

VAC MEETING MINUTES

December 6, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Copple. Secretary Roach called the roll with 8 present and 6 absent. President Copple led The Pledge of Allegiance. A motion was made by Chris Guterrez to accept the minutes of the last meeting, seconded by Leroy Hartel and the motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: The cash in the bank as of 10/31/21 is \$116,117.00. A motion to accept this report was made by Chris, seconded by Carl Rhodes and the motion carried.

Superintendent's Report: Superintendent Strowmatt attended the County Board Meeting and Special levy for the budget meeting. He had referrals 25, 36 client contacts, 66 phone contacts and 2 equipment loans. Claims paid included 1 for transportation for \$20.02, 1 for food for \$179.43, and 1 for Utilities \$172.62, 1 for water and sewer \$101.02 paid totalled \$473.01. Assistance with forms/application was 67. He assisted 16 new clients and collected 2 phones for Soldiers. Recoveries for the 4th quarter of FY 2021 were \$264,412.52, and for FY 21 total recoveries were \$514,962.24, with continuing benefits of \$6,301,262.15. A motion was made by Fred Roach seconded by Chris Guterrez and the motion carried.

Committee Reports: The County tax levy as requested. The finance committee failed to meet.

Old Business: NONE

New Business: NONE

General Discussion: Forms for Delegate and Alternates have been mailed and must be turned in by the April meeting.

The next Officers' Meeting will be held January 3, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. at the joint conference room, courthouse annex and the next Full Commission Meeting will be held March 7, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. at the joint conference room, courthouse annex.

Fred Roach made a motion to adjourn.

Secretary,

Fred Roach

VAC MEETING MINUTES

January 3, 2022

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by President Copple. Secretary Roach called the roll with 4 present and 0 absent. President Copple led The Pledge of Allegiance.

Treasurer's Report: The cash in the bank as of 11/30/21 is \$118,787.10. A motion to accept this report was made by Chris, seconded by Bill Cope and the motion carried.

Superintendent's Report: Superintendent Strowmatt attended the County Board Meeting. He had 21 referrals, 34 client contacts, 63 phone contacts and 0 equipment loans. Claims paid included 1 for transportation for \$20.00, 1 for food for \$183.00, and 1 for Utilities \$271.15, 1 for shelter for \$500.00 and 1 for water and sewer \$79.86 paid totalled \$1,054.01 Assistance with forms/application was 80. He assisted 21 new clients and collected 3 phones for Cell phones for Solders. A motion to accept was made by Fred Roach, seconded by Chris Guitierrez and the motion carried.

Committee Reports: NONE

Old Business: NONE

New Business: IACVAC Winter Conference and Annual Meeting Jan 26-27, 2022.

General Discussion: All forms for Delegate and Alternate for each post must be turned in by the March 7, 2022 meeting.

The next Officers' Meeting will be held February 7, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. at the joint conference room, courthouse annex and the next Full Commission Meeting will be held March 7, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. at the joint conference room, courthouse annex. Chris Guitierrez made a motion to adjourn.

Secretary,

Fred Roach

VAC MEETING MINUTES

February 7, 2022

The meeting was called to order by President Copple at 1:00 p.m. Superintendent Strowmatt called the roll with 3 present and Secretary Roach excused absence. President Copple led the Pledge of Allegiance. A motion was made by Treasurer Gutierrez, seconded by Vice President Cope to accept the minutes of the December and January meetings, and the motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: We have a balance of \$110,016.24. Expenditures for December were \$8,772, with a remaining expense of \$86,258. Treasurer Gutierrez moved to accept the report, seconded by VP Cope; the motion carried.

Superintendent's Report: Superintendent Strowmatt attended the County Board Meeting IACVAC Annual Winter Meeting. He had 24 referrals, 28 client contacts, 63 phone contacts. Claims paid included 1 for transportation for \$20.00, 2 for food for \$433 and one for water and sewer for \$68.27. Total claims paid equaled \$521.27. He assisted 10 new clients and completed 60 forms.

Committee Reports: None

Old Business: The IACVAC was held January 26 and 27, 2022. Property tax adjustments for surviving spouse continue to be the top legislative priority for IACVAC. There is discussion on changing the Military Veterans Assistance Act, and he will provide the proposed changes to the Executive Committee for review and input. Delegate and alternate appointments have been submitted and some have been returned.

New Business : None

General Discussion: None

The next Full Commission Meeting will be held March 7, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. in the joint conference room, courthouse annex. The next Officers Meeting will be April 4, 2022 at 1:00 pm. in the Joint Conference room, courthouse annex. A motion to adjourn was made by Bill Cope, meeting adjourned.

for the Secretary

D C Strowmatt Superintendent

VAC MEETING MINUTES

March 7, 2022

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Copple. Secretary Roach called the roll with 9 present and 5 absent and 1 excused and 1 guest, Bob Sneed. President Copple led The Pledge of Allegiance. A motion as made by Fred Roach to accept the minutes of the last meeting, seconded by Phil Hampton and the motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: As of 1/31/2022 there is \$102,195.76. Remaining revenue is \$51,197.00. A motion to accept this report was made by Leroy Hartel, seconded by Fred Roach and the motion carried.

