



🏠 **Location:** Oaks Country Club, Greenville, TX
📅 **Date:** 260211
🕒 **Time:** 1130-1230

Attendees:

President – Zachary Hill
Vice President – Ted Oats
Secretary – Chad Chaffee
Members: Choya Shanahan, Rich Holsinger, Pat HeideIman (SS)

VP Community Partners – Terry Thomas
VP CAP – ~~Chuck Meador~~
Treasurer – Vance Clarke

Virtual: Steve MacLaird

Minutes

I. Minutes Review, vote to submit

- a) Open Discussion (Meeting at Oaks CC in Ballroom).
- b) Reviewed and approve last month's minutes.
- c) Minutes are now being posted to website for review by all: www.netxafa.org/events
- d) At bottom of 2026 events find the 6 page and 1 page 2025-2026 **Impact and Plans documents. Both are also on the News page under 2026/2025.**

II. 2026 Activity and Financial Plans

- a) Will post the Activity and Financial Plans for 2026 online by 15 Jan and inform where located. These are our guiding documents. Both have been submitted to State and above.
- b) Developing area in ABOUT US to post on Website. Determine if we should password protect in some way. Working to complete by end of Jan 2026.
- c) Semiannual reports were turned in to State by Zach and Vance on 2 Jan. Will post these on new page. These show you what we did Jul-Dec 2025.

III. Finances

- a) **Start:** ~\$44K **Commitments:** \$22,630.67 **Available:** ~\$13K in remaining commitments
 - i) Annual expenditure sheet available for review at meeting. Can share by request.

Vance will post baseline data in protected area of website, and offer an in-person review to anyone who asks.

IV. Awards

- a) **TOY – we have selected a Teacher of the Year and are working on notification.**
- b) **Chapter/State/National Awards** need to be worked hard in Jan-mid Mar. If we can complete most inputs will make **1 April National and State requirements** easily. If you are interested in helping lead this effort, we would love your help.
 - i) **Military awards** – Zach can you see which ones you can fill

- ii) State Awards
 - (1) MOFs have been turned in to see if we can present at April 25 event.
 - (2) Other awards still in work to be submitted
- iii) National Awards - Academic Achievement and other in work
- iv) Zach and Vance will ask for help as needed.

V. Membership – Carlos Hernandez

- a) Working techniques to send letters and automate more of it. Carlos and Vance will talk and see how best to do this. Focus on New Members, Members with Expiring Membership and New AIMS Members letter to send out regularly. Monthly/Quarterly.
- i) Carlos is doing great on these mailings. One new member responded from the Tyler TX area and drove meetings with CAP units in Longview/Tyler because of it.
- b) **New membership model coming to AFA in March 2026** with 3 levels; FREE, Premium, Legacy. Is a good time for us to start beating drum to get folks to sign up.

VI. Essay Contest (Helene Hernandez leading)

- a) **Essays are turned in, judging is complete.**
- b) Helene has made contact with our 13 finalists and working on getting data and attendance from them for the April 25 event. You can contact, Chad, Vance, or Helene if you have questions.

VII. 25 April 2026 Spring Thing

- a) April 25 Date set and Oaks Ballroom reserved. Confirm Carlos Hernandez is leading.
- b) Briefers/Attendees: 1) **Congressman Self** will attend and speak. 2) **Judge Travis Ransom** from Cass County; will speak on service – he is Army Command Sgt Maj also. 3) **Hughes Springs Library**, 5 min on their programs. 4) **Mandy Eckhardt** 5 min on her science efforts in Sulphur Springs and others. 5) **GVL Solar Car** – Joel Pitts. 6) Asking **GVL Christian School Rocket** program to speak (Joint CAP/GCS effort, possibly with assistance from Choya/Steve) *(Green have said yes. Working others)*
- c) **Script is in work.** Committee to start working on presentations, polish scripts, and other items. Let Zach and Carlos know if you are willing to help! Board ready to chip in and begin working scripts and presentations. (Zach)
- d) Plan to present a few awards at the event. Would like to present as many awards as possible at the ST. (Sgt Espinosa)

