

McHenry County Veterans Assistance Commission

Minutes of the General Meeting

16 October 2019

Chairman, Joseph Kersten called the meeting of the Veterans Assistance Commission to order at 1908 Hours in Conference Room 104A, 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 12 delegates and alternates representing 10 posts or organizations were present.

Officer's present: (*Appointed)

Chairman	Joseph Kersten	Sr. Vice Chairman	Patrick Conley
Jr. Vice Chairman	Excused		
Judge Advocate	Excused	Sergeant At Arms	Jim Koch
McHenry County Board Rep.	Tom Wilbeck	Parliamentarian*	Excused
Chaplain*	Eugene Boxlietner	IACVAC Delegate*	Patrick Conley
IACVAC Alternate*	Excused	Secretary*	Michael Wisniewski

Posts Represented:

American Legion	#119 Fox River Grove Del <input type="checkbox"/> Alt <input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	#491 McHenry Del <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alt <input type="checkbox"/>
	#606 Hebron Del <input type="checkbox"/> Alt <input type="checkbox"/>	#673 Huntley Del <input checked="" 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 checked="" 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 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 type="checkbox"/> Alt <input type="checkbox"/>	Polish Legion Del <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alt <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	VietNow Del <input type="checkbox"/> Alt <input type="checkbox"/>
Guests	1. Raymond Rigbsby VFW McHenry Post #4600 2. Mrs. Laura Frantz TLS Veterans. 3. Mr. Mike Buehler TLS Veterans. 4. W. Marty Schmidt MCL. 5. Randall Patterson, AL McHenry Post #491. .	

Officers Remarks: Chairman, Joe Kersten thanked the Commission members in attending the October County Board Meeting. He advised that any delegate and other veteran who attend future County Board meetings show proper courtesy in not disrupting the meeting by making a noisy departure. If the delegate/veteran waits to leave at the end of the County Board Meeting, they can meet with their county representatives to discuss the topics under the meeting agenda and topics related to the VAC.

Routine Reports:

The September Minutes: Copies of the September minutes were made available to all delegates and alternates. The motion to accept the September minutes as presented was made by Neal Donner (AMVETS Cary Grove Post # 245) and seconded by John Widmayer (VFW Woodstock Post #5040). The motion was passed by unanimous vote.

VAC September Financial Report: Copies of the September 2019 Year to Date Financial Report and September Financial Report were made available to all delegates and alternates.

The VAC Office addressed 18 requests for financial assistance to 11 unique clients for a total of \$3,522.31 in Veterans Assistance during September. The office submitted 26 new Claims to the US Department of Veterans Affairs during September. Year to Date the VAC has successfully prosecuted 132 outstanding claims for a total benefit to our local veterans of \$1,989,172. This equates to \$5.59 coming back to our veterans for each VAC budget dollar spent. The VAC used 59.44% of the allotted funds in the VAC budget up through September. This is less than the 83.33% allotted in the VAC budget up through September. The allotted budget is \$598,909.00 and the 2018 tax levy was \$400,000.00. The VAC may need to draw up to \$27,190.72 from the reserve fund as the projected budget usage may exceed the \$400,000.00 tax levy by that amount. Neal Donner (AMVET Cary Grove Post #245) made the motion to accept the September VAC financial reports as read. John Widmayer (VFW Woodstock Post #5040) seconded the motion. The motion was passed by unanimous vote.

Public Participation:

1. Raymond Rigsby, VFW McHenry Post #4600.
2. Mrs. Laura Frantz, TLS Veterans.
3. Mr. Mike Buhler, TLS Veterans.
- W Marty Schmidt, USMC.
- Randall Patterson, AL McHenry Post #491.

Correspondence:

No correspondence.

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 VAC General Meeting.

Public Relations Committee: No report.

Report of IACVAC Delegates: The state IACVAC has assembled a legal team together to deal with VAC office issues at both county and state levels.

Superintendents Report:

- 1) The VAC Superintendent attended no public events.

Chairman Joe Kersten opened the floor to Old Business.

- 1) Legal Issues Update: The tabled County Resolution had not been acted in by the McHenry County board although the freshmen county board members asked about the topic.

