

McHenry County Veterans Assistance Commission

Minutes of the General Meeting

18 September 2019

Chairman, Joseph Kersten called the meeting of the Veterans Assistance Commission to order at 1911 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	Frank Steckelberg		
Judge Advocate	Harry Van Beetz	Sergeant At Arms	Jim Koch
McHenry County Board Rep.	Excused	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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> Alt <input type="checkbox"/>
	#606 Hebron Del <input checked="" 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 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 type="checkbox"/> Alt <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	#12014 Crystal Lake Del <input type="checkbox"/> Alt <input checked="" 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 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. No Guests or Visitors..	

Officers Remarks: There were no officer's remarks.

Routine Reports:

The August Minutes: Copies of the August minutes were made available to all delegates and alternates. The motion to accept the August minutes as presented and corrected was made by Harry Van Beetz (VFW Crystal Lake Post #12014) and seconded by Greg Walkington (VFW Woodstock Post #5040). The motion was passed by unanimous vote. Correction: One of the guests at the August Meeting was Gregory Walkington. Not Gregory Wallington.

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

The VAC Office addressed 50 requests for financial assistance to 12 unique clients for a total of \$4,464.93 in Veterans Assistance during August. The office submitted 20 new Claims to the US Department of Veterans Affairs during August. Year to Date the VAC has successfully prosecuted 132 outstanding claims for a total benefit to our local veterans of \$1,830,628. This equates to \$5.71 coming back to our veterans for each VAC budget dollar spent. The VAC used 53.50% of the allotted funds in the VAC budget up through August. This is less than the 70.00% allotted in the VAC budget up through August. The allotted budget is \$598,909.00 and the 2018 tax levy was \$400,000 00. The VAC may need to draw up to \$27,248.97 from the reserve fund as the projected budget usage may exceed the \$400,000.00 tax levy by that amount. Patrick Conley (AL Huntley Post #673) made the motion to accept the August VAC financial reports as read. Lee Totman (Marine Corps League) seconded the motion. The motion was passed by unanimous vote.

Public Participation:

There was no public participation. .

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: No report.

Superintendents Report:

- 1) The VAC Office will start a pilot program (Veterans Caregivers Relief Program) in October. This pilot program will benefit 20 families.
- 2) The VAC Superintendent invited the Commission delegates to attend the city Chamber of Commerce meetings at Woodstock and McHenry.

Chairman Joe Kersten opened the floor to Old Business.

- 1) Legal Issues Update: The lawyer representing the VAC submitted a letter to the McHenry County Board. B. The Commission is encouraged to politely talk to their McHenry County Board representatives on the VAC Superintendent compensation issue, and how that is affecting the VAC in providing proper staff compensation under the Archer Study, D. Important.—Veterans are encouraged to attend the next McHenry County Board Meeting on October 15th, 2019, at 1900 Hours. Wear your post hats at the meeting.
- 2) The McHenry IT crew are still updating the VAC software to make on-line form access for both clients and VAC staffers. Some forms are now available on line.

- 3) The new minivan is on the road! It needs a gas card. It sports temporary license plates and it is being detailed.
- 4) The IDVA request to work at the VAC office is being looked at by the VAC Superintendent. He will require a formal agreement with the IDVA.
- 5) 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.
- 6) The Veterans Administration has extended caregiver assistance care to veterans prior to 1975.

Chairman Joe Kersten opened the floor to New Business:

- 1) The VAC Superintendent and the VAC VSO II are reporting to a week of VSO Training, beginning on next Monday; at East Peoria.
- 2) The VAC office is installing an on-line advertising campaign utilizing pop-up ads featuring VAC services to qualified military veterans.
- 3) The VA is required to review and act on Agent Orange related disability claims filed under the Blue Water Navy Act. Veteran clients are asked to contact the VAC Office for information on this topic at 1 (815) 334 4229.
- 4) The federal government is facing issues by Japan on the return of contaminated military base sites on Okinawa.

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

1. The Gary Sinise Foundation is hosting a Big Hat Rodeo.
2. The posts are encouraged to spread the word that the blue water naval veterans who had served offshore adjacent to the country of VietNam during the VietNam War can now pursue VA Disability claims related to illnesses under the Agent Orange presumptive illness guidelines.

The Benediction: Chaplain, Eugene Boxlietner gave the Benediction.

The Colors were saluted.

