: 2 Nov Daylight Saving Time ends, 4 Nov Election Day, **10 Nov Marine Corps Birthday**, **11 Nov Veterans Day**, **23 Nov Larry Carlson Memorial Thanksgiving Dinner**, 27 Nov Thanksgiving Day,
Dec: 7 Dec Pearl Harbor Day, **13 Dec Wreaths Across America**, 13 Dec National Guard Birthday, **20 Dec Children's Christmas Party at Post 49,** 25 Dec Christmas Day, 31 Dec New Year's Eve

Closing ceremony

With no further business coming before the group, Commander Dargis conducted the closing ceremony and concluded the meeting at 1937 hours..

Respectfully Submitted by Bob Dargis, for
Dan Thompson, Adjutant
American Legion Post 49