

Location: Veteran Assistance

Date: 9/10/2025

See attached Roll Call for Full Attendance: Motion to approve roll call 17 Yeas

Absent: Jerry Goodwin & Jim Billings (A/L Post 227)

Excused:

Parris provided update on DD 214 issuance. If not deployed service member will be issued a DD 214-1. Update/ Changes of DD214 is issued on DD 215. (i.e. name change, duty station, medals information)

UPDATE MEMBERS:

AMERICAN LEGION POST 246 Jack Achs-Alt Delegate

VFW POST 2153-Jack Smith-Delegate

Prior minutes from August 2025: 1st motion to approve: Edward Klundt; 2nd motion to approve: Jack Brown

June minutes were approved. Motion to approve July 2025 minutes: 1st motion to approve: Edward Kundt 2nd by Jeff Meincke.

Budget review: Financial statement read by treasurer Kevin Kilkenny. Motion to approve 1st: Terry Young; 2nd motion Brad Oliver (motion to approve is subject to audit)

Dennis asked was the items that are 100 and 121% being adjusted: Parris notified commission there was \$8000 moved over from food to utilities for adjusting the budget. Emergency Relief & Med Equipment Fund reviewed, no funds utilized in the month of August 2025.

Motion to approve: 1st motion to approve by Dennis Johnson; 2nd motion to approve Kevin Kastelice.

Monthly County Relief Report

Vouchers issued in 2025 have surpass the issued amount in 2024, except for Food vouchers.

Parris discussed the different task the VAC staff completes from VSO to Admin Assists. Non-Financial Assistance is completed by front desk staff, which includes assisting with paperwork, making appointments, requesting summary of benefits letters, assisting with requesting dd 214, and other tasks.

Motion to approve: 1st motion to approve by Jack Achs; 2nd motion to approve by Roger Oliver.

Minor discussion. Vote conducted: 17 Yeas.

VETPRO data for August 2025: 2nd highest month for Compensation Awards payments. July 2025 was the 1st highest. Total activity for 2106. Damion and Brian have been filing claims and are scheduled about 2 weeks out. Currently 6 VSOs available to assist veterans.

Old Business: Nominations for Vice President and Chaplain.

New Business:

Guest Speaker: Shawn Slavish from ILARNG (Illinois active and reserve National Guard)- His position is the Military and family Readiness Specialist. He assists active duty with different family events, support groups, send personnel over to VAC to get assistance as needed, outreach, attend meetings to share the word about the different events within the community, and job events for veterans to find jobs. As a NG representative, he is one of 14 personnel throughout Illinois, that assist throughout the state in multiple areas. There are approximately 100 NG members from IL servicing thought-out the world that have been activated.

Kevin Kilkenny was nominated for Vice President: 1st nomination Kevin Kastelic; 2nd nomination Roger Oliver.

Emergency Fund donations: Veterans donate to fund, that assists with emergency situations for veterans.

Upcoming by-law reviews: Brad and Parris are updating the current by-laws. Some protocols are outdated and need to better fit us as an organization. By laws will be ready for review by the commission in the near future.

Brad and Parris will be attending the RI County Board Meeting in October. Objectives are to keep board inform of the things VAC does, share what is needed and how things impact the veterans and develop relationship with board. At February 202 meeting provide annual report that shows how many veterans were assisted for 2025 and future expansion for assistance in the future.

VET center and VAC MOU was signed last week. Plans to start executing in November2025. Jason and Cory will be there twice a month. The center provides mental health counseling, assist veterans with claims for certain claims, are part of VA Health Care, assist with stand downs, and services are free.

Outreach changes within the VA Health Center, VET Center, and Vetnet, days being decided.

Brad and Parris will be attending Bridging the Gap on September 26, 2025. Parris will be presenting a presentation at the American Legion. Brad and Parris are attending IDES Success Fair on November 13, 2025.

Anonymous Grateful God Star Banquet summary of accomplishments will be this coming weekend, Cory will attend.

Vet Fest: September13, 2025, at LaClaire Park in Davenport IA: 5k race, rut run, vendors and some wrestling events. VAC staff will be attending: Parris and Jason 1pm-4pm & Damion and Maria 49m-8pm.

Cory: Bring to Light event: Monthly meeting for veterans, hang out with veterans, eat and correspond.

Letter received from Post 246 for Jason's presentation last month, great presentation per Jack Achs, Commander of Post.

Other Business:

Parris: National Conference being attend yearly. NETVSO has apparel available for VSO.

As of 7/2025, there were approximately 180,000 claims back logged and is the lowest ever. Some claims have been denied without correct process. Process time has decreased from 130 days to 94 days from a few months ago. Medical records are the #1 reason connected to claims. Military Orders are another way to locate areas veterans served.

Death Summary Report: Reviewed. Motion to approved: 1st motion to approve Dennis Johnson; 2nd motion to approve Edward Klundt.

Motion to adjourn: 1st Dennis Johnson 2nd Edward Klundt

Approved October 10, 2025

Gerald E. Goodwin