



**Southwest Oklahoma Chapter of the Military Officers
Association of America**
An Affiliate of the Military Officers Association of America
P.O. Box 2183, Lawton, Oklahoma 73502



Executive Board Minutes 8 January 2025

Attendees were Don DuRant, Dennis Clippinger, Ed Peterson, Jim McClary, Ray Friedl, Gene McAnelly, Bill Schneider, and Nan Mazza. Rocky Samek and Bill Whisenant were absent.

1. The SWOK MOAA Chapter Executive Board met at the Fort Sill, Patriot Club on 8 January 2025. The meeting was called to order by President Don DuRant at 1130 hrs. Pastor Bill Schneider gave the Invocation and Don led members in the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. President Remarks. Don welcomed everyone and extended his appreciation to those attending the reception on 4 January.
3. Minutes/Secretary’s Report. Ray called the members’ attention to the draft minutes of the 8 November 2024 Executive Board Meeting. There being no comments or corrections, the minutes were accepted as submitted.
4. Treasurer’s Report. Gene submitted the 7 January 2025 Income and Expense to the Executive Boards and highlighted the Beginning and Ending Balances. The Board accepted the report as submitted.

January Beginning Balance:	\$10,733.69
January Ending Balance:	\$10,499.69

5. Old Business: 5 January 2025 General Membership Meeting
 - a. Installation of Officers—Dennis has the script prepared.
 - b. There will be a Scholarship Fund Meeting.
 - c. Currently 23 RSVPs for the meeting.
6. New Business:
 - a. Awards Recommendation
 1. Don indicated the nominations for national and local awards are needed by the end of February. And, if anyone knows of someone deserving an award, he needs to know the names as soon as possible.

2. Jim mentioned that National owes the Chapter certificates for Ed and Sam from last year.
 - b. Harris Communications Award Submission
 1. Dennis is putting the submission together for the Chapter.
 2. Suspense for the Chapter is 15 February 2025.
 - c. Levels of Excellence Award Submission. There was no discussion on the item.
7. Updates by Executive Board Members as necessary.
- a. Past President/Program Director.
 1. Wreath Recovery will be Saturday, 11 January 2025.
 2. National Cemetery 1000 hrs. and Ft. Sill Cemetery 1300 hrs.
 3. Veterans Day Recognition at the State Capitol will be on 11 April 2025. Attendance is encouraged.
 - b. Vice President. Vacant
 - c. Legislative Liaison.
 1. Last date for Bill submission is coming up soon
 2. Recommend that the Chapter suspend further efforts on SVP for widowed spouses due to lack of a sponsor at the State Legislature.
 - d. Treasurer. The Annual Review of the Chapter's Financial Records conducted by Patty Neuwirth was received and reviewed by the Executive Board.
 - e. Secretary. Nothing further to report.
 - f. Membership Director.
 1. The Committee Module on the National Website is still not available and don't know if the information destined for this Module by Local Chapters will be part of the LOE submission.
 2. As of 31 December, the Chapter had 78 paid members.
 3. Jim provided members of the Executive Board a list of members whose membership was about to expire. He asked that Board members who knew any of these individuals to contact them and encourage them to get their dues paid.
 - g. Public Affairs. Nothing reported.
 - h. Military Liaison. Nothing reported.
 - i. Personal Affairs Director.
 1. Cards are being sent. If anyone knows of someone in the hospital or sick, please let Bill know.

2. Bill informed the Board that “If a Veteran goes to the hospital from a VA Center by ambulance, insurance covers the cost of the transportation; however, the cost of a return trip to the VA Center by ambulance, following treatment, is not covered by insurance and cost will be the Veteran’s responsibility. There are other transportation resources available during “normal business hours.” Outside of “normal business hours” presents a challenge to find no-cost transportation for the Veteran. This situation can occur when VA Center residents go to an Emergency Room at local hospitals, since the “release time” can be outside of “normal business hours.” This issue needs to be followed up by the Executive Board.

3. Bill mentioned that he was presiding at a funeral for a veteran without a family in the area at 1400 hrs. on 8 January 2025 at Sunset Cemetery, Lawton.

i. Scholarship Representative.

1. Applications for 2025 were sent to school guidance counselors in December.

2. Twenty-four people contributed to the Scholarship Fund in 2024.

Contributions for 2024 totaled \$9,651.

3. There were 22 combined Century and Platinum level contributions for 2024.

j. Auxiliary President.

1. Nothing further to report.

2. Nan ask if there was any information on the status of external funding for the MWC mentioned at a previous meeting. No information was available.

8. General Discussion. None.

9. Next Executive Board Meeting 1130hrs. 5 March 2025 at the Ft. Sill Patriot Club,

10. Benediction. Pastor Bill Schneider gave the Benediction.

11. Adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 1220hrs. 8 January 2025.

Notes:

GMM 1130hrs. 15 January2025 in the Prairie Room, Comanche County Fairgrounds

OK MOAA State Council Meeting

Executive Board Meeting 1130hrs. 5 March 2025, Ft. Sill Patriot Club