Superintendent's Report: Superintendent Strowmatt attended the County Board Meeting and the initial meeting for the formation of VAC in Franklin county. He had 17 referrals, 37 client contacts, 61 phone contacts and 0 equipment loans. Claims paid included 1 for transportation for \$20.00, 1 for food for \$181.18. Claims paid totalled \$201.18 Assistance with forms/application was 77. He assisted 19 new clients and collected 2 phones for Cell phones for Soldiers. Recoveries for the 1st Quarter of FY 2022 were \$\$160,391.63, and continuing benefits of \$6,686,125.50. A motion was made by Chris Gutierrez, seconded by Leroy Hartel and the motion carried.

Committee Reports: The initial Finance Committee meeting will be held April 8, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. The committee will be comprised of Treasurer Chris Gutierrez, Carl Rhodes, and Ray Kellenbereger. President Rick Copple will attend as well.

Old Business: Some Delegate appointments are still not in.

New Business: Dave has been invited to assist with the initiation of the VAC in Franklin County.

General Discussion: There has been a change proposed in the IACVAC bylaws. There will be no more than 2 members from each VAC allowed a seat on the Board of Directors.

The next Officers' Meeting will be held April 4, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. at the joint conference room, courthouse annex, and the next Full Commission Meeting will be held June 6, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. at the joint conference room, courthouse annex. Fred Roach will not be attending the April meeting due to a medical appointment.

Fred Roach made a motion to adjourn.

Secretary,

Fred Roach

VAC MEETING MINUTES

April 4, 2022

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by President Copple. Superintendent Strowmatt called the roll with 3 present and Secretary Roach excused and 1 guest, Ray Kellenberger. President Copple led The Pledge of Allegiance. A motion as made by Vice President Cope to accept the minutes of the last meeting, seconded by Treasurer Gutierrez, and the motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: As of 2/28/2022 there is a \$96, 672.55 bank balance. Remaining revenue is \$51,195.00. A motion to accept this report was made by Treasurer Gutierrez, seconded by Vice President Cope, and the motion carried.

Superintendent's Report: Superintendent Strowmatt attended the County Board Meeting. He had 33 referrals, 38 client contacts, 63 phone contacts and 0 equipment loans. Claims paid included 1 for transportation for \$20.00, 1 for food for \$168.61. Claims paid totalled \$188.61. Assistance with forms/application was 78. He assisted 21 new clients and collected 2 phones for Cell phones for Solders. A motion was made by Cope, seconded by Gutierrez, and the motion carried.

Committee Reports: The initial Finance Committee meeting will be held April 8, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. The committee will be comprised of Treasurer Chris Gutierrez, Carl Rhodes, and Ray Kellenbereger. President Rick Copple will attend as well.

Old Business: All Delegate appointments have been received except American Legion Post 425 from Irving. That Post is no longer represented on the Commission.

New Business: Superintendent Strowmatt, along with several other County Veterans Assistance Commission Service Officers, will provide training to Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs Service Officers at the IDVA training period in Springfield in May.

General Discussion: IACO/IACVAC Spring Conference will be May 11- 13 in Springfield. President Copple and Superintendent Strowmatt will attend.

The next Officers' Meeting will be held May 2, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. at the joint conference room, courthouse annex, and the next Full Commission Meeting will be held June 6, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. at the joint conference room, courthouse annex. Vice President Cope made a motion to adjourn.

for the Secretary,

Dave Strowmatt

VAC MEETING MINUTES

May 2, 2022

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by President Copple. Secretary Roach t called the roll with all Officers present. President Copple led The Pledge of Allegiance. A motion as made by Vice President Cope to accept the minutes of the last meeting, seconded by Treasurer Gutierrez, and the motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: No Treasurer's Report was provided by the County Treasurer.

Superintendent's Report: Superintendent Strowmatt attended the County Board Meeting. He had 24 referral, 24 client contacts and 75 phone contacts. Assistance provided in the amount of \$20 for transportation and \$175.48 for food, totalling \$195.48 for the month. He assisted 12 new clients, and completed 65 forms. Two phones were colected for Cell Phones for Soldiers. report is on file for review

Committee Reports: Treasurer Gutierrez presented the Fiscal Year 2023 Budget request for initial review. Final vote will be taken at the June Full Commission Meeting.

Old Business: Superintendent Strowmatt and President Copple will attend the IACO/IACVAC conference from May 11 to 13 in Springfield, and Superintendent Strowmatt will provide training to the IDVA VSOs at their conference on May 16-17, also in Springfield.

New Business: none

General Discussion: Vice President Cope has potential medical issues that may prevent him from serving on the Commission in the future. Will monitor for further developments.