- 2) The county IT Gurus have accomplished the following actions to make the VAC forms available in the county software suite: A. New website forms are on line to the VAC users. These forms are basic eligibility worksheets and to help determine veteran eligibility for financial eligibility.
- 3) The VAC is locked out of the IDVA loop. The VAC is seeking to get a formal agreement document on how the IDVA is to work with the VAC. This would include guidelines for the IDVA VSO in working with the VAC VSO staff.
- 4) The new minivan is on the road! The next step is to get it detailed.
- 5) The Dole Foundation is interested in this Caregiver Relief 'CRVA' program. The Foundation is asking for our help to make the County a Hidden Heroes County. Don Smolenski (AL Huntley #673) made the motion and Charlie Chapman seconded to work with the "Hidden Heroes" Resolution by submitting it to the McHenry county government. The motion was passed by unanimous vote.
- 6) The McHenry County Government is reviewing the 2020 VAC Budget proposal. The proposed budget is fairly lean and is unable to be pared down further. Per the 2012 agreement, the VAC had reduced the excess reserve from a high of 26 months to a predicted 5.3 months by the end of 2019.
- 7) The VAC is applying for a grant from the Illinois Veterans Lottery Fund.

Chairman Joe Kersten opened the floor to New Business:

- 1) The VHA is responsible in paying Emergency Room bills if they apply to critical care treatments (cardiac arrests) but may not cover "normal emergencies such as broken bones.
- 2) The VA requirement to process the Vietnam era Agent Orange Blue Water Navy disability claims now include areas up to 80 miles offshore of Vietnam. Blue Water Veterans are encouraged to contact the office. (815)334-4229
- 3) The time has come to follow the yearly requirement of nominating and election of the elective officers of the Commission IAW the VAC By-Laws Article VI. The offices requiring nominations and elections are for Senior Vice Chairman and for Sergeant-At-Arms. The nominations were opened by Chairman. Joe Kersten for the office of Senior Vice Chairman. The nominee was Patrick Conley (He accepted the nomination). The nomination of a candidate for the Sergeant-At-Arms. was for Jim Koch to retain the office (He accepted the nomination). Chairman, Joe Kersten closed the nominations until the November VAC meeting. The commission will decide on the reinstatement of the present VAC Superintendent and the appointment of three office positions.

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

1. The attendance of the McHenry County Board Meeting by interested veterans was reviewed by Raymond Rigsby. He recommended a few tips on how to make the meetings to work in our favor and on proper guest etiquette. (View Officers Comments)
2. The Student Veterans Association of McHenry County College will host a Veterans Day Rally on Friday, November 8th, 2019 at 0900 Hours.

The Benediction: Chaplain, Eugene Boxlietner gave the Benediction.

The Colors were saluted.

Chairman, Joseph Kersten adjourned the meeting at 2018 Hours.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael F Wisniewski

Michael F. Wisniewski

(Electronically Signed)

Superintendents Financial Report For September 2019

Financial Report Highlights for the Month of September 2019

Veterans Assistance Expenditures

Worksheet

	Month		Year To Date	
	Financial Granted	Requests	Fianncial Granted	Requests
Emergency Shelter	\$ -	0	\$ 4,889.20	4
Indp Living	\$ 3,102.31	8	\$ 28,282.56	65
Utilities	\$ -	0	\$ 1,990.26	66
Gasoline	\$ 333.10	5	\$ 5,176.11	66
Transportation	\$ -	0	\$ -	0
Food	\$ 36.90	0	\$ 1,169.80	120
Total	\$ 50.00	2	\$ 675.00	27
Total	\$ 3,522.31	15	\$ 42,182.93	348
Total Requests Denied		0		5
Total Requests		18		353
Unique Clients		11		111

VetraSpec

Total Assistance Granted By Applicants Township		
Township	Monthly Total	YTD Total
Alden	\$ -	\$ -
Algonquin	\$ 1,430.27	\$ 16,301.47
Burton	\$ -	\$ -
Chemung	\$ 752.80	\$ 3,628.43
Coral	\$ -	\$ -
Dorr	\$ 514.00	\$ 2,138.00
Dunham	\$ -	\$ -
Grafton	\$ 258.87	\$ 4,667.87
Greenwood	\$ -	\$ -
Hartland	\$ -	\$ -
Hebron	\$ -	\$ 4,187.31
Marengo	\$ -	\$ -
McHenry	\$ -	\$ 226.70
Nunda	\$ 483.04	\$ 6,049.27
Richmond	\$ 46.43	\$ 3,311.63
Riley	\$ -	\$ -
Seneca	\$ -	\$ -
Totals	\$ 3,485.41	\$ 40,510.68
Total Townships	6	8

	Month		Year to Date	
	Financial Granted	Requests	Financial Granted	Requests
Electric	\$ 112.31	2	\$ 1,223.35	18
Gas Heat	\$ 123.85	2	\$ 1,624.19	19
Phone	\$ -	0	\$ 359.84	9
Trash	\$ -	0	\$ 447.19	7
Water / Sewer	\$ 96.94	1	\$ 1,521.54	13
Total Utility	\$ 333.10	5	\$ 5,176.11	66

