

McHenry County Veterans Assistance Commission

Minutes of the General Meeting

28 November 2018

called the meeting of the Veterans Assistance Commission to order at 1911 Hours in Conference Room 209I, at the McHenry County Administration Building, 667 Ware Road, Woodstock, Illinois 60098..

Secretary, **Michael Wisniewski called the roll.** A quorum of officers and a quorum of 9 delegates and alternates representing 9 posts or organizations were present.

Officer's present: (*Appointed)

Chairman	Joseph Kersten	Sr. Vice Chairman	Patrick Conley
Jr. Vice Chairman	Frank Steckleberg		
Judge Advocate	Harry Van Beetz	Sergeant At Arms	Excused
McHenry County Board Rep.	Tom Wilbeck	Parliamentarian*	Harry Van Beetz
Chaplain*	Eugene Boxlietner	IACVAC Delegate*	Patrick Conley
IACVAC Alternate*	Lee Totman	Secretary*	Michael Wisniewski

Posts Represented:

American Legion	#119 Fox River Grove Del <input type="checkbox"/> Alt <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	#171 Crystal Lake Del <input type="checkbox"/> Alt <input type="checkbox"/>
	#192 Marengo Del <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alt <input type="checkbox"/>	#253 Richmond Del <input type="checkbox"/> Alt <input type="checkbox"/>
	#265 Harvard Del <input type="checkbox"/> Alt <input type="checkbox"/>	#276 Cary Del <input type="checkbox"/> Alt <input type="checkbox"/>
	#412 Woodstock Del <input type="checkbox"/> Alt <input type="checkbox"/>	#491 McHenry Del <input type="checkbox"/> Alt <input type="checkbox"/>
	#606 Hebron Del <input type="checkbox"/> Alt <input type="checkbox"/>	#673 Huntley Del <input type="checkbox"/> Alt <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	#1231 Lake In the Hills Del <input type="checkbox"/> Alt <input type="checkbox"/>	Cooties Put Tent #79 Del <input type="checkbox"/> Alt <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	AMVETS	#245 Cary-Grove Del <input type="checkbox"/> Alt <input type="checkbox"/>
Veterans Of Foreign Wars	#4600 McHenry Del <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alt <input type="checkbox"/>	#5040 Woodstock Del <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alt <input type="checkbox"/>
	#12014 Crystal Lake Del <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alt <input type="checkbox"/>	#11496 Johnsburg Del <input type="checkbox"/> Alt <input type="checkbox"/>
Sad Sacks 0962 Del <input type="checkbox"/> Alt <input type="checkbox"/>	Student Veterans Association Del <input type="checkbox"/> Alt <input type="checkbox"/>	
Marine Corps League Del <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alt <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Polish Legion Del <input type="checkbox"/> Alt <input type="checkbox"/>	VietNow Del <input type="checkbox"/> Alt <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Guests	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mr. Don Curfman, McHenry County College Student Veteran Liaison. 2. Peter Austin, County Administrator 	

Officers Remarks:

There were no officer's remarks.

Routine Reports:

The October Minutes: Copies of the October minutes were made available to all delegates and alternates. The motion to accept the October minutes as presented was made by Patrick Conley (A.L. Post #673) and seconded by Frank Steckelberg (A.L. Post #119). The motion was passed by unanimous vote.

VAC October Financial Report: Copies of the October 2018 Year to Date Financial Report and October Financial Report were made available to all delegates and alternates.

The VAC Office addressed 45 requests for financial assistance to 11 unique clients for a total of \$3,987.44 in Veterans Assistance during October. The office submitted 37 new Claims to the US Department of Veterans Affairs during October, and a year to date total of 398 applications for VA Disability and Pension Claims. Year to Date the VAC has successfully prosecuted 198 outstanding claims for a total benefit to our local veterans of \$2,137,019. This equates to \$6.74 coming back to our veterans for each VAC budget dollar spent. The VAC used 47.28% of the allotted funds in the VAC budget up through October. This is less than the 91.67% allotted in the VAC budget up through October. The allotted budget is \$671,037.00 and the 2018 tax levy was \$325,000.00. The VAC may need to draw up to \$55,740.45 from the reserve fund as the projected budget usage may exceed the \$325,000.00 tax levy by that amount. Frank Steckelberg (AL Post #119) made the motion to accept the October VAC financial reports as read. Mike Wisniewski (MOC P.T. #79) seconded the motion. The motion was passed by unanimous vote.

