

**Charles E. Murray American Legion Post 186**  
**12091 Cortez Blvd., Brooksville, FL 34613**

**Meeting of the General Membership – January 2, 2025**

**Meeting Called to Order:** Commander Don St. Pierre called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

Members in attendance: 21

Guests in attendance: 2

- Past Commander Jack Perz
- Auxiliary President Joanne Holobinka

**Opening Prayer:** Chaplain Joe LaRosa delivered the invocation.

**Pledge of Allegiance:** Led by 1st Vice Commander Lester Snyder.

**POW/MIA Chair Ceremony:** Acknowledged with a statement honoring POW/MIA and reaffirming the post's commitment to their memory.

**American Legion Preamble:** Recited by all attendees.

**Roll Call of Officers**

<b>Commander</b>	Don St. Pierre	PRESENT
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander</b>	Lester Snyder	PRESENT
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander</b>	Jim Sales	PRESENT
<b>Finance Officer</b>	Geno Darcy	PRESENT
<b>Post Adjutant</b>	Jeff Rogers	PRESENT
<b>PR/Historian</b>	Gary Giambrone	PRESENT
<b>Sergeant-at-Arms</b>	Kent Hogeland	PRESENT
<b>Chaplain</b>	Joe LaRosa	PRESENT
<b>Judge Advocate</b>	Lester Snyder	PRESENT
<b>Post Service Officer</b>	Eric Hollinger	PRESENT
<b>Office Manager</b>	Debbie Wurtz	PRESENT
<b>Canteen Manager</b>	Kelly Acker	PRESENT
<b>House Committee Chair</b>	Terry O'Brien	PRESENT

**Roll Call of E-Board:**

Jeff Conlan	PRESENT	Tom McCain	EXCUSED
Dave Crofut	EXCUSED	Pat Sharpe	PRESENT
Keith Hines	PRESENT	Howard Smith	PRESENT
Rich Juneau	PRESENT		

**Quorum Verified?** YES

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**Previous Meeting Minutes:**

The *E-Board Meeting Minutes*, dated **December 19, 2024**, are brought before the General Membership for approval. A **motion** was made to accept the minutes, as written, by Tom Moriarity and seconded by Kent Hogeland. **Motion Passed.**

The E-Board approved the *General Membership Meeting Minutes*, dated **December 5, 2024**, and are brought to the General Membership for approval. A **motion** was made to accept the minutes, as written, by Tom Moriarity and seconded by Terry O'Brien. **Motion Passed.**

**Officers' Reports:**

**Commander:** Commander St. Pierre discussed the official uniform requirements for meetings, emphasizing the importance of looking sharp, especially at official events and conventions. He stated that the official uniform for meetings is the white shirt with the designated patches and the Legion cap. While the cap is the only required purchase, he encouraged all officers to wear the full uniform to present a professional appearance.

**1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander:** First Vice Commander Lester Snyder reported the post currently has 753 total paid members, with a goal of 1,047. He stressed the need to continue pushing for membership renewals, as the deadline is May 15.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander:** Second Vice Commander Jim Sales reported that the post has its Saturday entertainment lined up for the year. He also reported he found out only 6 Riders are needed to charter a Riders Chapter, rather than the previously required 10. He currently has five interested Riders and is looking to get one more to complete the charter.

**Finance Officer:** The financial report presented by Finance Officer Geno Darcy showed the post had a total bank balance of \$27,154.48, which was described as an outstanding financial position. The financial report was read in its entirety. Darcy also reported that the Queen of Hearts game currently has \$1,034 in the account for the next jackpot prize. He explained that due to the high number of recent winners, we have not been able to take any profits from the Queen of Hearts game and have left the winnings in the account to cover the next potential large payout.

After further discussion, a **motion** to approve the Finance Report, as discussed, was made by Tom Moriarity and seconded by Jeff Conlan. **Motion passed.**

**PR/Historian:** Historian Gary Giambrone presented a certificate from the United States Air Force, honoring American Legion Post 186 and Commander St. Pierre. He thanked the commander and members for their support in organizing the successful New Year's Eve event, reporting a budget surplus of \$130.28. Giambrone then resigned as a post officer, expressing gratitude for the opportunity.

**Post Adjutant:** Commander St. Pierre introduced Jeff Rogers as the new Post Adjutant.

**Sergeant-at-Arms:** Sergeant-at-Arms Kent Hogeland had nothing to report.

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**Judge Advocate:** Judge Advocate Lester Snyder presented the post's new official house rules, emphasizing the importance of maintaining order and addressing incidents. The house rules were presented to the General Membership and given to the Post Adjutant for duplication and posting within the Post. Snyder also suggested an extension of the suspension of a SAL member, "Thomas," involved in a sexual assault/harassment incident for another 45 days. **A motion to extend the suspension of "Thomas" was made by Jeff Conlan and seconded by Eric Hollinger.**  
**Motion Passed.**

**Post Service Officer:** Service Officer Eric Hollinger reported on various service activities, including meetings with veterans and assisting with benefits. He also mentioned a project to provide free wills (not living wills) and power of attorney services to members and non-members.

**Office Manager:** Office Manager Debbie Wurtz updated the membership on the end-of-year accounting and fiscal year closing, stressing the importance of accurate record-keeping.

**Canteen Manager:** Canteen Manager Kelly Acker discussed plans for a Super Bowl party and issues with the kitchen prep station. She stated that she has been getting questions about whether the post will be hosting a Super Bowl party this year. Acker also reported that the prep station in the kitchen has been freezing up, and she had a repair technician come take a look. The technician identified that a part needs to be replaced, and Kelly is waiting to hear back from him on the cost so she can get it fixed.

**House Committee:** House Committee Chair Terry O'Brien had nothing to report.

**Old Business:**

No Old Business was discussed.

**New Business:**

**Adjutant Jeff Rogers** stated that one of his first duties was to take over the post's website. He is currently revamping it to ensure it provides value to the membership and potential new members. He offered to show the members his progress so far.

**Service Officer Eric Hollinger** proposed hosting a poker night at the post, offering to provide the table and equipment. The group discussed the idea, and it was agreed that Hollinger would put together a plan to present to the E-Board for consideration.

**Past Commander Jack Perz** questioned the necessity and role of the third vice commander, expressing concerns about redundancy. First Vice Commander Lester Snyder explained the role per the department bylaws, emphasizing the need for additional support for the House Committee. After discussing the issue further, the group reached a consensus to table it for further consideration and clarification.

**For the Good of the Legion:**

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The next E-Board meeting will be on January 23, 2025, at 4:00 pm.

The next General Meeting will be on February 6, 2025, at 6:00 pm.

**Adjournment:**

**A motion** to adjourn was made by Keith Hines and seconded by Geno Darcy. **Motion passed.**

**Closing Prayer:** Delivered by Chaplain Joe LaRosa.

Meeting Adjourned at approximately 7 pm.