



**American Legion
Palm Valley Post #233
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Mitch Harding, Commander
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***Executive Committee & General Membership Agenda
Wednesday, August 13, 2025 (6:00 & 7:00 PM)***

EXECUTIVE BOARD (EB) OVERVIEW:

- ✓ Commander Mitch Harding opened the meeting at 6:05PM.
- ✓ No Quorum. Guests attending both meetings: 5th District Commander Mike Garcia, 5th District Finance Officer Nancy Senter, 5th District Chaplain Brian Hancher, 5th District SAA Tim Pratt, 5th District Assistant Adjutant Sonny Kirkwood, Larry Vosmik (EB), Past Post Commanders (PCC Rep 2026) Roy Havekost, Dan Wortmann, and Sonny Kirkwood. SAL Commander Howard Sheble and AUX President Brooke Hanson.
- ✓ Former Post Commander Jim Warick along with several officers resigned. In accordance with the Post's Constitution & By-Laws, First Vice Commander Harding assumed command.
- ✓ Commander Harding provided an overview of where the Post currently stands regarding finances, outstanding invoices, hiring (or volunteers) of bartenders, cancelation of existing contract (Cleaning Service), needing a Finance Officer, and continued transition with Past Commander Greg Cressman.
- ✓ Discussion about the future of gambling machines. More information to follow once public.
- ✓ Finance overview: Operational (\$9,789.51); Membership (\$919.78), Building (\$302.89).
- ✓ 5th District Commander Garcia provided some recommended guidance to assist the Post with moving forward. Topics included teamwork, Constitution & By-Laws update, and Gambling machines.
- ✓ Past Post Commander Dan Wortmann volunteered to be an Executive Board member.
- ✓ Post Constitution & By-Laws require updating and submission to Department.
- ✓ Commander Harding closed the meeting at 7:00PM.

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP OVERVIEW:

OLD BUSINESS:

Not applicable.

NEW BUSINESS:

- ✓ Commander Harding opened the meeting at 7:10PM.
- ✓ In accordance with the Post's current Constitution & By-Laws, a quorum was not present.

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- ✓ All American Legion meeting protocols were followed. Commander Harding welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending.

- ✓ Summary:
 - Commander Harding provided a State of the Union update on the Post.
 - Floor open to the Auxiliary President and SAL Commander. Both officers expressed the importance of teamwork and moving forward. AUX is having a strategy meeting in late August; SAL donated \$4,000 to the Post to assist with the potential financial burden.
 - Expressing the importance of needing help, volunteers, bartenders (volunteers), and officer positions need to be filled. Commander Harding opened the floor for officer nominations for 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Vice Commanders, SAA, Chaplain, Judge Advocate, Finance Officer, and Executive Board member – no nominations.
 - Gabi will assume the position as Canteen Manager; agreed to clean the Post weekly for \$100) as an outside contractor (Form 1099 will be submitted). This initiative will save the Post hundreds of dollars weekly, too.
 - Financial overview (see minutes of Executive Committee)
 - Mike Sharr asked about the fraud on the Post’s Facebook page regarding Post 233 shirts. PCC Havekost is monitoring and blocking any potential spam/fraud.
 - Allen Straw asked why the Post is having trouble getting members to the meetings? The 5th District Commander Garcia requested to speak. Extremely inspirational regarding “why” American Legions exist. He stressed the importance of being a family and helping Veterans; we (as Legionnaires) represent those lost men and women who never came home (58,000 Vietnam Veterans) never made it home! Additionally, Commander Garcia stressed the importance of ridding the Post of all the **“negativity”** and how destructive it can be to a Post. 5th District cares immensely about the members and the Post; willing to assist with training, and assistance – just call! Commander Garcia closed with **“YOU”** can survive, but **“YOU”** must work as a **“FAMILY.”**
 - Commander Harding expressed his willingness to **“go the extra mile”** to make Post 233 vibrant and taking care of Veterans and their families – **“before we can fulfill that mission effectively, we must first get our own house in order.”**
 - Commander Harding closed the meeting at 7:50PM.

For God and Country,

Mitch Harding (2025-2026)

Commander, Palm Valley Post 233

Department of Florida