Chairman, Joseph Kersten adjourned the meeting at 2052 Hours.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael F Wisniewski

Michael F. Wisniewski

(Electronically Signed)

Superintendents Financial Report For August 2019

Financial Report Highlights for the Month of August 2019

Veterans Assistance Expenditures

Worksheet

	Month		Year To Date	
	Financial Granted	Requests	Fianncial Granted	Requests
Emergency Shelter	\$ -	0	\$ 4,889.20	4
Indp Living	\$ 3,778.68	8	\$ 25,180.25	57
Utilities	\$ -	0	\$ 1,990.26	61
Gasoline	\$ 368.97	7	\$ 4,843.01	61
Transportation	\$ -	0	\$ -	0
Food	\$ 242.28	32	\$ 1,132.90	117
Total	\$ 4,464.93	50	\$ 38,660.62	325
Total Requests Denied		0		5
Total Requests		50		330
Unique Clients		12		100

VetraSpec

Total Assistance Granted By Applicants Township		
Township	Monthly Total	YTD Total
Alden	\$ -	\$ -
Algonquin	\$ 1,790.30	\$ 14,871.20
Burton	\$ -	\$ -
Chemung	\$ 210.44	\$ 2,875.63
Coral	\$ -	\$ -
Dorr	\$ 700.00	\$ 1,624.00
Dunham	\$ -	\$ -
Grafton	\$ 306.50	\$ 4,409.00
Greenwood	\$ -	\$ -
Hartland	\$ -	\$ -
Hebron	\$ -	\$ 4,187.31
Marengo	\$ -	\$ -
McHenry	\$ 64.70	\$ 226.70
Nunda	\$ 1,150.71	\$ 5,566.23
Richmond	\$ -	\$ 3,265.20
Riley	\$ -	\$ -
Seneca	\$ -	\$ -
Totals	\$ 4,222.65	\$ 37,025.27
Total Townships	6	8

Utilities Granted

	Month		Year To Date	
	Requests	Financial	Requests	Financial
Electric	4	\$ 236.70	16	\$ 1,111.04
Gas Heat	2	\$ 92.27	17	\$ 1,500.34
Phone	1	\$ 40.00	9	\$ 359.84
Trash	0	\$ -	7	\$ 447.19
Water / Sewer	0	\$ -	12	\$ 1,424.60
Total Utility	7	\$ 368.97	61	\$ 4,843.01

Total Expenditures

Month	Year to Date
\$ 39,487.76	\$ 320,436.73
Projected Annual	\$ 427,248.97
Less: Funded by Levy	\$ 400,000.00
Projected Reserve Add (Use)	\$ (27,248.97)

VA Disability and Pension Claims

	Month	Year to Date
New VA Claims	20	294
VA Paperwork Processed	302	2825
VA Claims Awarded 2019		132
New Claims \$\$ Awarded 2019		\$ 1,830,628
VA Award Ratio to VAC Total Expense (per \$1)		\$ 5.71
4 Year Cummulative Awards 2019 Value		\$ 9,910,016

VAC Lovell FHCC Transportation Service

VA Hospital Applications Year to Date

56

	Month	Annual
Miles	3297	21047
Passengers	229	1893
Driver Cost	\$ 4,593.87	\$ 35,196.47
Dispatch-Adm	\$ 2,276.19	\$ 20,485.71
Vehicle Cost	\$ 284.33	\$ 6,348.51
Total	\$ 7,154.39	\$ 62,030.69
Cost per Rider	\$ 31.24	\$ 32.77
Goal Cost per Rider is <		\$ 35.00
Bus Fund	\$ 8,345.47	

