BENTON-SHERBURNE

County Council

Location: **Foley**

Time: **7:30 pm**

Date: **Monday, 21, September 2026**

Topics: District website - https://mn6thdistrict.org/

Sick Call: Kenny Johnstone (SR), Jerry Takle (ER), Allan Kuiper (ER)

Next Meeting:
Clear Lake – 16 November 2026 (Palmer Township Hall)
Becker – 18 January 2027
Zimmerman – 15 March 2027
Elk River – 17 May 2027
Big Lake - 19 July 2027
Foley – 20 September 2027

2026-2027 Officers

Commander: Bill Hannay (612-325-2455)
Vice Commander: John Riebel (763-275-0256)
Chaplain: Rev Walter Eads Jr (Walter.eads@gmail.com) 763-482-1202
Finance: Richard Wingard 763-238-3073
Sgt-at-Arms: Ken Johnstone (320-371-1559)
Adjutant: open

Activities:

Becker:

Big Lake:

Clear Lake:

Elk River:

Foley:

Rice:

Sauk Rapids:

Zimmerman:

Cmdr Hannay called the regular 21 Sept 2026 meeting of the Benton-Sherburne County Council at Foley at 7:34 pm with 18 present
Minutes of the 18 May 2026 were posted Andrew (Becker) made a motion to approve and Lee from (Becker) second the motion. Finance report - $_1,219.08. Dues are due. $20.00. (Clear Lake & Big Lake have paid not deposited yet and tonight Zimmerman, Elk River and Foley paid)
Roll call of Posts: Becker-_5_, Big Lake-_3_ Clear Lake-_4_, Elk River-_3_, Foley-_3_, Rice-_0_, Sauk Rapids-_0_, Zimmerman-_1_.
Roll call of officers: Cmdr Hannay-_P_, V. Cmdr Riebel-_P_, Finance Wingard-_P_, Chaplain Eads-_P_, S @ A Johnstone-_A_, Adj (Open) Acting Michele _P_

Special Guest: None

Becker: Honor Guard 2 football games and 2 funerals. On the 26th of September pig roast, Membership dinner 10/10.

Becker SAL: Will be changing their meetings to 4th Tuesday, so they can bring ideas to the Legionnaires timely. Recipient meeting with the youth groups from Oct – April 7 events to help with. Toys for Tots last year had 3 trucks if give in Monticello the disbursement stays in our area. Craft Sale November 21-22 10-4 Saturday and Sunday 16 tables. Dave talked about volunteer hours for the Squadron Report 365 hours a month examples helping a neighbor go the store volunteering at Caer or monthly meetings. Dave is the 6th District Sgt of Arms and Becker SAL will be hosting the Department SAL Convention in June.

Big Lake: July 6 Base Ball games with colors. On 8-10-2026 we had an agent orange ceremony 50 people attended. We also did 3 farmers markets to promote post. In August gave out back packs with pencils, note books and crayons. Sept 11th Remembrance of that day. We did a presentation on County Road 14/15 bridge from sunrise to noon with the Big Lake Fire Department, Police and Ambulance also present was the Flag Runners of Minnesota. That evening we did a flag ceremony for the Big Lake Football team.

BL Auxiliary: Big Lake American Legion & Auxiliary hosted our first annual Agent Orange Awareness event at our Veteran Memorial on 08/10/26. The weather was beautiful and we were pleased with the attendance.
Two new Auxiliary members have joined Unit 147.
President Kathy Poslusny and Executive Committee member Pam Notch attended a tour at Magnus Veterans Foundation on 09/01/26. We were very impressed with their programs and hope Legion and Auxiliary members get a chance to attend one of their one-hour public tours held the first Tuesday of the month.
In addition, Kathy learned Magnus is holding a Lunch and Learn event on Monday,
October 5th. Kathy emailed the flyer to Michele Smith who sent it on to County Council members. Please call Magnus at 763-427-7832 if you plan to attend.
Big Lake American Legion & Auxiliary is hosting a Veteran Dinner at Big Lake Lions Park on Saturday, October 10th. We are serving a broasted chicken dinner catered by the Lake Café and we have gift card drawings donated by Auxiliary Unit 147, Kwik Trip and Lake Café.

BL SAL: no report

Clear Lake: Post continues to increase. First deceased member in several years 19 years Vietnam Vet. Each Post meetings we continue to improve our protocols. Upcoming events, October meeting we will comprise our yearly donations mostly to the St Cloud VA in various funds. We aim for almost $5,000. That is without gambling funds, just local fundraising. Last Post meeting I mentioned members should be doing raining like Legion Basic Training, the next day I got a call a member completed it. He is a good candidate for Legion College. We also marched in the Palmer Day parade. Tomorrow Sept 22nd Bud will meet with membership

chair will call and send letters to our late paying members. Clear Lake is Proud to host the November Benton-Sherburne County Council meeting at Palmer Town Hall.

