

Mariano Lake Veterans Meeting

PO Box 897 Thoreau New Mexico 87323

February 26, 2026

- I. Call Meeting to Order *Willie Thomas VC @ 9:45am*
- II. Invocation: *Evelyn John*
- III. Agenda *Aproval of agenda*
- IV. Report: *Willie Thomas V.C.*
  - A. Commander *(Absent)*
  - B. Vice Commander *No report*
  - C. Secretary *No report (absent)*
  - D. Others: *Budget*
- V. Old Business *None*
- VI. New Business *Elect new Officers*
- VII. Resolution *None*
- VIII. Others : *Mariano Lake Chapter Veterans Fund and Chapter Veterans Fund Budget Transfers*
- IX. Adjourn  
*Next meeting March 25, 2026 @ 10:00am*  
*Last Budget transfer by April*



Adjournment :

**MARIANO LAKE CHAPTER VETERANS ORGANIZATION**

**P.O. Box 897, Thoreau, New Mexico 87323**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**FEBRUARY 26, 2026**



- I. Meeting called to order by Vice Commander, Willie Thomas @ 9:45am
- II. Invocation given by Evelyn John, Secretary Pro Temp
- III. Agenda approved

Motion	Seconded	Votes
Dan Arviso	Ray George	5-1-0

- IV. Last Minutes approval: Last Meeting minutes not available as Veterans Organization Secretary was not present. Minutes to be recorded for this meeting was approved for Evelyn John as pro temp.

Motion	Seconded	Votes
Dan Arviso	Ray George	5-1-0

- V. Reports:
  - 1. Commander Young Jeff Tom – No report as Commander was not present.
  - 2. Vice Commander, Willie Thomas:
    - a) Attended ENA Veterans Agency meeting held at Casamero Lake Chapter on 2/11/26. Meeting provided updates of Veterans Budget/Accounts. This update was given by Shelby Vanderver.
    - b) Tim Johnson of Window Rock update was received as questionable and received as unprofessional.
  - 3. Secretary Robert Livingston – No report as secretary was not present.

- VI. Other Report(s):
  - 1. **Lori John, ENA Veterans Service Officer** – Provided an update of the Mariano Lake Veterans Organization Trust Fund 2026 Allocation & ENA General Funds 2026 Allocation. These reports are attached to current meeting minutes.
  - 2. Additional information included reconciliation with deadline dates for needed budget transfers by April 2026 as there are Fund balances noted that are impact factors for new requests/resolutions for next fiscal year. This include a negative balance for Mariano Lake Chapter Veterans

Organization of -\$400.00 under the ENA General & Mariano Lake Veterans Organization Trust Fund.

3. Lori John will not travel to Chapters to provide Oral/Verbal reports. Ms Johns will provide these updates/reports via emails on weekly basis to Veterans with emails. It is recommended that Veterans provide email addresses with their profile updates of Drivers License, CIB, DD214, and any other valid government identification information. These updates assists with maintaining current Veterans count that do impact Veterans fundings; however, aside from no travel to Veterans Chapter meetings, she will attend on invitations only.
4. Ms.L. John's reported there were Outreach Work Sessions provided at all the Agency's locations. Housing issues were discussed at these meetings. There is no Housing Specialist currently as she retired. Elvira Teller is the point of contact for now.
5. Questions/Comments for L. John entailed Accountability and restrictions as related to distributions for financial assistance. Recommendations involved resolution request from Vet office for policy changes have gone unanswered for past 3years. These recommendations would involve questions of accountability as questioned above.
6. Mariano Lake Chapter Veterans Fund Chapter Veterans Fund Budget Transfer as addressed is indicated in the Excel Spreadsheet *attachment*.
7. **Leandra James, Mariano Lake CSW** provided Detail Budget/Actual Transactions for the ML Veterans Fund. See Attachment.  
In addition, there were suggestions & recommendations noted to entice more M.L Veterans turnout to attend meetings. With the new budget transfers, it was suggested that the \$6000 be allowed for food purchases for the veterans in the form of vouchers. The \$2,019.35 would be allowed for catering from March 2026 until this fund is depleted. Leandra and her staff will assist to obtain quotes from available businesses/stores/restaurants/catering services that would include local vendors with food handlers permits and/or food handling credentials
8. Budget Transfers involving the M.L. Trust fund/Budget and the M.L Chapter Veterans Fund Transfers were both reviewed/reported and were approved.