Public Participation:

- 1) Mr. Don Curfman reported that 20 veteran students will graduate from McHenry County College on December 15th 2018. VAC VSO Victor Samoza has registered a number of veteran students with the VA Burn Pit Registry. Many veterans have not used their VA Educational Benefit entitlements. The college has 236 veteran students enrolled. The 2019 VA Veteran Benefit Open Forum is slated on September 18th 2019 at the MCC Black Box Theater
- 2) Peter Austin discussed the McHenry County Government salary structure for non-union employees that went into effect on July 18th, 2018. This salary structure was not implemented for VAC office employees. The Commission wants the McHenry County Board to begin compensating the VAC Superintendent at the midpoint of the 16E market midpoint level (\$86,023), however the McHenry County Board balked at this and had tabled the motion during the November board meeting. The County Board is also balking at adjusting the pay of the VAC office staff.

Correspondence:

- 1) One item received.

Committee Reports:

Executive Board Meeting: No report.

By-Laws: No Report.

Corporate Report: The VAC Inc held their regular monthly meeting prior to the regular meeting.

Public Relations Committee: No report.

Report of IACVAC Delegates: No report.

Superintendents Report:

- 1) The VAC Superintendent met with the realtors association about issues arising from property sales to veteran buyers. These issues are related to real estate tax payments that are prorated to the year of the property sale to the veteran and whether the realtor clearly informed the buyer on the terms of the prorated tax payments.
- 2) The VAC Superintendent remarked about veteran related issues such as real estate tax exemptions for veterans with VA disability ratings.
- 3) The VAC VSO1 was recognized for his daughters work with the Golden Corral sponsored Camp Corral program. Also, he is one member of a group of 200 veterans being honored at as part of the State's Bicentennial, and the Honor 200 Program.
- 4) Volunteers are sought by the Journey Care Organization for to participate in resident veterans recognition events (pinning ceremonies) at the Journey Care Hospices.

Chairman Joe Kersten opened the floor to Old Business.

- 1) The VAC office staff compensation study update is the McHenry county board is balking in paying qualified senior VAC staff members at the salary midpoint levels but may opt to adjust all VAC office employee pay to the entry level pay at their respective job positions. The Commission is emphatic on having competitive wages for the retention of certified VSO personnel. (spoiler alert---the IDVA is seeking to hire our VSO staffers to fill job vacancies with the starting salaries of \$41,000 for untrained VSO's)
- 2) Patrick Conley (A.L. Post #673) made the motion for the Commission to pursue the midpoint salary of the 16E paygrade (\$86,023 per annum) for the compensation for the present VAC Superintendent. Harry Van Beetz (VFW Post #12014) seconded the motion. The motion was passed by unanimous vote.
- 3) The VAC is sending out VAC Service Surveys to veterans who used VAC services or are using them. The surveys are looking for feedback on correcting veteran service gaps in veteran support services.
- 4) The VAC office is seeking to conduct stakeholder meetings with the veteran community to discuss the results of the feedback on the VAC Service Surveys.
- 5) The IACVAC community will be affected by the changes statewide to the various county board memberships and the need to indoctrination the new board members on how things work.

Chairman Joe Kersten opened the floor to New Business:

- 1) Chairman, Joe Kersten turned the floor over to Eugene Boxlietner for the reopening of the nomination of candidates to run for VAC officers for the 2019 to 2021 term of office IAW the VAC By-Law Article VI, Section 4 through Section 9. Here is the slate of candidates: Chairman--Joseph Kersten Junior Vice Chairman--Frank Steckleberg Judge Advocate----Harry VanBeetz. The nomination process was closed, with the motion for the secretary to cast the single voice vote to elect all unopposed candidates into their respective offices by Eugene Boxlietner (A.L Post #192). The motion was passed by unanimous vote.
- 2) The Secretary formally cast the single oral vote to elect all unopposed candidates into their respective offices for the 2019 to 2021 term.
- 3) Lee Totman (MCL) made the motion for the Commission to retain the services of Michael Iwanicki as the VAC Superintendent for the 2019 fiscal year. Charles Chapman seconded the motion. The motion was passed by unanimous vote.
- 4) Eugene Boxlietner (A.L. #192) made the motion to make two commission office appointments for the 2019 fiscal year. The two offices are Secretary (Michael Wisniewski) and Chaplain Eugene Boxlietner). The motion was passed by unanimous vote.

5) There will be no Executive Board Meeting during December.

Chairman Joe Kersten opened the floor for the good of the association.

- 1) The VAC Superintendent attended the ceremony of the lighting of the Woodstock Square.
- 2) The VAC staff wishes to all the happy holidays and a happy New Year.

The Benediction: Chaplain, Eugene Boxlietner gave the Benediction.

The Colors were saluted.