Total Expenditures

Month	Year to Date
\$ 39,487.76	\$ 355,992.27
Projected Annual	\$ 427,190.72
Less: Funded by Levy	\$ 400,000.00
Projected Reserve Add (Use)	\$ (27,190.72)

VA Disability and Pension Claims

	Month	Year to Date
New VA Claims	26	331
VA Paperwork Processed	330	3155
VA Claims Awarded 2019		132
New Claims \$\$ Awarded 2019		\$ 1,989,172
VA Award Ratio to VAC Total Expense (per \$1)		\$ 5.59
4 Year Cummulative Awards 2019 Value		\$ 10,068,560

VAC Lovell FHCC Transportation Service

VA Hospital Applications Year to Date

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	Month	Annual
Miles	3032	24079
Passengers	226	2119
Driver Cost	\$ 4,243.42	\$ 39,439.88
Dispatch-Adm	\$ 2,277.93	\$ 22,779.38
Vehicle Cost	\$ 355.39	\$ 6,703.90
Total	\$ 6,876.74	\$ 68,923.16
Cost per Rider	\$ 30.43	\$ 32.53
Goal Cost per Rider is <	\$ 35.00	
Bus Fund	\$ 8,931.02	

Superintendents Financial Report For September 2019

Year to Date

Personnel					83.33%		
Line No.	Line Item	Budgeted	Expended	Remaining	% Exp.	% Rem.	Projected
301010	Salaries	\$ 215,130.00	\$ 171,363.84	\$ 43,766.16	79.7%	20.3%	\$ 205,636.61
302010	Part Time	\$ 0.00	\$ -	\$ 0.00	0.0%	100.0%	\$ -
302510	Holiday Pay	\$ 11,323.00	\$ 3,362.31	\$ 7,960.69	29.7%	70.3%	\$ 4,034.77
303010	Per Diem	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 30,913.53	\$ 19,086.47	61.8%	38.2%	\$ 37,096.24
304010	Over Time Salaries	\$ 750.00	\$ -	\$ 750.00	0.0%	100.0%	\$ -
305010	Merit Pool	\$ 0.00	\$ -	\$ 0.00	0.0%	100.0%	\$ -
310010	Uniform All.	\$ 350.00	\$ -	\$ 350.00	0.0%	100.0%	\$ -
310510	Social Security	\$ 17,598.00	\$ 12,410.27	\$ 5,187.73	70.5%	29.5%	\$ 14,892.32
310610	Medicare	\$ 4,116.00	\$ 2,867.22	\$ 1,248.78	69.7%	30.3%	\$ 3,440.66
311010	IMRF	\$ 17,998.00	\$ 14,007.00	\$ 3,991.00	77.8%	22.2%	\$ 16,808.40
314610	Health Insurance	\$ 37,584.00	\$ 36,296.47	\$ 1,287.53	96.6%	3.4%	\$ 43,555.76
Personnel		\$ 354,849.00	\$ 271,220.64	\$ 83,628.36	76.43%	23.57%	\$ 325,464.77
Contractural & Assistance		Budgeted	Expended	Remaining	% Exp.	% Rem.	
400100	Contract Service	\$ 3,750.00	\$ 1,699.00	\$ 2,051.00	45.3%	54.7%	\$ 2,038.80
400500	Dues/Memberships	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 670.00	\$ 330.00	67.0%	33.0%	\$ 804.00
400600	Training	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,695.00	\$ 305.00	84.8%	15.3%	\$ 2,034.00
400800	Subscriptions	\$ 250.00	\$ 174.20	\$ 75.80	69.7%	30.3%	\$ 209.04
402300	Professional Services	\$ 0.00	\$ -	\$ 0.00	0.0%	100.0%	\$ -
403034	Specific Insurance	\$ 11,000.00	\$ 8,952.00	\$ 2,048.00	81.4%	18.6%	\$ 10,742.40
403050	Directors Insurance	\$ 5,500.00	\$ 5,230.00	\$ 270.00	95.1%	4.9%	\$ 6,276.00
404915	PreEmp Physical	\$ 700.00	\$ -	\$ 700.00	0.0%	100.0%	\$ -
405500	Contract Printing	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 294.83	\$ 2,205.17	11.8%	88.2%	\$ 353.80