Motion	Seconded	Votes
Dan Arviso	Ray George	5-2-0

VII. Old Business : None

VIII. New Business: New ML Veterans Chapter Organization Officers Election. Questions related to officer eligibility to serve 2yr tenure were clarified and validated per Veterans Organization Plan of Operation with confirmation by ENA Veterans Service Officer. Questions was can a candidate from another chapter resident be eligible to serve. Answer was yes as long as candidate was not a Chapter officer from that chapter in question. This involved the secretary candidate, Evelyn John.

Commander – Willie Thomas

Motion	Seconded	Votes
Dan Arviso	Willie Thomas	5-1-0

Vice Commander – Dan Arviso

Motion	Seconded	Votes
Willie Thomas	Ray George	5-1-0

Secretary – Evelyn John

Motion	Seconded	Votes
Willie Thomas	Ronald Bennette	5-1-0

IX. Other: Mariano Lake Chapter Veterans organization newly elected officers was reviewed and approved which included approval for stipend payment(s).

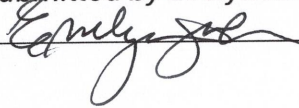
Motion	Seconded	Votes
Ray George	Ronald Bennette	5-1-0

X. Resolution(s); None

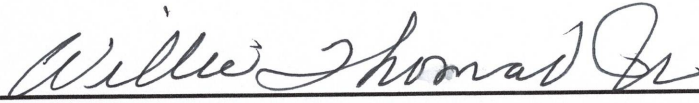
XI. Adjournment @ 1:15pm – Approval Vote: 5-1.0  
Next meeting scheduled for March 25, 2026, @ 10am. Per all in attendance agreement, all future meetings will be the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month.

*Attachments: Sign In Sheet, L. John, ENA Vet Svc Ofcr Budget report(s)-ENA General & Trust Fund(s), Current M.L. Vet Budget/Actual Transactions 16 Fund, Excel Sheet showing current transfers & status of M.L. Fund.*

Respectfully submitted by Evelyn John, Mariano Lake Chapter Veterans Organization  
Secretary.

 2/26/26

APPROVALS:

 2/26/26

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Willie Thomas, Commander



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Dan Arviso, Vice Commander

**I. Budget Transfer Stipend**

**Balance: \$2,850.00**

\$75.00 X 3 Officers - 1 Meeting	\$225.00	
\$150.00X 1 CDR for 1 Agency Meeting	\$150.00	
Total:	\$375.00	
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February 2026 ; 3 Officers @\$75.00 each	\$225.00	
1 CDR Agency Meeting Attendance @\$150.00	\$0.00	
Total	\$225.00	\$225
March 2026; 3 Officers @\$75.00	\$225.00	
1 CDR Agency Meeting Attendance @ \$150.00	\$150.00	
Total:	\$375.00	\$375
April 2026; 3 Officers @\$75.00	\$225.00	
1 CDR Agency Meeting Attendance @ \$150.00	\$150.00	
Total:	\$375.00	\$375
May 2026; 3Officers @ \$75.00	\$225.00	
1 CDR Agency Meeting Attendance @ \$150.00	\$150.00	
Total:	\$375.00	\$375
June 2026; 3 Officers @ \$75.00	\$225.00	
1 CDR Agency Meeting Attendance @\$150.00	\$150.00	
1 Special Meeting; 3 Ofcrs@\$75.00	\$225.00	
Total:	\$600.00	\$600
		\$1,950.00



**II. Budget Transfer cont...Stipend**

<b>Balance Stipend:</b>	\$2,850.00
Monthly Agency & Monthly Meetings	(\$1,950.00)
Stipend Balance after Transfers:	\$900.00
Stipend-3811 to Hardship-8060 (\$200 X 1 Veteran)	\$200.00
Stipend-3811 to Energy 8065 \$200 X 2 Veterans)	\$400.00
Stipend-3811 to Transportation-8065 \$300 X 1 Veteran)	\$300.00
Total Transf Total:	\$900.00
<b>Stipend Balance after Transfers:</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>

**BUDGET TRANSFER 7110 PROGRAMS**

**BALANCE; \$1,400.00**

**ML Vet.Chptr Org.**

02.26.2026

Remaining Balance:	\$1,400.00
Negative Balance form 8060 Harship	(\$400.00)
From Programs to Harship 8060	\$1,000.00
(\$400 for 2 veterans and 200.00 for 1 veteran for \$200.00) (3 veterans assistances)	\$200.00
	\$200.00
<b>BALANCE:</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>

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