

VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION OF WINNEBAGO COUNTY

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

AGENDA

13 JULY 2022

I. OPENING

- 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 2 Delegates 6 In-person & 3 on Zoom Alternates 1 Cert. Org. 6 In-person
and 3 on Zoom Quorum Yes 6 units Present In-person
- D. Recognition of Guests and or Visitors Guests 2 - Steve Thomas, Superintendent and
Julie Weis VAC-A Secretary Visitors 0
- E. Allow Zoom Attendees to join and participate in the Meeting.

****Motion to allow Zoom Attendees to join and participate in the Meeting by: Sherye Ferdinando 2ndJim Nelson.***

****R/C vote: Y 6 N 0 AB 0 Result of Vote: Unanimous***

- 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. 2ndTerrell Lewis***

****R/C vote: Y 9 N 0 AB 0 Result of Vote: Unanimous***

- G. PUBLIC COMMENTS – NONE

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

****Motion presented by the reading of June's minutes. 2ndTerrell Lewis***

****R/C vote: Y 9 N 0 AB 0 Result of Vote: Unanimous***

II. REPORTS

A. VAC-Administration Reports

1. President

- a. Out of town.
- b. No Report

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2. Administrative Coordinator

- a. Tonight, we will be doing the First Read on the By-Laws in New Business.
- b. 07/14 Advisory meeting – Discuss issues from last Commission meeting.
- c. 07/19 Special Meeting – Start working on the New Personnel Handbook.
- d. 07/21 Advisory meeting – Finance and work on the Services/Personnel Handbooks.
- e. 07/28 Advisory meeting – Work on the Services/Personnel Handbooks.
- f. 08/4 Advisory meeting – End of Month Wrap-up and Agenda Prep.
- g. 08/10 Commission meeting – Nominations for Elections in September.
- h. Everyone is invited to join advisory meetings.

3. Services Coordinator

- a. New Service Handbook is ready for review.
- b. Personnel Issues – We are starting the process of creating a new Personnel Handbook for the VAC-O.
- c. Terrell discussed the need for a new Personnel Handbook and the need for dedicated sessions to work on it.

4. Appeals Committee – No Appeals – No Report

****Motion presented by May's VAC-A reports as given. 2nd John Scott***
****R/C vote: Y_9_N_0_AB_0 Result of Vote: Unanimous***

5. Finance Coordinator

- a. Steve went over May and June's Financial Reports.
- b. See meeting packet for reports.
- c. Steve gave a 2023 Budget update.
 - i. Todd and Steve finalized the Budget to send into the County.
 - ii. Steve had to submit the Budget before the commission meeting because the deadline had already passed even with a 2 day extension from the County.
 - iii. The budget is the same as last year with the Cost of Living Adjustment added.
 - iv. The budget is subject to the County Board approval.
 - v. The New Military Assistance Act may impact the budget when it goes into effect 01 JAN 2023. Current submitted budget for 2023 should fall below the stiffer guidelines provided in the new act.

****Motion to accept financial reports as given: Terrell Lewis 2nd John Guler***
****R/C vote: Y_9_N_0_AB_0 Result of Vote: Unanimous***

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

1. Superintendent Letter
2. Budget Information
3. Client Assistance
4. Veterans Service Officers
5. Outreach
6. Transportation
7. Looking for Volunteer Drivers
8. Email address changes reminder: VAC@vac.wincoil.gov, SThomas@vac.wincoil.gov, JWeis@vac.wincoil.gov
9. NO LONGER VAC@wincoil.us
10. The old email will still work for the next 10 months.
11. If your email has changed, please let Julie know via email message with NEW EMAIL Address as the Subject.

**Motion presented by May's VAC-O reports as given. 2nd Sherye Ferdinando*

**R/C vote: Y_9_N_0_AB_0 Result of Vote: Unanimous*

III. CORRESPONDENCE – NONE

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. Open Meetings Act for commissioners
 1. <https://foiapac.ilag.gov/>
 2. For the OMA Training Portal
- B. Office Cell Phone numbers
 1. Superintendent – Steve: 779-256-8135
 2. VSO1 – Julie: 779-256-8301

V. NEW BUSINESS

- A. First Reading of By-Law changes.
- B. Nominations for Elections will start at the next meeting in August and
- C. Final nominations and elections in September.
- D. New officers will take over 01 OCT 2022.

VI. GOOD OF THE ORDER

- A. Enclosed Minutes from Advisory Committee Meetings for previous month.
- B. New Cancers added for Burn Pits.
- C. Rockford Women's Club CNA Education Assistance with Job Placement.
- D. 22nd of every month – remembering those who have committed suicide.

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- E. Remember Red Friday for our Deployed Service members.
- F. Increase in Travel Pay Mileage.
- G. VA going to an electronic system for requesting travel pay.
- H. 31 JULY – Fund Raiser for Vet Smile Program – Am. Leg. in Belvidere.
- I. Rockford Rivets are promoting wearing RED on Fridays.
- J. American Legion Post 1207 has Corn Boil at Camp Hillcrest 11a - 6p
- K. Our Free Bus Pass offer was a huge hit amongst our clients and many other veterans from the county.
- L. Send or bring in Flyers for your up-coming events.

VII. CLOSING

- A. Closing Ceremonies
- B. Next Meeting is on **10 AUGUST 2022 @ 1730 hours**
**Motion to Adjourn. John Guler 2nd Sherye Ferdinando*
**Voice Vote: 10 Ayes 0 Nays*
- C. Meeting Adjourned at: **1845 Hours**