



**VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION  
OF  
WINNEBAGO COUNTY**

VACWC Commission Meeting Minutes  
555 N. Court Street, Room 115, Rockford, IL 61103  
February 11, 2026  
5:30 PM CST  
Eric Willard, President

**Meeting Called to Order** at 5:30 PM CST

**Pledge of Allegiance** lead by Ken VanLandegham

**Moment of Silence** lead by President Eric Willard

**Roll Call** Secretary Dana Verfuert

Roll Call Attendance			
Ken VanLandeghem	American Legion Post #288	Delegate	Present
Raymond Dhom	American Legion Post #288	Alternate	Not in attendance
Gary Holmes	American Legion Post #332	Delegate	Present
Jeff Greer	American Legion Post #332	Alternate	Not in attendance
Dave Davis	American Legion Post #1207	Delegate	Present
George Meissen	American Legion Post #1207	Alternate	Not in attendance
Todd Burton	Blackhawk DAV Chapter #29	Delegate	Not in attendance
John Kline	Blackhawk DAV Chapter #29	Alternate	Present (via Zoom)
Robert Lamay	Navy Club Ship #1	Delegate	Present
Stephanie Gilberto	Navy Club Ship #1	Alternate	Not in attendance
Terrell Lewis	Rock Valley AmVets Post #922	Delegate	Not in attendance
Jean Henning	Rock Valley AmVets Post #922	Alternate	Not in attendance
Eric Willard	Vietnam Veterans of America #984	Delegate	Present
Jerome Egilske	Vietnam Veterans of America #984	Alternate	Present
Lana McCants	VFW Post #342	Delegate	Not in attendance
Sean West	VFW Post #342	Alternate	Not in attendance
Ruben Hernandez	VFW Post #2955	Delegate	Present
Bill Graves	VFW Post #2955	Alternate	Not in attendance
Nancy Clark	VFW Post #5149	Delegate	Present
F.S. Tate	VFW Post #5149	Alternate	Present
Gene Schaefer	VFW Post #9759	Delegate	Present
Keith McDonald	Winnebago County Board	Representative	Not in attendance

**Additional Attendees:** Navy Club Ship #1 Juan Reyes, Interim Superintendent Willie Borden, VAC Admin Francesca Montanez, VAC Secretary Dana Verfueth, Attorney Michael Phillips.

**Quorum Established:** 11 attendees, representing 8 MVSO's

**Motion to allow John Kline to join the meeting via Zoom:** Holmes, 2<sup>nd</sup> Clark; No discussion, no amendments, **Roll Call Vote Yes Unanimous. Motion Passes. Yes 7, No 0, Abstain 0.**

**Motion to Approve Agenda for February 11, 2026:** Hernandez, 2<sup>nd</sup>: Egilske, Amendment: Strike 6a. Superintendent's Report due to the item being duplicated. **Voice Vote Yes Unanimous. February 11, 2026 Agenda approved as amended. Yes 8, No 0, Abstain 0.**

**Motion to approve January 14, 2026 Commission Meeting Minutes:** Clark, 2<sup>nd</sup> Davis; No discussion, no amendments, **Voice Vote Yes Unanimous. Motion Passes. Yes 8, No 0, Abstain 0.**

**Public Comments:** None

**President's Report: Eric Willard**

- President Eric Willard reminded all MVSO's that the VACWC Delegate and Alternate forms are due on March 1, 2026.
- VAC Secretary Dana Verfueth presented information regarding State and Federal Charters for Veteran Service Organizations.
- **6:08PM - Motion to Enter into Executive Session pursuant Section 2(c)(1) of the Illinois Open Meetings Act:** Davis, 2<sup>nd</sup> Clark, no discussion, no amendments, **Roll Call Vote Yes Unanimous. Motion approved. Yes 8, No 0, Abstain 0**
- President Eric Willard excused all guests from the Executive Session. Interim Superintendent Willie Borden, VAC Administrative Assistant Francesca Montanez, VAC Secretary Dana Verfueth, Attorney Michael Phillips remained in Executive Session along with all members of the Commission present.
- EXECUTIVE SESSION 5:50PM – 6:53PM
- Five-minute Recess
- Reconvene in Open Session at 6:58PM

**Vice President's Report: Nancy Clark**

- Bylaws Committee – Next Meeting will be April 28, 2026 at 1:00 PM CST, Veterans Memorial Hall, First Floor Conference Room.

