



☆☆☆USS Oklahoma City Base☆☆☆

Mailing Address: 3201 Bishop Rock Place
Yukon, OK 73099-3357



Meeting Minutes for Mar 1, 2025

Location: American Legion Post 73
5000 S.E. 24th St.
Del City, OK 73115

Attendance:

Chuck Hladik – *Base Commander*
Jim Owen – *Base Treasurer*
Dale Sanders – *Base Secretary*
Ken Box - *Chief of the Boat*
Steve Damlo
Mark Holland

Chris Kasper
Gary Lee
Gabe Long
Gary Palmer
Jay Van Duzer
Bob Zahn

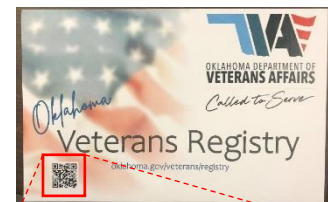
Officers Absent:

Todd Holmes – *Base Vice Cmdr; Webmaster*
W. Becker Bircher– *Base Chaplin*
Donald LeBlanc– *Base Quartermaster*

Visitors:

Frank Bengs
“Gus” Hawkins
Robert Zahn (son)

1. Call to Order – Meeting was called to order at 0900 by Base Commander Hladik. A quorum was present.
2. Pledge of Allegiance – Gary L led base members in the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Previous Minutes – Dale read the minutes from January (February meeting was social only). Ken motioned to approve the minutes as read, Steve seconded, minutes approved.
4. Treasurers Report –Jim provided a report of a balance of \$2,364.⁹⁹ on deposit, and petty cash again of \$95.⁰⁰. Primary activity was deposits of dues and sales from January meeting. Detailed records are available upon request. Ken motioned to approve the report, Jay seconded, report approved.
5. OKC Subvets Website and Facebook page (Todd) – No new information available
6. USS Oklahoma City SSN 723 Memorial Park (Steve) – The site for the sail is finalized as in the park, just to the north of the river. Contract was let to begin plaza construction which will include a fake sail until the real one is available. (Note: there was no formal ground breaking ceremony for this.)
7. USS Oklahoma commissioning (Don) –. Chuck reviewed the email from Commander Stutzman on their upcoming visit.
8. Del City Armed Forces Day Parade – Parade is scheduled for Sat, May 17. Dale motioned to enter the parade. Ken seconded, **MOTION CARRIED**. *Action: Chuck (complete entry)*
9. Cal Year 2025 Dues – Jim reported most members have paid. If you are unsure, contact Jim. Dues are \$50.⁰⁰ which covers local and national. If you’re a national life member, you still need to pay the \$10.⁰⁰ local dues.
 - a. Following the meeting Guy “Gus” Hawkins paid his dues to join.
 - b. Following the meeting Frank Bengs (member-at-large) paid his local dues to join our base.
10. Signup for State Veteran’s Benefits - ALL OKLAHOMA VETERANS need to complete this new online registration. Even if you previously had state recognition, this registration is needed to maintain state benefits and ensure prompt notification of any future benefits. Website is oklahoma.gov/veterans/registry. QR Code is also provided in the photo.



11. New Attendees share Naval Experiences –

- a. Robert Zahm recently retired as a Chief having served in the aviation section of the US Navy. He shared some of his experience.
- b. Gus and Frank also shared their experiences.

12. New Business –

- a. The new Mission BBQ in Edmond has received several items from our membership to display at their restaurant, including a base patch.
- b. Frank Bengs was presented with his Holland Club certificate and hat. (See photo below).
- c. We have a Del City Boy Scout who has completed Eagle. We hope to honor him in April. Unfortunately, we are out of patches, and a new supply is on hold due to National's embroidery machine being on down. Previously we incorrectly handed out Eagle patches (shown) to those who won the depth charge drawing. If in the past you received one of these patches, we ask that you return it to Jim or Dale.



Eagle Patch

13. Concerns and Open Discussion – No new information

14. Tolling of Boats – Chris and Dale led us in the tolling of the boats for February and March.

15. Closing Prayer – Mark led a closing prayer.

16. Depth Charge – Bob won the Depth Charge drawing and donated his portion.

17. Adjourn – Meeting was adjourned at 10:00 am.

★ ★ ★ **Next Business Meeting – April 5, 2025 @ 0900** ★ ★ ★