CL Auxiliary: Donation $2,425.00, 1,217 items to St Cloud VA a list was provided. Palmer Day 9-12-2026 in the parade. Potluck 10-13-2026 membership dinner. Shelly is on the 6th District Exec Committee and Poppy Chair the meeting was on August 15th. Auxiliary is calling all outstanding memberships. Discussing organizing a bus ride & lunch to the new MN Military & VA museum in Little Falls. I will also reach out to the Patriot Newspaper about the VA Hospital Donation. Advised to promote your Legion Family good deeds.

CL SAL: no report

Elk River: August 19th 26 of us hired a bus to take us to the Twins game with Atlanta Braves. Robert Koehler raised the flag at the game with his family attending. Twins won. We had a Big Cup Golf Tournament it was a big success, well attended and well behaved that was on Sept 12th. The Riders also hosted a benefit ride, the money raised was divided and presented to two veterans in need. The ride was very smooth and we had perfect weather. Our post will be hosting the Annual Veterans Benefit Review Sept 24th 9-4 Sherburne and Wright County VSO's will be there and other Veteran organizations. We had an Car Show and Sock hop. Trophys and prizes were given out. The weather cooperated and everyone had fun. 8 am- 9 pm. Gregory Crow (our Adjutant) is being honored at MN Military and Veterans Museum October 4th in Little Falls for his Military Services. A group of us are going. October 5th Color Guard was asked to present colors in Rogers that a veteran was given a house. October 3rd is the Ribfest tickets are being sold at 2 pm.

ER Auxiliary: September meeting gathered school supplies brought to Caer and to Parker Elementary they are the only school that helps us work our programs. Membership dinner Sept 13 56 members attended the potluck. Craft & Bake Sale October 24th, Trunk & Treat October 31st 5-7, Veteran Dinner November 8th. The Post is hosting Bunco 2nd Thursday of the month 3:30 – 5:30 open to the community. Cribbage League starting October 12th Monday at 6:00 (10 weeks), Corn Hole bags – Tuesdays September 15 thru November 17

ER SAL: Had a pork chop and corn feed August 15th, also sold corn on the cob in the parking lot.

ER Riders: We are planning our Sunday breakfasts for the cold season. Starting October 11th we are having a BBB (Breakfast, Bingo and Bloody Marys) Money raised will be shared with the quarterback club, November 1st BBB will go to the Trap Team, December 13th is breakfast with Santa and January 13th is with the Baseball teem

Foley: Car Show yesterday (Sept 20th) Auxiliary made the burgers. Had their membership dinner, several funerals, football games Color Guard, omelet breakfast this Sunday 27th after there will be a Celebration of Life for SAL member. The 4H group helps with events. Gave out (4) $2,000 scholarships sent 4-5 boys to Boys State, sponsor Legion Baseball and will donate at Christmas time. Post has a 100 year old Member with 59 years of membership. Joe took 458 kids thru the Foley Veteran Memorial Park. Veteran dinner November 14th Auxiliary provides the food.

Foley SAL: working to get them more involved. 60 members

Rice: no one present to report

Sauk Rapids: Unknown report, Kenny in the hospital

Zimmerman: Legion Baseball come 2nd at State (1st time put together), Chair Lift is up and running. Had a corn and burger night on September 18th, Ribfest on August 29, 19 vendors 2,300 tickets sold in 19 minutes.

Bean bags are starting up soon, Color Guard has done a couple of football games, membership dinner this weekend.

Zimm Auxiliary: In August Auxiliary had a golf tournament raised $24,000

Zimm SAL: no report

Zimm Riders: Having a purse bingo soon and also had a couple rides to raise money for the vets. Will have a 2nd amendment bingo in March next year and November

Additional Conversation: Honor Guards do you all do taps even though the veteran is not a member of the Legion. If you need help from other Posts reach out. Rev Eads stated that he has only received 4 taps so far. The time frame is mid-May 2026 thru mid-May 2027, so your members are honored at the District Memorial Ceremony at District Convention.
Andrew from Becker would like to create a Honor Guard roster from all area Posts to call if they need help.
National Commander Jay Bowen was @ the 9/11 in New York and then he was in S. Dakota so far.
Commander Bowen's slogan is BPOTS – Be Part of the Solution. Commander Hannay also confirmed the $2,500 insurance form that was sent out is real. Need to prepare for the future.

Sick Call: Kenny Johnstone (SR), Jerry Takle (ER), Allan Kuiper (ER)

TAPS: Jim Bruns (BL), Dewayne Peterson (Becker), Butch Hass (Zimm)

** Participation needs to happen in the County Council meeting in order to have the meetings at your Post.**

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Next Meeting Clear Lake – 16 November 2026 (Palmer Township Hall) 7:30 pm

Open
Adjutant
Michele Smith (Acting)

Bill Hannay
Commander