



The American Legion, Post 22
Membership Meeting - Minutes
November 19, 2025, at 1800.

- **Opening Ceremonies** (Commander) (6 P.M.).
 - Post and salute the Colors.
 - Chaplain offers prayer (remove cap)
 - POW/MIA empty chair (Sergeant-at-Arms)
 - Pledge of Allegiance (re-cover cap upon completion)
 - Recite Preamble of Constitution of The American Legion
 - Roll call to determine if quorum is present (min of 10 members): There were 25 members in attendance.
- **Roll Call:**

	Present/Absent/Excused
○ Commander (R. Skjoldal)	X
○ 1 st Vice Commander (D. Dosch)	X
○ 2 nd Vice Commander (J. Haleakala)	X
○ Adjutant (J. Miller)	X
○ Finance Officer (D. Harris)	X
○ Chaplain (G. Stanley)	X
○ Historian (K. Donnell)	X
○ Sergeant-at-Arms (A. Anable)	X
- **Minutes** of previous meeting – Electronically posted on website:
<https://www.alpost22rcsd.com/mtg-minutes-etc> (Adjutant)
- **Introduction** of guests and prospective new members (Applicable host)
 - New members:
 - Dennis Hotchkin, US Army
 - Allen Zent, US Army
 - Guests:

- Presentation
 - Dr. Rachel Winters, Healing Hands Chiropractic
- **Financial Report** (Harris) as of: 11/19/2025
 - Business Account: \$
 - Membership Acct: \$ (Regular membership deposits/withdrawals; Proceeds from Veterans Day \$1,000 income minus \$685.68 in expenses leaving \$314.32, this was due to \$400 in donations).
 - Benevolence Acct: \$ (Deposit from Business Acct. of \$500)
 - Americanism Acct: \$ (Deposit from Business Acct. of \$500).
 - SAL Acct: \$ (Regular membership deposits/withdrawals; deposit of \$365 from football “pick-Ems”).
 - Honor Guard: \$ (No deposits; Debits of \$33.53 for phone bill).
 - Scholarship Sav Acct: \$
 - Capital Improvements Savings: \$ (\$2,000 deposited from Business Acct., and \$325 from Queen of Hearts; Debit of \$7,692.50 for Queen of Hearts payout).
- **Executive Committee update:**
 - The meeting took place on November 15th.
 - Reminder that the Post has Karaoke on Friday and Saturday nights at 2000 (8 PM) in the bar.
- **Membership** (Dosch/Harris): **2026 Membership year started 1 July.**
 - TAL 2026 **Goal is 563**
 - Renewals/new members to date: **430** for **76.4% of goal**
 - Those members who have recruited new members:
 - **Doug Harris (3)**
 - **Randy Decker (1)**
 - **Don Fuller (1)**
 - **Ryan Skjoldal (1)**
 - **Lowell Dethlefs (1)**
 - Transfers in (8)
 - 2026 SAL **Goal is 63:**
 - SAL renewals/new members of **49** for 78% of goal.

- Membership Presentations
 - 25 years: John Fleming, Sr.
 - 25 years: Dean Henderson
 - 50 years: Leo Volk
- **AL Riders** Report (Ernie Sanford):
 - Nov 14-16: Boots on the Ground VFW
 - Sorted donated clothes (coats and clothes for winter)
 - Helped set-up (about 12 Riders)
 - About 80 veterans served
 - Nov 23: LOD Dart Tournament here at Post 22 1000 sign-ups
 - Nov 26: Escort requested from Box Elder to Fremont, NE
 - Dec 13: Wreaths Across America BHNC
 - Laying wreaths at every headstone
 - Dec 22: Christmas program with vets at Ft Meade
 - Riders are sponsoring a family for Christmas through Youth & Family Services
 - Spending \$300 for gifts for CASA kids (around 500 kids in system)
- **Honor Guard** (Skjoldal):
 - 11/20 funeral honors at BHNC at 1430
- **SAL** (J. Skala):
 - Nothing to report.
- **Post 22 Auxiliary Report:**
 - Pancake breakfast 2nd Sunday, December 14th 0800 – 1100, \$10
- **Americanism** (D. Harris):
 - The Post Oratorical Contest will take place on 7 December at Post 22. So far, we have only 1 participant.
 - Registration for Boys State is now open. If you know a Junior or Senior HS boy that should be attending, please let them know. Have them go to this website to sign up: southdakotaboysstate.org
 - Post 22 currently has 3 boys signed up for the 2026 session. This is way ahead of last year. I have not yet visited the schools. That usually takes place in February.

- **Athletic Officer** (Lyle Tolsma):
 - Nothing to report.
- **Chaplain** (G. Stanley):
 - Deaths and Sick Call:
 - Deaths:
 - Charles Johnson – Korean War Era
 - Hugh Oellrich – Korean War Era
 - Sick Call:
 - Cynthia Douglas has been in the hospital for about three weeks – month.
 - Frank Haleakala - surgery
- **Post Service Officer** (H. Rossander):
 - Legionnaires, if your disability claim was denied by the VA, don't assume that is the final word. The supplemental claim process gives you another chance to be heard especially if you have gathered new medical evidence or service records or the law has changed (PACT Act) since your last VA disability decision. Contact your local County Veteran's Service Officer before year end. The Pennington County Veteran Services Office is located at 321 Kansas City Street, Suite 100, Rapid City, SD, 57701. Telephone number (605) 394-2266.
 - Current diagnosis
 - Taking medications
 - Can tie it back to military service
 - Pay attention to the SD state property tax laws. For the past year legislators and the Governor have been working to change state property taxes. It is possible that you could be affected by those changes if they have been codified by law. As of this writing, I do NOT know if the property tax basis has been changed but it could be very worthwhile to understand the changes proposed by the legislative working group.
 - For Example: SDCL 10-4-40 currently states that: Property must be owned and occupied by a veteran rated as **permanently and totally disabled** as the result of a service-connected disability. Un-remarried widows/widowers may be eligible. The approved exemption remains until the property is transferred or sold. First \$200,000 of valuation exempted from taxation. Deadline: November
 - NOTE: This IS a change. The previous law stated that the First \$150,000 of valuation is exempted from taxation.

- Contact your County Director of Equalization for more information.
- **Old Business:**
 - Veterans Day
 - The Veterans Day event went very well. Thank you to all the Family Member groups who worked hard to make this a success again this year!
 - Had about 150 people served.
 - Visitor last month that spoke (Trevor Dietrich) about supplemental insurance for Medicare recipients/Tricare 4 Life recipients. He will be back in the area in early December if you are interested in meeting with him.
 - D. Harris signed-up for it and has found more benefits that the program offers.
- **New Business:**
 - Nothing to report.
- **Good of The American Legion** (Any member):
 - Read two letters from the Department having to do with the Veterans homes in SD and encouraging us to donate to these programs.
 - Harris reports that Post 22 already donates to these programs.
 - In-person Christmas/Holiday parties are as follows:
 - Human Services at Yankton Dec 10 1700-1900
 - Michael J. Fitzmaurice State Veterans Home Hot Springs December 13th from 1300 – 1500
 - Hot Springs VA Medical Center Dec 14 1300 – 1500
 - Ft Meade VA Medical Center Dec 9 1400-1600
 - Sioux Falls VA Medical Center Dec 9 1400 - 1600
 - Business Cards for Dr. Winters are at the Sgt-at-Arms table
 - D. Harris presented R. Decker with Crayons from Medicare seminar.
- **Adjournment** at 1851. A social hour followed.