



Subject: Smith – Rogers – Reeves at Stones River VFW Post 4575 November 2025 Monthly Meeting Minutes

To: Carlos Rawls, Post Commander  
From: Elizabeth Sharp, Post Adjutant

15 December 2025

The regular meeting of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) of the United States Smith – Rogers – Reeves at Stones River VFW Post 4575 was held 15 December 2025 at 1830 hours, at Heroes Den located at 1257 Broad St. Murfreesboro, TN 37129

Roll Call of Officers

Position	Name	Contact Number	Email Address	Roll Call
Commander	Carlos Rawls			Present
Sr. Vice Commander	Keith R. Prather	(240)702-4317	Kprather52@gmail.com	Present
Jr. Vice Commander	Tharrell B. Kast	N/A	Tbkast2@gmail.com	Present
Quartermaster	Jerry Stewart	(615)617-9055	<a href="mailto:adj@vfw4575.org">adj@vfw4575.org</a>	Present
Chaplain	James Long	(615)809-4846	bigmrchimp@gmail.com	Present
1-Year Trustee	Brain Morris			Present
2-Year Trustee	Bruce Rogan	(615)406-4832	brucerrogan@gmail.com	Present
3-Year trustee	Ross List	(615)626-5055	Andre103@yahoo.com	Present
Adjutant	Beth Sharp	(865)414-3495	Beth.sharp66@gmail.com	Present
Benefits Advisor	JoJo Johnson			Present
JAG	Jim Mann	(571)474-9111)	Jmann71596@aol.com	Present
Surgeon	Ritchie Adcox	(479)243-5594		Excused

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Post 4575

- **New Members/Transfers**
  - No new members this month
- **Special Guest**
  - No special Guest Speaker this month
  - SPECIAL CONGRSSIONAL RECOGNITION was presented to JoJo Johnson for Outstanding Service to the Community from Congressman Scott DesJarlais. 1-Year Trustee Brain Morris presented the certificate. WELL DESERVED JOJO!! Congratulations!!
- **November Meeting Minutes – Adjutant Beth Sharp ([beth.sharp66@gmail.com](mailto:beth.sharp66@gmail.com)) / (865)414-3495)**

3-Year Trustee Ross List made a motion to accept the minutes subject to pen and ink changes. Benefits Advisor JoJo Johnson seconded the motion. Motion passed
- **November Quartermaster Report – Quartermaster Jerry Stewart ([adj@vfw4575.org](mailto:adj@vfw4575.org)) / (615)617-9055)**

3-Year Trustee Ross List made a motion that the Financial Report be approved subject to audit. Benefits Advisor JoJo Johnson Seconded the motion. Motion passed
- **Membership**
  - Quartermaster Jerry Stewart reported we have 133 Life members (69%), 7 new members and 237 members to get to meet last year's numbers. We had three Legacy Members present (Quartermaster Jerry Stewart, Benefits Advisor JoJo Johnson, and 3-Year Trustee Ross List). Commander Carlos Rawls challenged us to get 3 new Legacy Members. To reach legacy status, the cost is \$400.
- **Committees -**
  - Buddy Poppy – we need two events to meet our All-American requirements. If you have any ideas, please reach out to Commander Rawls or Quartermaster Jerry Stewart.
  - Teacher of the Year – Quartermaster Jerry Stewart ordered certificates for our nominee for 2025-2026.
- **Old/Unfinished Business**
  - JAG James Mann motioned that we accept the Bylaw changes presented at the November meeting. 3-Year Trustee Ross List seconded the motion. Motion passed.
    - THANK YOU, Jim, for all your work in getting the Bylaws updated.

