



UNITED STATES ARMY  
WARRANT OFFICERS ASSOCIATION  
TAMPA BAY CHAPTER (0522)

1. The Tampa Bay Chapter President (CW4 Rodney Ferguson) welcomed members and called the meeting to order at 1745 hours, 21 March 2013. Chief Ferguson cracked the gavel and led the members in the Pledge of Allegiance. CW4R Blanco led the opening prayer. A quorum was present.

2. CW5 Pitts took Roll Call: 15 members & 2 guest present:

Members: CW5 Pitts, CW3R Johnson, CW4R Hugendubler, CW2 Roman, CW5R Wimberly, CW4 Ferguson, CW4 Cook, CW2 Crosby, CW4R Blanco (Past President), CW5 Venckus, CW5R Teitelbaum (Proxy), CW3R Rich (Proxy), CW3 Peters (Proxy), CW4R Peters (Proxy), CW2R Wimberly (Proxy).

Guest: CW5 Frazier, CW5R Martinez.

3. Secretary's Report: Minutes of the previous meeting were read. Chief Blanco motioned that they be accepted as written and Chief Cook seconded. During the discussion it was noted that the previous minutes should be amended on two counts: 1<sup>st</sup> to reflect that Chief Blanco not Chief Ferguson provided the initial funds to the treasurer for establishment of a chapter bank account. Secondly, the minutes will be amended to reflect that it was Chief Crosby not Chief Cook who coordinated for the food. Chief Blanco motioned that the minutes be approved with these two amendments. The motion was seconded by Chief Cook and the motion carried.

4. Treasurer's Report: Chief Roman delivered the report and notified the chapter that we now have a bank account with \$100 in the account. The check provided at the last meeting was expired. Chief Blanco motioned that the report be accepted as given. The motion was seconded by Chief Pitts and the motion carried. The financial report is submitted along with these minutes.

5. President's Report: CW4 Ferguson rendered a verbal report. The first report was to notify the chapter that the Chapter Vice Presidents spouse was having some medical issues and should be kept in our prayers. Due to these concerns, he has asked to be relieved of his chapter duties. CW4 Ferguson wants the members to think about nominees to fill the vacancy and bring them to the next meeting. Secondly, Chief Ferguson notified the chapter that he received a letter from the regional director notifying him that the National leadership is looking for a location to hold the 2015 Annual Meeting of the Members. He posed the question of, "Does our chapter wish to compete for the hosting of this event?" He indicated further discussion required at the next meeting. He asked the chapter secretary to look at the status of memberships as he believes some may be expiring soon. With no further comments, Chief Blanco motioned to accept the report as delivered. The motion was seconded by Chief Cook and the motion carried.

6. Vice president's Report -Not Given

7. Historian's Report: Not Given

8. Committee Reports:

Membership Committee Chair CW3R Cook: No Report Given.

Ways and Means Committee Chair WO1 Slaughter: No Report Given.

9. Old Business:

a. Appointment of Officers and Committee Members:

Chapter Secretary: Chief Blanco motioned that CW5 Pitts become the assistant secretary and assist Chief Cook with minute upkeep and related proxy upkeep. The motion was seconded by Chief Cook and the motion passed.

Sergeant At Arms: The floor opened for discussion on the need for a Sergeant at Arms. CW5 Venckus stated that we would be willing to do it. Chief Blanco motioned that CW5 Venckus be appointed. The motion was seconded by Chief Wimberly and the motion carried.

b. Chapter Gideon: CW4 Ferguson wants to present a plaque with a miniature flag to the donor. CW5R Wimberly stated that the donor was Mr. Bill McCloud. CW4R Blanco stated that he would take the lead and have a gift constructed prior to the next meeting. CW4 Ferguson will remain in contact with Chief Wimberly if the presentation can be made at the next meeting. CW5 Pitts will notify Chief Brumfield and Chief Crosby who were working the issue.

d. USO Update: Tampa Bay Chapter is a plank holder of the USO at Tampa International Airport. The chapter has committed to purchasing a miniature chapter flag to place on the wall. The gift given for the chapter flag will be considered at the next meeting for this purpose as well. The issue was tabled for further discussion next meeting.

e. Community Support: The chapter still wants to do something for the American Legion post that hosts our meetings. CW2 Roman has the ball for coordination. CW5 Pitts will confirm if functions at the American Legion such as road guard duty for functions could qualify for Bright Futures Scholarship Credit.

f. Shirt Development: The members want a distinctive Shirt for the Chapter. CW4 Ferguson demonstrated some potential T-Shirts and the members present selected one above the others. The cost will be between \$24.99 and \$26.99 depending on weather or not the chapter can order 25ea or more. CW5R Wimberly pointed out that the chapter previously voted to have "Charter Member" on the sleeve of the shirt for the 1<sup>st</sup> year members of the chapter. CW4R Cook motioned that the shirt demonstrated become the first chapter Shirt. The motion was seconded by CW5R Wimberly. Discussion was that order forms would be brought to the next meeting and all who wished to purchase a shirt would be able to place an order. The chapter may fund more shirts as a memorabilia article pending funds available. The motion carried and the chapter has selected a shirt.

g. JROTC Award Presentation in Tarpon Springs: Tampa Bay Chapter will present these awards. CW4 Ferguson says the chapter that sells the medals is non-responsive. Medals are \$49 per set. CW4R Blanco is going to take the lead in running the issue to ground with national.

h. New SOCCENT CG: CW4 Ferguson will try to get an office call with the new SOCCENT CG to let him know that the Tampa Bay Chapter exists and that the Chapter President is from his command.

New Business:

a. CW4 Ferguson is in talks with the Hispanic American Golf Association President who is he says is willing to help the Tampa Bay Chapter in organizing a Golf Tournament for fundraising. CW5R Jorge Martinez stated that he is a member of the HAGA and volunteered to invite representatives from the HAGA to the next meeting for direct coordination on issue. CW5 Pitts motioned that we invite the HAGA President to the next meeting and afterwards consider the fundraising activity. CW4R Blanco seconded and the motion passed.

b. Non-Profit Status: CW5 Blanco stated that the chapter needs to file non-profit Articles of Incorporation with the state of Florida to ensure tax exempt status. CW5R Wimberly motioned as such and was seconded by CW3R Johnson. Motion Carried.

c. Credit Card Machine: CW3R Johnson motioned that the chapter explore the purchase of a credit card machine to be able to swipe credit cards for purchase of memorabilia like the Chapter Shirt. CW2 Roman seconded the motion. CW5 Venckus voiced concern over the privacy of members' credit card data. CW4 Ferguson stated that the motion was just to "explore" the details of such a machine which would be attached to a smart phone. By voting yes the chapter is only agreeing that CW3R Johnson bring forward a more detailed briefing of credit card machine options. The motion carried.

d. Raffle Tickets: CW5 Venckus motioned that raffle tickets be on hand at the next meeting to raffle off something for whatever small funds the chapter can raise at a meeting. CW2 Roman seconded the motion and the motion carried.

10. Adjourn: CW4 Ferguson ask for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion was made by CW4R Blanco and seconded CW5 Venckus. CW4 Ferguson hit the gavel and the meeting adjourned at 1910hrs.

11. The next meeting is scheduled for 18 April 2013 at 1730hrs.

//Original Signed//  
ROBERT C. PITTS III  
CW5, OD  
Chapter Member (Recorder)

//Original Signed//  
RODNEY L. FERGUSON  
CW4, QM  
Chapter President