

**DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS, 5 ALAMO  
DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS  
CHAPTER Meeting Minutes  
April 26, 2025**

The April 2025 Chapter meeting was held at Rolling Oak Baptist Church, 6401 Wenzel Road, San Antonio, TX 78233.

**Meeting Opened:** Commander Joseph Harrison, Jr., opened the meeting at 10:00 am.

**Opening Prayer:** Chaplain Clyde Bragg

**Pledge:** Sr. Vice Commander Keven Lomax, Sr.

**Officers present:**

- Commander Joseph Harrison, Jr.
- Sr. Vice Commander Keven Lomax, Sr.
- Treasurer Gwendolyn Thompson
- Judge Advocate Gwendolyn Thompson
- Adjutant Kathleen Kaberides
- Chaplain Clyde T. Bragg, Jr
- Sergeant-At- Arms Rickey Vasquez
- Officer-of-the-Day Donald Smith
- Immediate Past Commander Kathleen Kaberides
  
- **Officers excused:** Jr. Vice Commander Karla Jordan.

**Officers absent:** None.

There was a quorum for conducting business.

**Reading of minutes:**

Reading of minutes from March 15, 2025, Chapter monthly meeting.

**Motion:** Dispense with the reading of March 15, 2025, Chapter meeting minutes because members were provided with a hard copy of the minutes.

- Motion made by: Bob Broff
- Motion 2<sup>nd</sup> by: Bob Johnson
- Any discussion? No
- Motion passed.

**Motion** to approve March 15, 2025, chapter meeting minutes:

- Motion made by: Bob Broff
- Motion 2<sup>nd</sup> by: Bob Johnson
- Any discussion/omissions or corrections? No
- Motion passed.

**DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS, 5 ALAMO**  
**DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS**  
**CHAPTER Meeting Minutes**  
**April 26, 2025**

Reading of minutes from April 11, 2025, Executive Committee meeting.

**Motion:** Dispense with the reading of April 11, 2025, Executive Committee meeting minutes because members were provided with a hard copy of the minutes.

**Motion** to dispense with the reading of April 11, 2025, chapter meeting minutes:

- Motion made by: Henry Hernandez
- Motion 2<sup>nd</sup> by: Willie Johnson
- Any discussion? No
- Motion passed.

**Motion** to approve April 11, 2025, Executive Committee meeting minutes:

- Motion made by: Henry Hernandez
- Motion 2<sup>nd</sup> by: Willie Johnson
- Any discussion/omissions or corrections? No
- Motion passed.

**Treasurer's Report:** The members were provided the handouts, and it goes through March 31, 2025.

- The treasurer explained the handouts to the members.
- Bank reconciliation report and Bank Statement as of March 2025.
- Monthly Financial Report by category line-item through March 2025
- Credit card purchases and payment as of March 2025.\_

**Chaplain's Report:**

Reports of sickness and distress: Krystal Wallace, wife of Brad Wallace; Margarita Martinez, "Marty's" wife, and Chris Ehney and Jose Hernandez, Henry's brother to the prayer list along with continued prayer requests. A Celebration of Life for member Bob Broff's son, Andy, also a veteran, will be held at the Palmer Funeral Home in Seguin on April 28, 2025, at 1:00 pm.

**Introduction of new members:** Walter Surgnier, Jr., Air Force.

**Motion for transfers:** William "Bill" Mellon, USN/USAF, 23 years – 102-year-old veteran and Christopher "Chris" Kind, USA, 11 years, Iraqi War veteran.

- Motion made by: Wayne Lund
- Motion 2<sup>nd</sup> by: Don Smith
- Any discussion? No
- Motion passed.

**First Time Visitors:** Marcia Kind, USA; Joe Pacioreck, USAF; and Socorro Moran, USMC.

**DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS, 5 ALAMO**  
**DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS**  
**CHAPTER Meeting Minutes**  
**April 26, 2025**

**Sergeant-at-Arm's Report:**

There was a total of 48 members present. We also had 5 guests present.

**Communications:** Adjutant Kaberides read the following correspondences:

- Approval email from the Department of Texas to change Forget-Me-Not Fundraiser from August 7, 2025, to August 27, 2025.
- 86<sup>th</sup> Call to Convention letter from the Department of Texas.
- Letter from DAV National Headquarters regarding the 2025 DAV and Auxiliary National Convention to be held at the Paris Las Vegas Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas, NV.
- Email from the MSD (Military Services Detachment) at the VA National Cemetery, Ft. Sam Houston informing us they've supported 410 funerals since January 1, 2025, and since their inception, they have supported 46,831 funerals.

