Rolling Thunder®, Inc. Illinois Chapter 1
Chapter Meeting Minutes
October 7, 2026

Rolling Thunder® Inc. Illinois Chapter 1 Meeting was called to order by President Al Miller at 19:33.

Attended	Name	Position
Yes	Al "Shadow" Miller	President
Yes	Kandice "PG" Jacobs	Vice-President
Yes	Richard "Popeye" Montgomery	Chairman of the Board
Yes	Rick "Cosmo" Herr	Treasurer
Yes	Keith "Stretch" Stengler	Secretary
Yes	Bill "BB" Houghtaling	Director
Yes	Chris "Spyder" Graham	Director
No	John Mihelich	Director
Yes	Philip "Chappy" Ferrer	Director
Yes	Wendy "Dragonfly" Vach	Director

Pledge of Allegiance

Chappy: Rolling Thunder Mission Statement, MIA list for September, Prayer

Shadow:

- Concord Place is putting in a base for the chair. It is near their gazebo. They would like to dedicate it on Veterans Day then have a dinner afterwards. If this does happen, I will send any update in an email.
- Our POW/MIA monument in DeKalb should go up in April or May. I'm working with Frank from the Genoa Veterans Home. It's looking like it will be placed at the De Kalb Elks Club.

Stretch:

- Asked for a motion to accept last months chapter meeting minutes. Tug motioned to accept the minutes, Shadow seconded the motion, Passed.
- Asked for a motion to accept last months chapter financial report. Tug motioned to accept the report, Popeye seconded the motion, Passed.

Cozmo:

- Read last months financial report.
- We helped 10 Vets in Q2 and 10 more in Q3 this year. 3 were for help with rent. YTD, we have helped 23 Vets.
- Do we want to donate to Wreaths across America this year? A motion was made by Chappy to donate $500 for wreaths, seconded by BB, Passed.

Popeye:

- DUES!!!

PG:

- I am asking for $3,000 for our Thanksgiving dinner baskets. Dragonfly motioned for the $3,000 for the Thanksgiving dinner baskets, BB seconded, Passed. I will use our debit card to make the job easier. Don't forget, packing and delivery day is November 22 at 10:00.

BB:

- We need to start looking for new members. Possibilities are post Viet Nam Vets. I have talked to Knute and Rob Eskobar for people from Kane County Veterans Club.

Chappy:

- I spoke on WRMN radio 1410 about the Operation Deep Dive Report. Many officers will say the number is 17, it is NOT! A report from 2020 from Duke University found discrepancies in these counts. The OpDD found that data was being received from 8 states, others were, best guesses. At this level, we see an error rate of at least 25%. OpDD also includes, Self-injury Mortality numbers. This brings the daily count to at least 44 per day.

Tug:

- In June of next year, we are working on 2 sign dedications. June 12th – 14th. We will organize the one in Mascoutah, IL and looking for IL3 to organize the one in Sparta, IL. Not far from Mascoutah, Scott Air Force Base is hosting an air show and open house on June 12th–13th.
- We are hoping to do 4 sign dedications next year.
- Some time in spring next year, we want to dedicate a POW/MIA chair at Mooseheart.
- Ideas for getting membership up, we could set up a tent at the Freedom Run and other veteran type events.
- We need to get existing membership to show up at our events.
- We had a good time riding down to Olney for an event with Chapter III last month.
- We also joined the New Lenox, Tom E Hartung American Legion Post 1977, for an escort to and from Remmington, IN. We escorted a Huey that they are adding to their Flight Home Memorial.

PG made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Dragonfly, Passed.

Meeting Close: 20:14

Respectfully – Stretch