

**David F. Lilley, Post 14,
Puerto Vallarta and Banderas Bay
The American Legion, Department of Mexico**

Executive Committee Meeting, 4 December 2014

M-I-N-U-T-E-S

- I. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 11:10 a.m. by Commander Dennis Rike, who also gave the invocation in the absence of Chaplain Janson who had a teaching commitment. There was a moment of silence in respect for the flag. Our host was Steve's Bar.
- II. **Sick Call:** Fred Crowley has been ill. Jay Sadler is doing okay but is still a bit weak.
- III. **Introduction of Members:** Ron and Bev Abbe, Jim Brockway, Stan Francis, Cheryl Kehler, Steve Leopold, Jim Mawdesley, Russ Mills, Ken Ragatz, Dennis Rike, Nicholas Scott, and Don Shingler,
- IV. **Approval of Minutes:** It was **MSC** to approve the minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting of 6 November 2014 as distributed.
- V. **Committee Reports:**
 - A. **Service Officer:** Cheryl Kehler reported that Bev Huffman was finally approved for disability payments last week. She will receive \$707 U.S. dollars per month, with a retroactive payment of \$8,800+ for the time since the papers were filed. This was held out as a good example of how it is important to stay with the process. Continual follow-up, and even appeal, may be necessary when claims are not approved as expected. Cheryl's hard work on this case was acknowledged by the members attending the meeting.

Francisco Corralis, who had been stranded here in Puerto Vallarta without funds (see Membership Meeting minutes of 18 November, Item VIIIA) finally got his check, and reimbursed the Post \$2,000 pesos against that which he had received, which was a bit more. Jaylene in Houston is pursuing reimbursement from the VA for expenses related to Norm's hospitalization several months ago. Frank Myers has been having problems with the VA over a letter stating that is receiving \$2,700 per month which is more than he is getting. He doesn't really owe this amount, but the

disagreement places him in danger of losing his benefits. We have done an appeal.

- B. **Finance:** Jim Mawdesley reported a balance of some \$67,000 pesos. Dennis received \$8,000 to pay for T-shirts and to help Francisco Corralis (see above). Jim said we need to start selling souvenirs as we have a large stock. The charge for the Golf Outing was only \$1,000, not the \$2,000 previously reported. Jim will be sending out an annual budget.
- C. **Community Relations:** Dennis Rike said that a full report will be made at the 16 December Membership Meeting. .
- D. **Membership:** Ron Abbe gave the names of several members who have not paid, so that members running into them might remind them. Ninety members are paid up, and Dennis knows a couple more.
- E. **Torpedoes:** The current season has ended.
- F. **Chile Cook-Off:** The Committee will meet in late December.
- G. **Busca Un Amigo:** The annual party is on the 19th. Florence, who gave the \$50,000 U.S. dollar donation a year ago, is going to be there. We got a donation from the Airport and took 20 or 30 bags of stuff to sell for raising money. Also, we received 600 bottles of water and some Tequila.

VI. **Old Business:**

- A. **PV Poker Tour:** The tickets are here. Nick has poster. The event will be on 13 December. We need volunteers for the registration tables.
- B. **Toys for Tots Golf Outing:** This Saturday, Carrol has the tickets.
- C. **Bylaws Revisions:** An *ad hoc* committee, consisting of Nick Scott, Jim Mawdesley, Dennis Rike, and the undersigned, will meet in January to review and make recommendations regarding changes to the Bylaws. The existing Bylaws are being sent out to the members with these minutes so that those who wish may review them send input or recommendations for changes to the bylaws committee members.

VII. **New Business:** We received an invitation to participate in the medical matters day at the Marriott in February.

- VIII. Next Meeting.** The next Membership Meeting will be at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, 16 December 2014, at Steve's Sports Bar. The next Executive Committee Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, 1 January 2015, at a location to be announced. Because it falls on New Year's Day, the meeting date will be subject to discussion at the 16 December Membership Meeting.
- IX. Adjournment.** The meeting was adjourned by the Commander at 11:44 a.m.

Respectfully,
(s) Russ Mills, Adjutant