**Finance Officer's Report: Jerome Egilske**

- Fiscal year to date budget review done by Jerome Egilske.
- Finance Committee – Next Meeting will be April 28, 2026 at 2:00 PM CST, Veterans Memorial Hall, First Floor Conference Room.

- **Motion to remove Jesus Pereira and Terrell Lewis from the UMB Bank Account Signature Card and add Interim Superintendent Willie Borden and Finance Officer Jerome Egilske:** Clark, 2<sup>nd</sup> Davis; No discussion, no amendments, **Voice Vote Yes Unanimous. Motion Passes. Yes 7, No 0, Abstain 0.**

- Budget timeline will be release by Winnebago County in April and a preliminary budget meeting will be held in March.

**Services Chairperson's Report: Dave Davis**

- Services Committee – Next Meeting will be February 24, 2026 at 1:00 PM CST, Veterans Memorial Hall, First Floor Conference Room.

**Personnel Chairperson's Report: Rueben Hernandez**

- Personnel Committee – Next Meeting will be February 24, 2026 at 2:00 PM CST, Veterans Memorial Hall, First Floor Conference Room.

**Correspondence: Secretary Dana Verfuert**

- None

**Unfinished Business**

- None.

**New Business: President Eric Willard**

- **President Eric Willard asked the Commission to Appoint VAC Secretary Dana Verfuert as the VACWC FOIA Officer:** Holmes, 2<sup>nd</sup> Davis; No discussion, no amendments, **Voice Vote Yes Unanimous. Motion Passes. Yes 8, No 0, Abstain 0.**
- **President Eric Willard asked the Commission to Appoint VAC Secretary Dana Verfuert as the VACWC OMA Officer:** Holmes, 2<sup>nd</sup> Davis; No discussion, no amendments, **Voice Vote Yes Unanimous. Motion Passes. Yes 8, No 0, Abstain 0.**

**Announcements: Secretary Dana Verfuert**

- Willie Borden reported that our partner, Fisher Outreach Center, have prepared Valentine's Day bags for Veterans.
- FS Tate reported that he will be addressing the County Board on increasing limits on the Queen of Hearts drawings.
- The Madison VA is enforcing the use of masks, due to viruses on the rise.
- February 21, 2025 Rockford SheVets will be celebrating their 10-year anniversary at Veterans Memorial Hall from 1:00PM to 4:00PM.

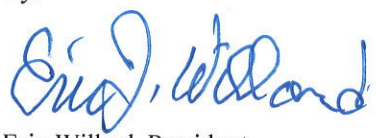
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The Next VACWC Meeting will be on March 11, 2026 at 5:30 PM CST. 555 N. Court Street, Room 115, Rockford, IL 61103

**Motion to Adjourn:** Clark, 2<sup>nd</sup> Davis, no discussion, no amendments, **Voice Vote Yes Unanimous, Motion Approved at 7:37 PM CST. Yes 9, No 0, Abstain 0**

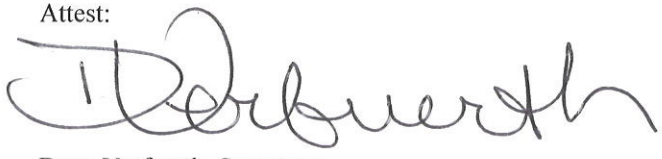
Minutes Approved: *March 11, 2026*

By:



Eric Willard, President  
Veterans Assistance Commission of Winnebago County, IL

Attest:



Dana Verfueth, Secretary  
Veterans Assistance Commission of Winnebago County, IL