**Reports:**

- Membership Report: Sr. Vice Commander Lomax – Full Lifetime members/Total members are 5,644/5,868; Goal percentage is 101.80% - we have exceeded our goal by 104. He will also contact Membership as we have not received any membership streamers since 2022. We are due 2023 and 2024.
- Benefits Protection Team Lead: Commander Harrison, Jr informed the members that if there were any issue that they would like to be presented for a resolution, they need to let him know. He also reminded them that he needs one more member for the BPTL Committee.
- LVAP (Local Veterans Assistance Program): Adjutant Kaberides reported that the Jr. Vice Commander, Karla Jordan, had submitted all hours reported through the end of March and that the Department of Texas pulls the hours from the National Headquarters for their volunteer award.
- Women Veterans Advocate: Donna Nious reported on the painting event held at Endeavors that Priscilla Mayfield informed us about. They filled all 35 slots. Donna couldn't attend but was told that the attendees were able to pick up their paintings two weeks later after the paint dried. We thank Endeavors for holding this event for our female veterans.
- V. G. Clark Cancer Relief Fund: Judge Advocate/Treasurer Gwendolyn Thompson stated that we only had two veterans on the list and that one of them just received his final 6<sup>th</sup> payment, leaving one veteran receiving this veteran. She reminded all that any veteran, receiving treatment for cancer, and in financial need may apply.
- Hospitality Report: Sgt-At-Arms Rickey Vasquez thanked Rey Rodriguez and Vinnie Calabro for the donuts.
- Lead Chapter Service Officer (CSO): Lead CSO Larry Whatley reported that on Claims Day on March 14, 2025 we assisted 10 veterans and again, on April 25, 2025, we assisted another 10 veterans. We had 4 Chapter Service Officers (CSO's) volunteer in March and 5 in April. Larry also reminded all that



**DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS, 5 ALAMO**  
**DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS**  
**CHAPTER Meeting Minutes**  
**April 26, 2025**

the next CSO training would be held on May 8, 2025, at the Schertz VFW on FM 78. The Adjutant will send out a reminder to those on the Level I and Level II lists.

**Unfinished Business:** None

**New Business:**

**Motion:** Motion to select and approve delegates for the Department of Texas 86<sup>th</sup> Convention to be held in Kerrville, TX from June 5-8, 2025. The following members were selected and voted on: Naomi Narcisse; Gwendolyn Thompson; Donna Nious; Lawrence (Larry) Whatley; Keven Lomax, Sr.; and Wayne Lund. The Adjutant will email the information so that all may register on their own.

Motion made by: Bradley Wallace

- Motion 2<sup>nd</sup> by: Jeffrey Berg
- Any discussion? No
- Motion passed.

**Motion:** Motion to select and approve delegates for the National Convention to be held in Las Vegas, NV at the Paris Las Vegas Hotel from August 7-12, 2025. Funding is available for one (1) Line Officer, up to \$1,500 and all others will pay their own way. The following members were selected and voted on: Naomi Narcisse; Joseph Harrison, Jr.; Donna Nious; Edward Nious; Peter Kaberides; Kathleen Kaberides; and Keven Lomax, Sr. The Adjutant will email the information so that all may register on their own.

- Motion made by: Hazel Wong
- Motion 2<sup>nd</sup> by: Atwell Rose
- Any discussion? No
- Motion passed.

Membership needs to select three individuals for the Audit Committee and the commander needs to appoint those selected by membership to the Audit Committee. (Audit Committee will meet at the Executive Committee in June to ensure that all checks have cleared the bank for the Fiscal Year (FY))

**Motion:** Motion to appoint the following three (3) members for the Audit Committee: Wayne Lund; Hazel Wong, Henry Hernandez, and Zerline (Jean) McNeal-Ingram as an alternate committee member.

- Motion made by: Ann Gayer
- Motion 2<sup>nd</sup> by: Reynaldo Rodriguez
- Any discussion? No
- Motion passed.

**DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS, 5 ALAMO**  
**DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS**  
**CHAPTER Meeting Minutes**  
**April 26, 2025**

**Motion:** Motion to approve the purchase of eight (8) flag cover cases to replace the damaged tubes currently holding the flags. The cost is \$30 per bag plus shipping for an approximate total of \$265.31.

- Motion made by: Donna Nious
- Motion 2<sup>nd</sup> by: Willie Johnson
- Any discussion? No
- Motion passed.

