



**VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION
OF
WINNEBAGO COUNTY**

VACWC Commission Meeting Minutes
555 N. Court Street, Room 115, Rockford, IL 61103
August 12, 2026
5:30 PM CST
Eric Willard, President

Meeting Called to Order at 5:40 PM CST

Pledge of Allegiance lead by FS Tate

Moment of Silence lead by President Eric Willard

Roll Call Secretary Dana Verfuert

Roll Call Attendance			
American Legion Post #288	VanLandeghem, Ken	Delegate	Present
American Legion Post #288	Butram, Scott	Alternate	Not in attendance
American Legion Post #1207	Davis, Dave	Delegate	Present
American Legion Post #1207	Meissen, George	Alternate	Present
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
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
Vietnam Veterans of America #984	Egilske, Jerome	Delegate	Not in attendance
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	Not in attendance
American Legion Post #340	Richmond, Ray	Delegate	Present
American Legion Post #340	Evans, Willie	Alternate	Present

Additional Attendees: Interim Superintendent Dana Verfuert, Secretary Pro Tempore Attorney Michael Phillips.

Quorum Established: 17 Members, representing 11 MVSO's

Zoom Attendees: None

Motion to Approve Agenda for August 12, 2026: Holmes, 2nd: Lamay; No discussion, no amendments, **Voice Vote Yes Unanimous. Motion Passes. Yes 11, No 0, Abstain 0.**

Public Comments:

- Jeff Metheny: Commissioner Metheny spoke about proposed changes to the Bylaws Committee that have not been discussed, nor on the Agenda of the Committee.
- Valorie Corsolini: Ms. Corsolini spoke about her concerns regarding negligence and spending of taxpayer money by the Veteran's Assistance Commission of Winnebago County (VACWC).
- Kathy Easton: Ms. Easton presented a Formal Citizen's Petition – Petition of No Confidence in the Elected Officials, Commonly Referred to as the Executive Board, of the Veterans Assistance Commission of Winnebago County (VACWC).
- Willie Borden Jr.: Mr. Borden spoke about the positive impacts he had on the Veterans Assistance Commission while serving as Interim Superintendent and how he believed he was treated unfairly when the Commission voted to end his employment.
- Dick Watermolen: Mr. Watermolen spoke about the ineffective and questionable methods of the Veteran's Assistance Commission of Winnebago County (VACWC).

Superintendent's Report

- Interim Superintendent Dana Verfuert spoke about the VAC Staff and operations in the office.

President's Report

- President Willard spoke about the decline in membership and volunteers among the Military Veteran Service Organizations in Winnebago County.

Vice President's Report

- First Reading – Article V: Membership – Bylaws Amendment presented. Point of order was questioned by Commissioner Metheny, Dana Verfuert clarified that this Bylaws Amendment was distributed to all Commissioners at the July Commission Meeting.
- Commissioner Metheny questioned why the Bylaws Amendment that he proposed has yet to be seen by the Commission, Vice President Clark replied that it was under legal review.

Finance Officer's Report

- Attorney Phillips reported on the current finances of the VACWC, by presenting the YTD Budget Report. It was additionally reported that the Winnebago County Finance Department has asked the VAC to make cuts to the submitted budget.
- Commissioner Richmond voiced his concern over funds that had been set aside in a separate bank account, while the Commission voted to stop providing assistance to Veterans in need.

Services Chair's Report

- Next Services Committee Meeting is August 25, 2026 at 1:00PM at Veterans Memorial Hall

Personnel Chair's Report

- Next Personnel Committee Meeting is August 25, 2026 at 2:00PM at Veterans Memorial Hall

Unfinished Business:

- Commissioner Richmond spoke about how the Audit Committee was established; he highlighted that the current VACWC President appointed himself the Chair of the Committee. Richmond then suggested that the whole Commission should have say in who is on the Audit Committee.
- Richmond questioned a purchase of a 3D printer two years ago. President Willard replied that the printer was purchased through the VAC with VAC funds in order to assist Veterans in obtaining skills for employment.

New Business: None

Correspondence

- Interim Superintendent Dana Verfuert read a letter from a Veteran praising the VAC Staff in helping to obtain benefits.

Announcements: August 30, 2026, Navy Club Ship 1 Corn Boil

The Next VACWC Meeting will be on September 12, 2026 at 5:30 PM CST.

Motion to Adjourn: Holmes, 2nd Weis, no discussion, no amendments, **Voice Vote Yes Unanimous, Motion Approved at 7:33 PM CST. Yes 11, No 0, Abstain 0**

Minutes Approved: *Sep 9, 2026* **APPROVED**

By:

SEP 09 2026
VAC of Winn Co, IL

Attest:

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

Attorney Michael Phillips, Secretary Pro Tempore
Veterans Assistance Commission of Winnebago County, IL