406000	Legal Note/Adv.	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,104.00	\$ (104.00)	103.5%	-3.5%	\$ 3,724.80
409600	Telecommunications	\$ 1,250.00	\$ 628.58	\$ 621.42	50.3%	49.7%	\$ 754.30
420000	Veterans Assistance	\$ 180,000.00	\$ 42,382.58	\$ 137,617.42	23.5%	76.5%	\$ 50,859.10
420010	Vets Asst - Emergency	\$ 17,500.00	\$ 4,889.20	\$ 12,610.80	27.9%	72.1%	\$ 5,867.04
420020	Vets Asst - Shelter	\$ 102,000.00	\$ 28,282.56	\$ 73,717.44	27.7%	72.3%	\$ 33,939.07
420025	Vets Asst - Indp Living	\$ 13,700.00	\$ 1,990.26	\$ 11,709.74	14.5%	85.5%	\$ 2,388.31
420030	Vets Asst - Electric	\$ 14,200.00	\$ 1,223.35	\$ 12,976.65	8.6%	91.4%	\$ 1,468.02
420031	Vets Asst - Heat	\$ 9,200.00	\$ 1,624.19	\$ 7,575.81	17.7%	82.3%	\$ 1,949.03
420032	Vets Asst - Telephone	\$ 2,200.00	\$ 359.84	\$ 1,840.16	16.4%	83.6%	\$ 431.81
420033	Vets Asst - Trash	\$ 1,250.00	\$ 446.84	\$ 803.16	35.7%	64.3%	\$ 536.21
420034	Vets Asst - Water/Sewer	\$ 7,800.00	\$ 1,521.54	\$ 6,278.46	19.5%	80.5%	\$ 1,825.85
420040	Vets Asst - Gasoline	\$ 500.00	\$ -	\$ 500.00	0.0%	100.0%	\$ -
420041	Vets Asst - Transportation	\$ 4,200.00	\$ 1,169.80	\$ 3,030.20	27.9%	72.1%	\$ 1,403.76
420045	Vets Asst - Food	\$ 7,450.00	\$ 875.00	\$ 6,575.00	11.7%	88.3%	\$ 1,050.00
424800	Medical Service	\$ 700.00	\$ 640.00	\$ 60.00	91.4%	8.6%	\$ 768.00
430600	Vehicle Maint	\$ 7,500.00	\$ 3,560.74	\$ 3,939.26	47.5%	52.5%	\$ 4,272.89
432100	Software Support	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 1,745.00	\$ 55.00	96.9%	3.1%	\$ 2,094.00
437000	Legal Services	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 927.50	\$ 72.50	92.8%	7.3%	\$ 1,113.00
Contractural		\$ 221,950.00	\$ 70,775.93	\$ 150,246.57	31.89%	67.69%	\$ 84,931.12
Supplies & Equipment		Budgeted	Expended	Remaining	% Exp.	% Rem.	
501000	Office Supplies	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 653.19	\$ 546.81	54.4%	45.6%	\$ 783.83
501010	Promotional Items	\$ 1,500.00	\$ -	\$ 1,500.00	0.0%	100.0%	\$ -
504000	Mileage	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,209.81	\$ 290.19	88.4%	11.6%	\$ 2,651.77
505000	Meeting Expense	\$ 8,500.00	\$ 5,497.79	\$ 3,002.21	64.7%	35.3%	\$ 6,597.35
511400	Office Equipment	\$ 700.00	\$ 2,141.75	\$ (1,441.75)	306.0%	-206.0%	\$ 2,570.10
512000	Computer Software	\$ 500.00	\$ -	\$ 500.00	0.0%	100.0%	\$ -
516000	Fuel, Oil, Grease	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 2,743.16	\$ 2,256.84	54.9%	45.1%	\$ 3,291.79
521000	Publications	\$ 150.00	\$ -	\$ 150.00	0.0%	100.0%	\$ -
525100	Promotional Events	\$ 1,250.00	\$ 750.00	\$ 500.00	60%	40%	\$ 900.00
Equipment		\$ 21,300.00	\$ 13,995.70	\$ 7,304.30	65.71%	34.29%	\$ 16,794.84
Other		Budgeted	Expended	Remaining	% Exp.	% Rem.	
602000	Vehicle	\$ 0.00	\$ -	\$ 0.00	0.0%	100.0%	\$ -
681000	Fund Bal. Enhancement	\$ 810.00	\$ -	\$ 810.00	0.0%	100.0%	\$ -
Totals		\$ 598,909.00	\$ 355,992.27	\$ 241,989.23	59.44%	40.41%	\$ 427,190.72