**Motion:** Motion to approve the purchase of a pop-up tent to be used for outdoor events that the Chapter attends, through Amazon, not to exceed \$125.00. The tent comes with sandbags and a case on wheels.

- Motion made by: Bradley Wallace
- Motion 2<sup>nd</sup> by: Zerline (Jean) McNeal Ingram
- Any discussion? Shawn Irwin asked if there wasn't one with the DAV logo on it. Adjutant Kaberides advised him that there was none, and the DAV store was one of the sites checked.
- Motion passed.

**Motion:** Motion to approve the purchase of an inexpensive cell phone with a basic plan for Chapter use to eliminate any elected or appointed member on the line from having their personal cell phone number on the National website under the Chapter page that they created. The cost of the phone should not exceed \$50.00, and the cost of the plan is expected not to exceed \$300.00 yearly.

- Motion made by: Bob Broff
- Motion 2<sup>nd</sup> by: Calvin Ingram
- Any discussion? No
- Motion passed.

**Motion:** Motion to approve the updating of the Articles of Incorporation, an annual requirement, and listing the following Line Officers as the Board: Commander Joseph Harrison, Jr.; Sr. Vice Commander Keven Lomax, Sr; Jr. Vice Commander Karla D. Jordan; Treasurer Gwendolyn H. Thompson; and Adjutant Kathleen F. Kaberides. This document was last updated in 2022. Judge Advocate Thompson explained that this document is a business document that protects our chapter and that once a new line is elected, it will have to be redone.

- Motion made by: Manuel Rico
- Motion 2<sup>nd</sup> by: Vinnie Colabro
- Any discussion? No
- Motion passed.

**DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS, 5 ALAMO**  
**DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS**  
**CHAPTER Meeting Minutes**  
**April 26, 2025**

**Good-of-the-Order:**

- Nominating Chair Donna Nious spoke about the nomination process and our upcoming election. She informed members that both this month and next month, before the actual election, that any member may nominate themselves or be nominated by another member. Donna also told members that she had hand outs about the elected and appointed positions that they may be nominated for so that they could see what the positions require. The Adjutant also informed the members that she had sent two Constant Contacts – one for elected position job descriptions and one for the appointed job descriptions.
- The Chapter Constitution and Bylaws were sent to the Department of Texas Judge Advocate for review and forwarding to National for approval.
- Thank you to the volunteers who helped at the Forget-Me-Not Fundraisers at Sam's Club on April 2<sup>nd</sup> and April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2025.
- The updated Catalyst Calendar was sent via Constant Contact to membership and hard copies were provided at today's meeting.
- June 6, 2025, at 3:30pm is the Women's Veterans Coalition (Department of Texas) Meeting in Kerrville. ALL women veterans are invited and may attend. The Adjutant will send out the flyer in Constant Contact.
- A flyer was received from Homes for Our Troops Key Ceremony on June 7, 2025, for Army SSG Orlando E. Gill. Event is from 9AM – 10:30AM. This has been posted to FB and will be sent in Constant Contact.
- Vaughn Caudill informed the members that there is a Retiree Council at BAMC and a National one. One of the council members at BAMC is also on the National Council. A Town Hall meeting will be held regarding medical issues. He will send the Adjutant the flyer once published and reminded all that this will be their opportunity to bring up any issues they are having with medical care.
- Members with birthdays - in April Gwendolyn Thompson; Don Smith – 86 years old; and Sergio Garcia.
- Anniversaries for April: None
- **50/50 Drawing: \$100 won by Vaughn Caudill**
- Sgt-At-Arms Rickey Vasquez informed members that we received a donation of 100 bags of coffee from Black Rifle Coffee on Bitters Road and that each member was welcome to take one bag with them as they depart. There are both beans and ground and there's a variety of each.

Upcoming Chapter events:

**Next Meeting: May 17, 2025, at Rolling Oaks Baptist Church, 6401 Wenzel Road, San Antonio, Tx 78233.**



DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS, 5 ALAMO  
DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS  
CHAPTER Meeting Minutes  
April 26, 2025

Memorial Service: A moment of silence for our departed comrades.  
Closing Prayer: Chaplain Clyde T. Bragg, Jr.  
Meeting adjourned: at 11:23 am

Kathleen Kaberides Date 28 April 2025  
Kathleen Kaberides  
Adjutant, DAV Alamo Chapter 5

Joseph Harrison, Jr. Date 28 April 2025  
Joseph Harrison, Jr.  
Commander, DAV Alamo Chapter 5