

VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION OF WINNEBAGO COUNTY

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

Commission Meeting Minutes

08 JUNE 2022

I. OPENING – 1731 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 3 Delegates 9 Alternates 1 Cert. Org. 9 Quorum YES
7 Members present in-person and 2 members on Zoom.
Todd Burton, Finance Coordinator, and Steve Thomas, Superintendent, are excused.
- D. Recognition of Guests and or Visitors: Guests 1 Julie Weis, VAC -A Secretary and Visitors 1 Susan Robinson, Reserve Component Transition Assistance Advisor.
- E. Allow Zoom Attendees to join and participate in the Meeting.

**Motion to allow Zoom Attendees to join and participate in the Meeting. Jim Nelson 2nd Al Hoqlund .*

**R/C vote: Y_7_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. 2nd John Guler*

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

- G. PUBLIC COMMENTS – NONE

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

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

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

II. REPORTS

A. VAC-Administration Reports

1. President

- a. Discussed By-Law Changes for 1st Read in July.
- b. Reminded Commissioners to take Open Meetings Act training.

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2. Administrative Coordinator

- a. 06/09 Advisory meeting – Discuss issues from last Commission meeting.
- b. 06/16 Advisory meeting – Finance and work on the Services/Personnel Handbooks.
- c. 06/23 Advisory meeting – Work on the Services/Personnel Handbooks.
- d. 06/30 Advisory meeting – End of Month Wrap-up.
- e. 07/07 Advisory meeting – Agenda Prep
- f. 07/13 Commission meeting.
- g. Everyone is invited to join advisory meetings.

3. Services Coordinator

- a. Discuss 04 JUNE Special Meeting.
- b. New Financial Assistance Form that will be voted on in NEW BUSINESS.
- c. No Personnel Issues – No report.

4. Appeals Committee – No Appeals – No Report

**Motion presented by May's VAC-A reports as given. 2nd Celestine Anderson .*

** R/C vote: Y_9 N_0 AB_0 Result of Vote: Unanimous*

5. Finance Coordinator

- a. Todd was excused from meeting.
- b. He will go over May's Financial Reports and give a 2023 Budget update at the next meeting.
- c. See meeting packet for reports.

**Motion to hold over May's financial report. Nancy Clark 2nd Terrell Lewis .*

** R/C vote: Y_9 N_0 AB_0 Result of Vote: Unanimous*

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

1. Superintendent Letter
2. Client Assistance
3. Veterans Service Officers
4. Outreach
5. Transportation
6. Looking for Volunteer Drivers

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7. Email address changes reminder: VAC@vac.wincoil.gov,
SThomas@vac.wincoil.gov, JWeis@vac.wincoil.gov
8. NO LONGER @wincoil.us

**Motion presented by May's VAC-O reports as given. 2nd Terrell Lewis
* 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. We have updated Financial Assistance form for 2022 Poverty line.
- B. Increase our Financial Assistance Poverty level from 135% of the National Guidelines to 150% of the National Poverty Level Guidelines.

**Motion to increase our poverty guideline to 150% of 2022 poverty level from 135%. By: Terrell Lewis 2nd John Hood*

** R/C vote: Y_9 N_0 AB_0 Result of Vote: Unanimous*

- C. Accept using Form with 150% of the 2022 Poverty Line for Financial Assistance.

**Motion to accept using Financial Assistance Form with 150% of 2022 poverty level. By: Terrell Lewis 2nd John Kline*

** R/C vote: Y_9 N_0 AB_0 Result of Vote: Unanimous*

VI. GOOD OF THE ORDER

- A. Susan Robison gave her presentation about the Reserve Component Transition Assistance Advisor program that serves as a point of contact for benefits and healthcare procurement.
- B. Enclosed Minutes from Advisory Committee Meetings for previous month.
- C. New Cancers added for Burn Pits.
- D. Rockford Women's Club CNA Education Assistance with Job Placement.

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- E. 22nd of every month – remembering those who have committed suicide.
 - F. Wear **RED** on Fridays to **R**emember **E**veryone **D**eployed.
 - G. Dr. Kate Hendricks Thomas SERVICE Act, extends access to mammograms for all female veterans who served in areas with burn pits or other toxic exposures, regardless of their age, symptoms or family history.
 - H. Send or bring in Flyers for your up-coming events.
- VII. CLOSING**
- A. Closing Ceremonies
 - B. Next Meeting is on **13 JULY 2022 @ 1730 hours**
**Motion to Adjourn. Nancy Clark 2nd John Guler*
**Voice Vote: 11 Ayes 0 Nays*
 - C. Meeting Adjourned at: 1839 Hours