Chairman, Joseph Kersten adjourned the meeting at 2033 Hours.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael F Wisniewski

Michael F. Wisniewski

(Electronically Signed)

Superintendents September Financial Report – November 28, 2018

Financial Report Highlights for the Month of October 2018

Veterans Assistance Expenditures

Auditor

VetraSpec

	Month		Year To Date	
	Financial Granted	Requests	Financial Granted	Requests
Food	\$ 100.00	4	\$ 2,025.00	81
Housing	\$ 3,249.00	6	\$ 33,483.95	67
Utilities	\$ 191.02	5	\$ 10,266.92	89
Indp Living	\$ 360.00	1	\$ 5,003.29	16
Gasoline	\$ -	0	\$ -	0
Transportation	\$ 87.42	30	\$ 328.23	106
Total	\$ 3,987.44	46	\$ 51,107.39	359
Total Requests Denied		1		11
Total Requests		17		264
Unique Clients		11		142

Applicants Township		
Township	Monthly Total	YTD Total
Alden	\$ -	\$ -
Algonquin	\$ 804.02	\$ 11,459.75
Burton	\$ -	\$ 622.72
Chemung	\$ 502.00	\$ 6,015.50
Coral	\$ -	\$ -
Dorr	\$ -	\$ 5,303.87
Dunham	\$ -	\$ 50.00
Grafton	\$ 300.00	\$ 2,700.00
Greenwood	\$ -	\$ 1,778.00
Hartland	\$ -	\$ -
Hebron	\$ 951.44	\$ 8,372.59
Marengo	\$ -	\$ -
McHenry	\$ 1,332.00	\$ 10,928.69
Nunda	\$ -	\$ 0.00
Richmond	\$ 502.00	\$ 3,401.36
Riley	\$ -	\$ -
Seneca	\$ -	\$ 564.12
Totals	\$ 4,391.46	\$ 51,196.60
Total Townships	6	12

	Month		Year to Date	
	Financial Granted	Requests	Financial Granted	Requests
Gas	\$ 65.63	2	\$ 2,706.83	25
Electric	\$ 85.39	2	\$ 5,338.37	30
Phone	\$ 40.00	1	\$ 723.64	19
Water / Sewer	\$ -	0	\$ 1,160.29	10
Garbage	\$ -	0	\$ 337.79	5
Total Utility	\$ 191.02	5	\$ 10,266.92	89

Total Expenditures

Month	Year to Date
\$ 19,581.26	\$ 317,283.71

Projected Annual	\$ 380,740.45
Less: Funded by Levy	\$ 325,000.00
Projected Reserve Add (Use)	\$ (55,740.45)

VA Disability and Pension Claims

	Month	Year to Date
New VA Claims	37	398
VA Paperwork Processed	275	3192
VA Claims Awarded 2018		198
New Claims \$\$ Awarded 2018		\$ 2,137,019
VA Award Ratio to VAC Total Expense (per \$1)		\$ 6.74
4 Year Cummulative Awards 2018 Value		\$ 10,153,647

VAC Lovell FHCC Transportation Service

VA Hospital Applications Year to Date 79

	Month	Annual
Miles	2374	25089
Passengers	182	2311
Driver Cost	\$ 2,829.06	\$ 38,860.54
Dispatch-Adm	\$ 2,309.47	\$ 23,094.69
Vehicle Cost	\$ 1,425.35	\$ 11,369.06
Total	\$ 6,563.88	\$ 73,324.29
Cost per Rider	\$ 36.07	\$ 31.73
Goal Cost per Rider is <	\$ 35.00	
Bus Fund	\$ 5,728.02	

