

Veterans Assistance Commission of Winnebago County
January 8, 2025 - Commission Meeting Minutes

Meeting Opened: 1730 hours - 5:30 pm

Attendees:

<u>Board Members</u>	<u>Guests</u>
Terrell Lewis – President (Rock Valley AmVets #922)	Jesus Pereira – Superintendent
Nancy Clark – Administrative Coordinator (VFW Post #5149)	Debra Hoover – VACWC Secretary
Eric Willard – Finance Coordinator (VVA Post #984)	Francesca Montanez – VACWC
Stephanie Gilberto (Navy Ship Club #1)	Mayra Toral – VACWC
Gary Holmes (American Legion Post #332)	Luz Ortiz-Rivera – VACWC
Dave Davis (American Legion Post #1207)	Timothy Hotchkiss – VACWC
George Meissen (American Legion Post #1207)	Willie Borden – VACWC
Reuben Hernandez (VFW Post #2955)	Janine Idstein - Guest
Gene Schaefer (VFW Post #9759)	Julie Weis – Guest
Ken VanLandeghem (American Legion Post #288)	Veteran C. Givhan – Guest
Donald Reynolds (Marie Corps League Post #083)	Mrs. Dennis Mudd – Guest
John Kline – Zoom (Blackhawk DAV Chapter #29)	Elizabeth Carville – Guest
	John Clark - Guest

- Motion to Allow Zoom Attendees: Don Reynolds 2nd – Dave Davis – Voice Vote Unanimous
- Elected Official Roll Call – 12 attendees from 11 posts
- Motion to Waive reading of Agenda: Motion – 2nd - Nancy Clark – Voice Vote Unanimous
- Motion to Waive reading of Minutes: Gary Holmes - 2nd – Dave Davis – Voice Vote Unanimous
- Public Comments: (Max. 3 minutes each)
 - Willie Borden Jr.
 - Francesca Montanez
 - Charlotte Givhan
 - Mrs. Dennis Mudd
 - Ray Richmond Jr.
 - Elizabeth Carville

President’s Report – Terrell Lewis – Welcome

- Appointed Sargent at Arms – George Meissen
- Nomination letters were sent – must respond before March 1, 2025 – new appointments take effect March 1, 2025
 - Comment from G. Holmes about timing of appointments – we should change the dates
 - Attorney advised that MVAA sets the dates
- Required OMA Training – reach out to secretary for training link
- Shared details on several meetings he attended with Superintendent Jesus Pereira

Admin Coordinator Report – Nancy Clark

- Presented dates for upcoming meetings
- It’s very important that you come to meetings

Services and Personnel Coordinator – Lana McCants – not present – no report

Finance Coordinator – Eric Willard

- We are at 20% of our expenditures and completed ¼ of the year
- Finance Coordinator proposed purchase of VisualGA software for VAC Office - \$17,000.00
 - Motion to purchase Visual GA – Eric Willard - 2nd Nancy Clark – roll call vote - unanimous

Superintendent Report – Jesus Pereira

- Reported on VAC business
 - Presented VAC Annual Governors Report
 - Presented State of the Veterans Assistance Commission
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Correspondence

- Secretary read correspondence from Sheri Brandenburg – daughter of deceased veteran

Unfinished Business

- Continue search for Veteran friendly banking institution – Woodforest National Bank
- Use of personal phones and computers for VACWC business – looking into County providing phones/computers and e-mail addresses for elected officers
- Presentation of Superintendent Evaluation

New Business

- Completed first reading of revised By-laws

Closing: Next Full Commission Meeting 2/12/2025– 5:30 pm – 555 N. Court St., Room 115, Rockford

Commencement of Meeting – 7:30 pm

- Motion to adjourn Nancy Clark – 2nd Ken VanLandeghem Voice Vote: Yes - unanimous