



MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES JANUARY 3, 2026 – 0900-1100

Attendees

- In-Person (5): Chair Hohman, IPC Burns, Secretary Forkner, Director Yates, Quartermaster Burns,
- Via Zoom (18): Vice Chair Harris, Treasurer Barnard, Director McDermott, Director Jameson, Director – TAL Simon, Chaplain Seago, Director Morrow, Kathy Upchurch, Caroleen Culbertson (HOF), Susan Yu (NAVAHCS), Dee Pearson (ACMF), Jenny Wasielewski (SAVAHCS), Dylan Dalzotto (ADVS), Vic Peterson, Ed Logan (HOF), David Lucier (HOF), Sam Young (HOF), Dorn Patrick Farrell (JAVC), Elijah Ditter (PVAHCS),. Not fully identified: Bill, Mike, Kevin.

Approval of Previous Minutes and Treasurer's Report

- Minutes for the December 6, 2025, meeting were approved with no objections.
- The Treasurer's Report for December 2025 showed an initial balance of \$79,771, a support donation from ADVS of \$25,000, expenses of approximately \$4,300, and a final balance of over \$101,238, which reconciled with the bank.

Chaplain Report and Health Update

- Chaplain Seago mentioning Eldora Engbretson's intermittent hospital visits.
- A reminder was issued to promptly update and share any sickness or distress reports with the secretary and chaplain.

VA Medical Centers and Outreach Updates

- Phoenix, Tucson and Prescott VA HCS briefed their outreach and ongoing events.
- Combined report attached.

National Memorial Cemetery of Arizona (NMCA)

- Volunteers to assist with wreath pick-up at the NMCA on Saturday, January 10th at 9:00 AM and at Prescott on February 11th at 10:00 AM.

Arizona Department of Veterans Services Update

- An AI scrap pilot is being deployed to reduce provider documentation time and increase accuracy.
- Several outreach events and donation drives were highlighted, including Wreaths Across America and various community engagement events.
- Upcoming events include a blood draw event, a Veterans Town Hall meeting on January 21, and the annual rural health outreach event on January 24 (with Tucson VA participation).
- Key legislative dates and deadlines were shared for the 57th legislature session, including bill introduction deadlines and committee considerations.
- Updates included the reopening of the women's veteran coordinator position, record numbers for VDF

large grant applications, and the launch of a CNA training program at Phoenix Veterans' Home.

Arizona Coalition for Military Families Update

- Information was shared about the upcoming "team of teams" meeting focusing on the new Homes for Heroes initiative, with a SWOT analysis discussion involving multiple community and government leaders.
- Details of the "Be Connected Communities" launch were provided, including invitations for state and chapter leaders to participate.
- Training opportunities related to the Be Connected program and technical assistance training for employers on military culture were announced.

New Business: Position Vacancy and Bylaws Amendments

- An announcement was made regarding a vacant legislative director position; recommendations via email were solicited.
- The membership approved amendments to the bylaws, which included changes to:
 - The timeline for changing dues (now in December).
 - The requirement for submitting a budget by the December meeting for January implementation.
 - Revised travel funding requests.
 - Allowing chair to expend up to \$500 between meetings with membership ratification

Good of the Order Announcements

- US Vets shared news of moving to a new location at PAI 17 and Cactus with 185 rooms.
- DAV announced its midterm conference on January 24 in Glendale, with details to be shared in the chat.
- Additional updates included discussion about the traveling wall event sponsored by the city of Surprise (April 9–13).

Meeting Closure and Benediction

- The meeting concluded with a benediction led by the chaplain.

A reminder to Zoom participants: Please ensure that you *mute your microphone* and *turn off your video* during presentations — this saves bandwidth and makes the meeting run more smoothly.
Thanks!

Respectfully submitted,



Secretary

Unified Arizona Veterans

AVHOF Class of 2025

(O) 602.899.5828

(C) 623.226.7543

www.azuvav.org