Superintendents Financial Report For August 2019

Year to Date

Personnel					75.00%		
Line No.	Line Item	Budgeted	Expended	Remaining	% Exp.	% Rem.	Projected
301010	Salaries	\$ 215,130.00	\$ 154,137.24	\$ 60,992.76	71.6%	28.4%	\$ 205,516.32
302010	Part Time	\$ 0.00	\$ -	\$ 0.00	0.0%	100.0%	\$ -
302510	Holiday Pay	\$ 11,323.00	\$ 2,934.43	\$ 8,388.57	25.9%	74.1%	\$ 3,912.57
303010	Per Diem	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 27,587.48	\$ 22,412.52	55.2%	44.8%	\$ 36,783.31
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	\$ 11,135.40	\$ 6,462.60	63.3%	36.7%	\$ 14,847.20
310610	Medicare	\$ 4,116.00	\$ 2,569.06	\$ 1,546.94	62.4%	37.6%	\$ 3,425.41
311010	IMRF	\$ 17,998.00	\$ 12,616.79	\$ 5,381.21	70.1%	29.9%	\$ 16,822.39
314610	Health Insurance	\$ 37,584.00	\$ 32,667.07	\$ 4,916.93	86.9%	13.1%	\$ 43,556.09
Personnel		\$ 354,849.00	\$ 243,647.47	\$ 111,201.53	68.66%	31.34%	\$ 324,863.29
Contractural & Assistance		Budgeted	Expended	Remaining	% Exp.	% Rem.	
400100	Contract Service	\$ 3,750.00	\$ 1,499.00	\$ 2,251.00	40.0%	60.0%	\$ 1,998.67
400500	Dues/Memberships	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 670.00	\$ 330.00	67.0%	33.0%	\$ 893.33
400600	Training	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,695.00	\$ 305.00	84.8%	15.3%	\$ 2,260.00
400800	Subscriptions	\$ 250.00	\$ 174.20	\$ 75.80	69.7%	30.3%	\$ 232.27
402300	Professional Services	\$ 0.00	\$ -	\$ 0.00	0.0%	100.0%	\$ -
403034	Specific Insurance	\$ 11,000.00	\$ 7,275.00	\$ 3,725.00	66.1%	33.9%	\$ 9,700.00
403050	Directors Insurance	\$ 5,500.00	\$ 5,230.00	\$ 270.00	95.1%	4.9%	\$ 6,973.33
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%	\$ 393.11
406000	Legal Note/Adv.	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 2,994.00	\$ 6.00	99.8%	0.2%	\$ 3,992.00
409600	Telecommunications	\$ 1,250.00	\$ 549.99	\$ 700.01	44.0%	56.0%	\$ 733.32
420000	Veterans Assistance	\$ 180,000.00	\$ 38,910.27	\$ 141,089.73	21.6%	78.4%	\$ 51,880.36
420010	Vets Asst - Emergency	\$ 17,500.00	\$ 4,889.20	\$ 12,610.80	27.9%	72.1%	\$ 6,518.93
420020	Vets Asst - Shelter	\$ 102,000.00	\$ 25,180.25	\$ 76,819.75	24.7%	75.3%	\$ 33,573.67
420025	Vets Asst - Indp Living	\$ 13,700.00	\$ 1,990.26	\$ 11,709.74	14.5%	85.5%	\$ 2,653.68
420030	Vets Asst - Electric	\$ 14,200.00	\$ 1,111.04	\$ 13,088.96	7.8%	92.2%	\$ 1,481.39
420031	Vets Asst - Heat	\$ 9,200.00	\$ 1,500.34	\$ 7,699.66	16.3%	83.7%	\$ 2,000.45
420032	Vets Asst - Telephone	\$ 2,200.00	\$ 359.84	\$ 1,840.16	16.4%	83.6%	\$ 479.79
420033	Vets Asst - Trash	\$ 1,250.00	\$ 446.84	\$ 803.16	35.7%	64.3%	\$ 595.79
420034	Vets Asst - Water/Sewer	\$ 7,800.00	\$ 1,424.60	\$ 6,375.40	18.3%	81.7%	\$ 1,899.47
420040	Vets Asst - Gasoline	\$ 500.00	\$ -	\$ 500.00	0.0%	100.0%	\$ -
420041	Vets Asst - Transportation	\$ 4,200.00	\$ 1,132.90	\$ 3,067.10	27.0%	73.0%	\$ 1,510.53
420045	Vets Asst - Food	\$ 7,450.00	\$ 875.00	\$ 6,575.00	11.7%	88.3%	\$ 1,166.67
424800	Medical Service	\$ 700.00	\$ 640.00	\$ 60.00	91.4%	8.6%	\$ 853.33
430600	Vehicle Maint	\$ 7,500.00	\$ 3,522.74	\$ 3,977.26	47.0%	53.0%	\$ 4,696.99
432100	Software Support	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 1,745.00	\$ 55.00	96.9%	3.1%	\$ 2,326.67
437000	Legal Services	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 927.50	\$ 72.50	92.8%	7.3%	\$ 1,236.67
Contractural		\$ 221,950.00	\$ 65,200.03	\$ 155,822.47	29.38%	70.21%	\$ 86,933.37
Supplies & Equipment		Budgeted	Expended	Remaining	% Exp.	% Rem.	
501000	Office Supplies	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 581.89	\$ 618.11	48.5%	51.5%	\$ 775.85
501010	Promotional Items	\$ 1,500.00	\$ -	\$ 1,500.00	0.0%	100.0%	\$ -
504000	Mileage	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 1,820.05	\$ 679.95	72.8%	27.2%	\$ 2,426.73
505000	Meeting Expense	\$ 8,500.00	\$ 4,594.77	\$ 3,905.23	54.1%	45.9%	\$ 6,126.36
511400	Office Equipment	\$ 700.00	\$ 1,416.75	\$ (716.75)	202.4%	-102.4%	\$ 1,889.00
512000	Computer Software	\$ 500.00	\$ -	\$ 500.00	0.0%	100.0%	\$ -
516000	Fuel, Oil, Grease	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 2,425.77	\$ 2,574.23	48.5%	51.5%	\$ 3,234.36
521000	Publications	\$ 150.00	\$ -	\$ 150.00	0.0%	100.0%	\$ -
525100	Promotional Events	\$ 1,250.00	\$ 750.00	\$ 500.00	60%	40%	\$ 1,000.00
Equipment		\$ 21,300.00	\$ 11,589.23	\$ 9,710.77	54.41%	45.59%	\$ 15,452.31
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	\$ 320,436.73	\$ 277,544.77	53.50%	46.34%	\$ 427,248.97

*Transit Grant \$2,500 added to budget