



Post 552

American Legion Meeting Minutes

March 20, 2025

Meeting Called to Order: __6:00____pm

Officers Present:

Commander	Kent Van Horn	
1 st Vice	Mike Hill	
2 nd Vice	Bill Marsh	
Adjutant	Doug Benzel	
Finance Off.	Mark Seamon	
Chaplain	Bill Bartle	
Service Officer	Dave Schmidt	
Sergeant-At-Arms	Jim Vander Ploeg	
Asst Adjutant	Travis Methvin	Absent

Other members: Stephen Burr, Bill Heard, Gabe Rowin and Jim Winn

Guests: None

Reading of the Minutes: Minutes of the February meeting were approved as written.

Committee Reports:

Finance: The Post has received a check from the VFW Post 5985 as part of our joint agreement in the amount of \$12,000. Our baseball sponsorship monies for the Mission Bay Cobras and three Boys State applicants have been paid. Mark supplied a copy of the checks to the VFW Commander (Mike) so that they will reimburse our Post in accordance with the agreement.

Membership: Doug reported we have 123 members paid for 2025. Our goal is 149 resulting in 82.55%. The District average is 84.13%.

Boy Scouts: Travis was absent, so no report was received.

Sick Call: Bill Bartle reported that Jerry Henson had a stroke while in the hospital and is receiving rehabilitation.

Unfinished Business:

Guest Speakers: Bill Heard stated that the speaker he wants for next time has not been available to confirm. He will work this upon the speaker's return. Mike said he is trying to arrange a speaker for our veterans organizations to discuss PTSD.

Fundraisers: Bill Marsh discussed the April 5 Bingo fundraiser and handed out a list of responsibilities. The [flyer](#) and [responsibilities](#) are attached. He is looking for more prizes and has received cash contributions from Jim Vander Ploeg and Doug. All donations need to be provided to Bill by COB Thursday, April 3. His contact is 619-881-7028.

New Business:

Boys/Girls State: Kent, Mike and Bill Marsh interviewed 5 candidates for Boys/Girls State. Three were selected: two from Mission Bay High School and one from Point Loma High School. One girl alternate is being provided to Auxiliary 552 for their consideration at Girls State.

Responsibilities of Service Officer: Dave has been reaching out to Ron Harrell for clarification of his responsibilities. Currently it appears he will receive inputs from persons in need of VA services and will refer them to the appropriate office. He will report more on his role as he is able to gather additional information.

Nominations: The Commander requested nominations for the next term beginning July 1. Other nominations will be accepted at our April meeting and up until the time of election at our May meeting.

Nominations received are:

Commander: Kent and Doug

1st Vice: Bill Marsh

Good of the Order: Doug recognized the American Legion 106th Anniversary was on March 15. Bill Bartle applauded the participation of Auxiliary 552, VFW 5985 and AL Post 552 in putting on the St Patrick's Day meal, March 15. It was very successful, with lots of attendance.

Meeting was adjourned at ____6:44 pm____

/s/Signed March 24, 2025

Adjutant