VIII. 15 May 2026 – Tentative for Support & Inspire Tournament

- a) **Reached agreement with Woodbridge GC. Will press with Wylie and date. Will be \$85 per player. Will put together advertisement, etc. Jan-Feb 2026. Zach will build QR code and poster by the end of Jan.**

- b) Sponsors – Zach will build the player list and pre-block planned sponsors, opening as they don't fill.
 - i) WW Lan Tec – signed up as \$3000 sponsor.
 - ii) UHU – signed up for \$1000 sponsorship.
 - iii) Mercer advisors – hole sponsors and 4-teams. (Vance)
- c) Chad looking into like-kind exchanges with other charities.

IX. Golf Thing and Auction

- a) Working reservation 3 Oct 26. Effort in work. (Terry/Rich Holsinger)

X. Community Partners (CPs)

- a) Please keep soliciting. If you need help, check out website and tell Vance what you cannot find. Need board to continue working the plan to divide social media, snail mail, web page, email.
- b) Reducing AFA Natl workload – started electronic payments Jan-Feb 2026. Terry/Vance
- c) Need to plan visit to UHU Technologies and WWLT but both have signed on as sponsors along with Mercer Advisors.
 - i) Zach to setup LANTEC and SEC visits (Zach/Terry)

XI. Community Based AFA

- a) **Sulphur Springs** – Pat Heidelman has agreed to begin efforts. Pat visited GROW in Sulphur Springs on Feb 26. Good event. Next GROW are Mar 26 and Apr 30, 3:30-4:30pm.
- b) **Rockwall** – *Chad – would like to develop tasks and plan.* Vance sent email to the 31 members in Rockwall. 7 so far have responded and 4 stating willing to help. Going to go slow and see what we can do here.
- c) **Commerce** – Ted – if yes, would like to develop tasks and plan
- d) **Greenville** – Terry – We are working in area well. Can we get another person to help Terry and help look at building a plan to gather others to attend, etc.
- e) **Longview/Tyler** – New member Don Tharp Col (Ret) is developing ideas for this area. Chad and Vance visited the two cities CAP units (TX085/TX089) on Feb 24th. Union Grove High School is in this area and we have an Essay Contest recipient from there.
- f) **Working with Carlos on areas; good candidates based on members.** Still working.

XII. Civil Air Patrol

- a) TX-645: Simulator status update... Briefing Installed. Walls ready for paint, most electrical complete (outlets fixed).
 - i) Working upgraded aircraft, possibly including G1000 aircraft.

- b) Tyler, TX-085: reached out to Vance for contact and possible interchange. Met there on Feb 24 for hour and are looking at how we can help from afar and with local members.
- c) Longview, TX-089: Asked to present AFA Cadet of Year award there. Did that on evening of Feb 24. Great to see cadets and met with leadership to discuss other ideas. In work.
- d) Quarterly reports turned in by TX-645 and TX-345.
- e) **Need a CAP Liaison for chapter.** See if we can find someone knowledgeable/interested.

XIII. AFA Advocacy Efforts

- a) Vance and Chad to work on Texas Legislative work; litigation.
 - i) Congressional engagement will have to be reset with updates: maps, AOR, districts, high schools, etc.
- b) 344th Rec Sq – Upcoming March event (unable to support). June 9 Change of Command.

XIV. Events

- a) **TX 645 CP Team:** Selected at Gold Level for State Competition. Sessions at Majors FBO on contest weekends.

XV. Future Events (See calendar at www.netxafa.org/events to see minutes, dates)

- a) **26 Mar, 30 Apr**– GROW Events at Sulphur Springs Elementary school 3:30-4:30pm.
- b) Cyber Patriot/AF Reserve story published. Also, story on Mandy Eckhardt for award from UTSW. Working other submissions.
- c) Next meetings is scheduled for **(Website says 8 Apr) at The Oaks, 1130-1230.** Stay tuned for meeting invites.

Action Items	Owner(s)	Deadline	Status
<p>Map of Zip Codes AFA416 is allocated.</p>			