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- Next steps:
  1. Draft By-Laws updated and reviewed
  2. Draft By-Laws signed by commander and adjutant
  3. Draft By-Laws sent to State Commander for review
  4. State sends Draft By-Laws to National VFW for review and approval
  5. Once Draft By-Laws are approved, our new By-Laws will replace our old ones and they will be archived
- **New Business**
  - Our next District meeting will be on January 8, 2026 at Heroes Den. We will be hosting the event.
    - Chaplain James Long will get a Red Dot for raffle at employee cost. 1-Year Trustee Brian Morris volunteered to cover the cost of the raffle items (THANK YOU Brian). Cost of raffle was approved for \$150 during Budget Meeting.
      1. Historical information includes last year Demos' was provided and the year before sandwiches were provided for the January District meeting.
    - Benefits Advisor JoJo Johnson has volunteered wine baskets for us for door prizes/raffle at our District meeting. (THANK YOU JoJo).
    - Chaplain James Long and Benefits Advisor JoJo Johnson will contact local restaurants (Mission BBQ, Taco Truck, Demos') for quotes.
    - Elizabeth Long will contact a Veteran chef friend to see what he can provide for about 40 people at \$10 per plate. Cost for food/dinner for our District meeting \$500 was approved our Budget Meeting.
    - All will report back to Commander Rawls as soon as possible so a decision can be made.
- **Benefits Advisor Report – JoJo Johnson – ([joann7490@yahoo.com](mailto:joann7490@yahoo.com)) / (615)593-4533)**
  - Be on the lookout for an increase in our disability payments.
  - If you have not already, and you are at 100% disability P&T, please go apply for your property tax relief
  - For those at 100% Disability P&T, and have not started getting your dental benefits, please give them a call to get on their schedule. They are short-staffed but are hiring new technicians
  - If you are at 100% P&T, it could mean benefits for your spouse and dependents.
  - If you have questions about any of these announcements, please reach out to JoJo.
- **Judge Advocate – James Mann ([jmann71596@aol.com](mailto:jmann71596@aol.com)) / (571)474-9111)**
  - Nothing additional to report this month

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- **Surgeon – Richie Adcox (479)243-5594)**
  - Nothing to report at this month
- **Chaplain – James Long ([bigmrchimp@gmail.com](mailto:bigmrchimp@gmail.com)) / (615)809-4846)**
  - It can be tough for members this holiday season, so please reach out to your battle buddies and make sure they are ok.
  - If you are struggling, please reach out.
- **Veterans in Distress**
  - Ritchie Adcox – recovering
- **Community Service**

Community/Volunteer Service Hours Log

  - go to [vfwtn.org](http://vfwtn.org)
  - Members only
  - Log in
  - Program Reporting
  - Add community Service Hours

You are welcome to get your information to Jerry Stewart for assistance in inputting your time.
- **Upcoming Events**
  - Check out our website for more information on the Post and events.
  - Coffee with a Veteran every Sunday at 0800 at Joanie's on the Square
  - Every Friday at 0800 the American Legion meets for breakfast at Metro Diner
  - District Meeting January 2026 – January 8 at the Tri-Star Veteran's Center in Murfreesboro – Hosts: Post 4575
  - District Meeting April 9, 2026 – Manchester Post 10904
- **Good of the Order – Visit VFW 4575.org for the most current updated information**
  - Commander Carlos Rawls thanked Elizabeth Long for the monthly November Digital Magazine and asked anyone who has information to add to the newsletter to get it to her as quickly as possible. THANK YOU, Elizabeth!!
  - 3-Year Trustee Ross List reported that the US Army won for December and the flag will fly along with the American Flag in January. If you would like to contribute to the Flag Fund, please reach out to Ross or go to our webpage where you can scan the QR code.

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- 3-Year Trustee Ross List also reported that our member Matt Bertron has officially moved to Montana and has written a book called Echoes from the Front: Battle After the War now available on Amazon.
- Sr. Vice Commander Keith Prather requested a flag be replaced at the Boys and Girls Club. 3-Year Trustee Ross list acknowledged.
- 1-Year Trustee Brain Morris shared about another Passport Fair in March of 2026. Date to be published later. If your passport is within 6 months of expiring when you are coming home from another country, you will not be allowed to travel. If you have a passport that is close to 9-1/2 years old for adults or 4-1/2 years old for children, make plans to get yours updated. It cuts out about 6 weeks of processing time.
- **Adjourn**
  - JAG James Mann motioned that we adjourn. 1-Year Trustee Brain Morris seconded the motion. Motion passed. Meeting was adjourned at 1921.
  - Our next meeting will be on Monday, 19 January 2026 at Hero's Den located at 1257 Broad Street, Murfreesboro, TN 37129 at 1830.