

VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION OF WINNEBAGO COUNTY

555 Court Street, Rockford, IL 61103 – 815-516-2850 – VAC@wincoil.us

Commission Meeting Minutes

11 MAY 2022

I. OPENING – 1734 hours

- A. Hybrid Meeting held in Person at the VFW located at 922 – 7th Street, Rockford, IL 61104 and via Zoom Meetings (internet-based meeting platform).
- B. Opening Ceremonies: Salute Flag, Pledge of Allegiance, Moment of Silence.
- C. Roll Call of Commission Officers, Certified Organizations Delegates & Alternates
Officers 4 Delegates 9 Alternates 1 Cert. Org. 10 Quorum YES
2 Delegates present not voting – 8 Units Present In-Person and 2 on Zoom
- D. Recognition of Guests and or Visitors Guests 2 Steve Thomas; Superintendent and Julie Weis, Secretary Visitors 0
- E. If a Quorum is present In-Person, a vote to allow Commissioners on Zoom to Participate and Vote in the meeting.

Motion to allow Commissioners on Zoom to Participate and Vote during the meeting. Dave Davis 2nd Todd Burton

****R/C vote: Y 8 N 0 AB 0 Result of Vote: UNANIMOUS***

**Todd Burton voted instead of Celestine Anderson since he was present and she was on Zoom for the meeting. John Kline was on Zoom and did not vote.*

- F. Accept the AGENDA: Any additions or changes to be made?
NOTE: Additions can be made. NO MOTIONS or VOTES TAKEN until the following meeting. All Votes taken by Roll Call (R/C). Adjournment vote will be by Voice vote.

****Motion presented by the reading of the agenda. 2nd Celestine Anderson.***

****R/C vote: Y 10 N 0 AB 0 Result of Vote: UNANIMOUS***

G. PUBLIC COMMENTS – NONE

- H. Reading and Disposition of 2022 March's minutes.

****Motion presented by reading of March's minutes. 2nd John Guler.***

**** R/C vote: Y 10 N 0 AB 0 Result of Vote: UNANIMOUS***

- I. Reading and Disposition of 2022 April's minutes.

****Motion presented by reading of the minutes. 2nd John Guler.***

**** R/C vote: Y 10 N 0 AB 0 Result of Vote: UNANIMOUS***

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II. REPORTS

A. VAC-Administration Reports

1. President

- a. Need a few more in-person meetings to complete By-Laws and Services Manual. All commissioners are invited.
- b. IL congress voted for changes in the code and is ready for the Governor's signature.
- c. The Governor signed on Friday 06 JUN 2022.
- d. Discussed Congressionally Chartered Organizations being mentioned in the statute since Congress no longer Approves Chartered Organizations. This might be a question for the lawyer.
- e. The biggest benefit for our VAC is that our budget becomes a line item of .02% of the EAV (Equalized Assessed Value) which would increase our budget.

2. Administrative Coordinator

- a. 05/12 Advisory meeting – Discuss issues from last Commission meeting.
- b. 05/19 Advisory meeting – Finance and work on the Services Handbook.
- c. 05/26 Advisory meeting – Finance and work on the Services Handbook.
- d. 06/02 Advisory meeting – Agenda Preparation.
- e. 06/08 Commission meeting.
- f. Everyone is invited to join advisory meetings.

3. Services Coordinator

- a. Working on completing Services Manual.
- b. Need to set up in person meetings.
- c. No Personnel Issues – No report.
- d. Will need to work on the Personnel Manual in upcoming meetings.

4. Appeals Committee – No Appeals – No Report

**Motion presented by March's and April's VAC-A reports as given.*

2nd John Guler.

** R/C vote: Y 10 N 0 AB 0 Result of Vote: UNANIMOUS*

5. Finance Coordinator

- a. Todd to go over March and April's Financial Reports and give a Budget update.

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- b. See meeting packet for reports.
- c. Todd explained that the newly approved code goes into effect immediately but we won't see it in the upcoming budget since it is based on 2021 property taxes.
- d. The math for the budget under the new code works by taking the EAV x 0.02% and then subtracting our current assets.
- e. This should take us out of the County's budgeting process.

****Motion presented by the year to date (05 MAY 2022) financial reports as given. 2nd John Kline.***

**** R/C vote: Y_10_N_0_AB_0 Result of Vote: UNANIMOUS***

B. VAC-Operations – See Meeting Packet for reports.

- 1. Superintendent
- 2. Client Assistance
- 3. Veterans Service Officers
- 4. Outreach
- 5. Transportation

****Motion presented by March's VAC-O reports as given. 2nd Nancy Clark.***

****R/C vote: Y_10_N_0_AB_0 Result of Vote: UNANIMOUS***

****Motion presented by April's VAC-O reports as given. 2nd Nancy Clark.***

**** R/C vote: Y_10_N_0_AB_0 Result of Vote: UNANIMOUS***

III. CORRESPONDENCE – NONE

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. Open Meetings Act for commissioners**
- B. By-laws for regarding blended meetings**
- C. Superintendent hiring/termination process**
- D. Office Cell Phone numbers**
 - 1. Superintendent – Steve: 779-256-8135
 - 2. VSO1 – Julie: 779-256-8301

V. NEW BUSINESS – NONE

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VI. GOOD OF THE ORDER

- A. Enclosed Minutes from Advisory Committee Meetings for previous month.
- B. Upcoming Memorial Weekend events.
- C. The Navy Club is providing a Luncheon after the Sinking of the Ship ceremony.
- D. Rockford Women's Club CNA Education Assistance with Job Placement – Linda Lowry is the contact for this program 779-770-9967.
- E. 22nd of every month – remembering those who have committed suicide.
- F. Remember to wear RED on Fridays to support our deployed troops.
- G. Send or bring in Flyers for your up-coming events.

VII. CLOSING

- A. Closing Ceremonies
- B. Next Meeting is on **08 JUNE 2022 @ 1730 hours.**

****Motion to Adjourn. John Guler. 2ndNancy Clark.***

****Voice Vote: 10 Ayes 0 Nays***

- C. Meeting Adjourned at: 1849 hours