Superintendents September Financial Report – November 28, 2018

Year to Date

Personnel		91.67%					
Line No.	Line Item	Budgeted	Expended	Remaining	% Exp.	% Rem.	Projected
3010	Salaries	\$ 211,283.00	\$ 125,601.50	\$ 85,681.50	59.4%	40.6%	\$ 137,019.82
3020	Part Time	\$ -	\$ 7,801.78	\$ (7,801.78)	0.0%	0.0%	\$ 8,511.03
3025	Holiday Pay	\$ 11,120.00	\$ 4,028.79	\$ 7,091.21	36.2%	63.8%	\$ 4,395.04
3030	Per Diem	\$ 55,003.00	\$ 22,109.19	\$ 32,893.81	40.2%	59.8%	\$ 24,119.12
3040	Over Time Salaries	\$ 500.00	\$ 275.62	\$ 224.38	55.1%	44.9%	\$ 300.68
3050	Merit Pool	\$ 6,242.00	\$ -	\$ 6,242.00	0.0%	100.0%	\$ -
3100	Uniform All.	\$ 350.00	\$ 29.00	\$ 321.00	8.3%	91.7%	\$ 31.64
3105	SS/Co. Share	\$ 21,737.00	\$ 10,469.58	\$ 11,267.42	48.2%	51.8%	\$ 11,421.36
3110	IMRF	\$ 22,829.00	\$ 10,165.09	\$ 12,663.91	44.5%	55.5%	\$ 11,089.19
3146	Hlth. Ins.	\$ 72,463.00	\$ 21,709.15	\$ 50,753.85	30.0%	70.0%	\$ 23,682.71
Personnel		\$ 401,527.00	\$ 202,189.70	\$ 199,337.30	50.36%	49.64%	\$ 220,570.58
Contractual & Assistance		Budgeted	Expended	Remaining	% Exp.	% Rem.	
4001	Contract Service	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 2,900.00	\$ 1,100.00	72.5%	27.5%	\$ 3,163.64
4005	Dues/Mbrshps	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 724.00	\$ 276.00	72.4%	27.6%	\$ 789.82
4006	Training	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 1,365.00	\$ 435.00	75.8%	24.2%	\$ 1,489.09
4008	Subscriptions	\$ 250.00	\$ 174.20	\$ 75.80	69.7%	30.3%	\$ 190.04
4034	Specific Insurance	\$ 11,000.00	\$ 8,920.20	\$ 2,079.80	81.1%	18.9%	\$ 9,731.13
4045	Directors Insurance	\$ 5,500.00	\$ 4,280.00	\$ 1,220.00	77.8%	22.2%	\$ 4,669.09
4055	Contract Printing	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 1,058.64	\$ 1,441.36	42.3%	57.7%	\$ 1,154.88
4060	Legal Note/Adv.	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 755.75	\$ 1,744.25	30.2%	69.8%	\$ 824.45
4096	Telecomm.	\$ 1,600.00	\$ 943.89	\$ 656.11	59.0%	41.0%	\$ 1,029.70
4200	Vets Assist	\$ 180,000.00	\$ 51,955.39	\$ 128,044.61	28.9%	71.1%	\$ 56,678.61
4246	Medical Service	\$ 750.00	\$ 580.00	\$ 170.00	77.3%	22.7%	\$ 632.73
4251	PreEmp Physical	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	\$ -
4306	Vehicle Maint. *	\$ 7,500.00	\$ 5,191.60	\$ 2,308.40	69.2%	30.8%	\$ 5,663.56
4321	Software Maint.	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 1,745.00	\$ 55.00	96.9%	3.1%	\$ 1,903.64
4370	Legal Services	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 131.25	\$ 868.75	13.1%	86.9%	\$ 143.18
Contractual		\$ 221,200.00	\$ 80,593.67	\$ 139,606.33	36.43%	63.11%	\$ 87,920.37
Supplies & Equipment		Budgeted	Expended	Remaining	% Exp.	% Rem.	
5010	Off. Supplies	\$ 1,300.00	\$ 763.58	\$ 536.42	58.7%	41.3%	\$ 833.00
5020	Off. Equip.	\$ 750.00	\$ 305.00	\$ 445.00	40.7%	59.3%	\$ 332.73
5040	Mileage	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,352.40	\$ 647.60	67.6%	32.4%	\$ 1,475.35
5050	Mtg. Exp.	\$ 9,500.00	\$ 4,758.90	\$ 4,741.10	50.1%	49.9%	\$ 5,191.53
5071	Promo Items	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00	0.0%	100.0%	\$ -
5115	Comp. Hardware	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	\$ -
5125	Comp. Software	\$ 500.00	\$ -	\$ 500.00	0.0%	100.0%	\$ -
5160	POL *	\$ 6,500.00	\$ 3,277.46	\$ 3,222.54	50.4%	49.6%	\$ 3,575.41
5210	Publications	\$ 100.00	\$ -	\$ 100.00	0.0%	100.0%	\$ -
5251	Promo Events	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 275.00	\$ 1,225.00	18%	82%	\$ 300.00
Equipment		\$ 23,150.00	\$ 10,732.34	\$ 12,417.66	46.36%	53.64%	\$ 11,708.01
Other		Budgeted	Expended	Remaining	% Exp.	% Rem.	
6020	Vehicle	\$ 24,600.00	\$ 23,768.00	\$ 832.00	96.6%	3.4%	\$ 25,928.73
6810	Fund Bal. Enh.	\$ 560.00	\$ -	\$ 560.00	0.0%	100.0%	\$ -
Totals		\$ 671,037.00	\$ 317,283.71	\$ 352,753.29	47.28%	52.57%	\$ 346,127.68

*Transit Grant \$2,500 added to budget

October 2018 Reconciliation

October Auditor *				\$ 3,887.44
	Less			
	Volunteer / Taxi Transportation		\$ (87.42)	
	Food Vouchers		\$ -	
	September Assistance	G1781-20	\$ (613.00)	
			\$ -	\$ (700.42)
				\$ 3,187.02
	Add:			
	Food Issued		\$ 100.00	
	Outstanding Fuel		\$ -	
	Awaiting Payment	J8647-34	\$ 250.09	
		J8647-30	\$ 133.57	
		J8647-31	\$ 23.95	
		J8647-33	\$ 83.83	
		G1781-20	\$ 613.00	\$ 1,204.44
				\$ 4,391.46
September 4200 VetraSpec				
* Total does not include food vouchers issued.				