



**VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION
OF
WINNEBAGO COUNTY**

VACWC Commission Meeting Minutes
555 N. Court Street, Room 115, Rockford, IL 61103
March 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

APPROVED

Moment of Silence lead by President Eric Willard

APR 08 2026

VAC of Winn Co, IL

Roll Call Secretary Dana Verfuert

Roll Call Attendance			
American Legion Post #288	VanLandeghem, Ken	Delegate	Present
American Legion Post #288	Butram, Scott	Alternate	Present
American Legion Post #1207	Davis, Dave	Delegate	Present
American Legion Post #1207	Meissen, George	Alternate	Not in attendance
VFW Post #342	Holmes, Gary	Delegate	Present
VFW Post #342	Metheny, Jeff	Alternate	Present
American Legion Post #332	Draeger, David	Delegate	Present
American Legion Post #332	Greer, Jeff	Alternate	Present
Blackhawk DAV Chapter #29	Weis, Julie	Delegate	Present (via Zoom)
Blackhawk DAV Chapter #29	Cummings, Darryl	Alternate	Not in attendance
Navy Club Ship #1	Lamay, Robert	Delegate	Present
Navy Club Ship #1	Reyes, Juan	Alternate	Present
VFW Post #342	Holmes, Gary	Delegate	Present
VFW Post #342	Methany, Jeff	Alternate	Present
Vietnam Veterans of America #984	Egilske, Jerome	Delegate	Present
Vietnam Veterans of America #984	Willard, Eric	Alternate	Present
VFW Post #2955	Hernandez, Ruben	Delegate	Present
VFW Post #2955	Graves, Bill	Alternate	Not in attendance
VFW Post #5149	Clark, Nancy	Delegate	Present
VFW Post #5149	Tate, FS	Alternate	Present
VFW Post #9759	Schaefer, Gene	Delegate	Present
VFW Post #9759	Puckett, Jim	Alternate	Present
American Legion Post #340	Richmond, Ray	Delegate	Present
American Legion Post #340	Evans, Willie	Alternate	Present

Additional Attendees: Interim Superintendent Willie Borden, VAC Admin Francesca Montanez, VAC Secretary Dana Verfuert, VAC Office Manager Michaela Kelliher, VAC VSO Shara Ibalio, Attorney Michael Phillips.

Quorum Established: 18 attendees, representing 10 MVSO's

Motion to allow Julie Weis to join the meeting via Zoom: Holmes, 2nd Egilske; No discussion, no amendments, **Roll Call Vote Yes Unanimous. Motion Passes. Yes 10, No 0, Abstain 0.**

Attendance Amended: 19 attendees, representing 11 MVSO's

Motion to Approve Agenda for March 11, 2026: Hernandez, 2nd: Clark; No discussion, no amendments, **Roll Call Vote Yes Unanimous. Motion Passes. Yes 11, No 0, Abstain 0.**

Motion to approve February 11, 2026 Commission Meeting Minutes: Hernandez, 2nd Egilske; No discussion, no amendments, **Voice Vote Yes Unanimous. Motion Passes. Yes 11, No 0, Abstain 0.**

Public Comments: None

President's Report: Eric Willard

- President Eric Willard welcomed the new VACWC 2026/2027 Delegates and Alternates: Scott Butram, Alternate, American Legion Post 288; Jeff Metheny, Alternate, VFW post 342; David Draeger, Delegate, American Legion Post 332; Julie Weis, Delegate, Blackhawk DAV Chapter 29; Darryl Cummings, Alternate, Blackhawk DAV Chapter 29; Juan Reyes, Alternate, Navy Ship Club 1; Jim Puckett, Alternate, VFW Post 9759; Ray Richmond, Delegate, American Legion Post 340; Willie Evans, Alternate, American Legion Post 340
- VAC Secretary Dana Verfuert presented and reviewed Commission Information Binders
- President Willard introduced new VAC Staff, VSO Shara Ibalio and Office Manager Michaela Kelliher.
- Attorney Mike Phillips spoke about the Annual Filing of Statements of Economic Interest.

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.
- Vice President Nancy Clark shared the current goals of the Bylaws Committee and invited new Commission Members to attending meetings, contribute expertise, and make collective decisions.

Finance Officer's Report: Jerome Egilske

- Fiscal year to date budget review done by Jerome Egilske.
- Finance Committee – Next Special Meeting (Budget) will be Monday, March 21 at 1:00PM CST, Veterans Memorial Hall, First Floor Conference Room.
- Commissioner Jerome Egilske shared the current goals of the Finance Committee and invited new Commission Members to attending meetings, contribute expertise, and make collective decisions.

Services Chairperson's Report: Dave Davis

- Services Committee – Next Meeting will be Monday, March 16, 2026 at 1:00 PM CST, Veterans Memorial Hall, First Floor Conference Room.
- Commissioner Dave Davis shared the current goals of the Services Committee and invited new Commission Members to attending meetings, contribute expertise, and make collective decisions.

Personnel Chairperson's Report: Rueben Hernandez

- Personnel Committee – Next Meeting will be Tuesday, May 26, 2026 at 2:00 PM CST, Veterans Memorial Hall, First Floor Conference Room.
- Commissioner Rueben Hernandez shared the current goals of the Services Committee and invited new Commission Members to attending meetings, contribute expertise, and make collective decisions.

Superintendent's Report: Interim Superintendent Willie Borden, Jr.

- Mr. Borden reported on the state of the VAC, including transportation, general assistance and staffing

Correspondence (None)

Unfinished Business (None)

New Business (None)

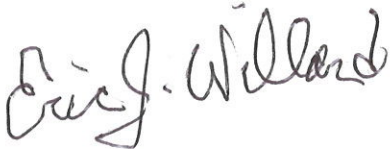
Announcements: Secretary Dana Verfuert

- Commissioner Ray Richmond shared that the students of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Academy have written letters of appreciation to Veterans and would like to distribute them to all MVSO's
- Commissioner 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

The Next VACWC Meeting will be on April 8, 2026 at 5:30 PM CST. 555 N. Court Street, Room 115, Rockford, IL 61103

Motion to Adjourn: Clark, 2nd Davis, no discussion, no amendments, **Voice Vote Yes Unanimous, Motion Approved at 7:34 PM CST. Yes 11, No 0, Abstain 0**

Minutes Approved: 4/8/2026

By: 

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

Attest: 

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

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