In light of the passing of Secretary Roach, no notation of mitions, nor seconds, is recorded in the minutes.

The next Full Commission Meeting will be held June 6, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. at the joint conference room, courthouse annex, and the next Officers' Meeting will be held July 11, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. at the joint conference room, courthouse annex. Vice President Cope made a motion to adjourn.

for the Secretary,

Dave Strowmatt

VAC MEETING MINUTES

June 6, 2022

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Copple. Superintendent Strowmatt called the roll with all 6 present and 3 absent. President Copple called for a moment of silence in honor of Fred Roach. He then led The Pledge of Allegiance. Board Liaison Bob Sneed was welcomed. A motion as made by Vice President Cope to accept the minutes of the last meeting, seconded by Treasurer Gutierrez, and the motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Gutierrez moved to accept the report showing a balance of \$91, 059 in reserve and a remaining expense for the fiscal year of \$67, 563. Carl Rhodes seconded the motion, and it carried.

Superintendent's Report: Superintendent Strowmatt attended the County Board Meeting, the IACO/IACVAC Spring Conference, and provided a training session to Illinois Department of Veterans Service Officers for their Continuing Education training. He had 24 referral, 39 client contacts and 64 phone contacts. Assistance provided in the amount of \$20 for transportation and \$171.50 for food, totalling \$191.50 for the month. He assisted 16 new clients, and completed 82 forms. Three phones were collected for Cell Phones for Soldiers. He reported second quarter recoveries of \$27,146.25, fiscal year to date recoveries of \$243,493.78, and continuing benefit payments of \$6,761,470.95. Carl Rhodes moved to accept the report, seconded by Phil Hampton, and the motion carried.

Committee Reports:

Old Business: Vice President Cope made a motion to approve the Fiscal Year 2023 Budget Request as presented, seconded by Carl Rhodes, and the motion passed.

New Business: John Albers, of American Legion Post 299, was appointed Secretary to fill the vacancy left by the passing of former Secretary Fred Roach. Officers meetings will be held at 9:00 am instead of the previous time of 1:00 pm. Phil Hampton mentioned the prospect of advertising for the position of Superintendent earlier than previously anticipated. After some debate, Treasurer Gutierrez moved to advertise early; seconded by Phil Hampton, and the motion carried. Strowmatt advised of changes to the Military Veterans Assistance Act requiring a minimum funding level for VACs of 0.02% of the real estate tax value unless the VAC requests a lesser amount, and the requirement for VACs to perform claim work for Veterans. Neither of these changes in law affect our Commission, as we have been operating under those guidelines since our inception. He also discussed Public Act 102-0895 in a change to property tax law for surviving spouses of Veterans in receipt of Dependency and Indemnity Compensation. Those unremarried surviving spouse will be exempt from property tax beginning with tax year 2023..

VAC MEETING MINUTES

July 11, 2022

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by President Cople. Superintendent Strowmatt called the roll with 3 present and Secretary Albers excused. A motion as made by Treasurer Gutierrez to accept the minutes of the last meeting, seconded by Vice President Cope, and the motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: No report was available for July.

Superintendent's Report: Superintendent Strowmatt attended the County Board Meeting. He had 28 referrals, 38 client contacts and 81 phone contacts. Assistance provided in the amount of \$20 for transportation and \$166.83 for food, totalling \$186.23 for the month. He assisted 19 new clients, and completed 82 forms. Three phones were collected for Cell Phones for Soldiers. Cope moved to accept the report, seconded by Gutierrez, and the motion carried.

Committee Reports:

Old Business: The 2023 Budget Proposal was submitted to the County Treasurer.

New Business: Old Settlers Parade will be August 11, 2022, and the Dav Van will run in the parade.

General Discussion: Works on the walls is nearing completion, and should be done by the end of the month

The next Officers' Meeting will be held August 1, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. at the joint conference room, courthouse annex, and the next Full Commission Meeting will be held September 12, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. at the joint conference room, courthouse annex, and Vice President Cope made a motion to adjourn.

for the Secretary,

Dave Strowmatt

VAC OFFICER'S MEETING MINUTES

August 1, 2022

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by President Coppel.

Present: President Coppel, VP Cope, Treasurer Gutierrez, Secretary Albers

Absent: Superintendent Strowmatt was excused.

Past Minutes: Motion by Treasurer Gutierrez to accept the minutes of the last meeting, seconded by Vice President Cope, and the motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: No report was available for August.

Superintendent's Report: Superintendent Strowmatt submitted a written report.

Committee Reports: None.

Old Business: None

New Business: County Budget Hearing is August 18 at 10:10 a.m. at the Court House on the 2nd Floor. All officers of the VAC are encouraged to attend.

General Discussion: None

The next Officer's Meeting will be held October 3, 2022. Date and Time to be announced.

Next Full Commission Meeting will be held September 12, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. at the joint conference room, courthouse annex.

Motion to adjourn by VP Cope second by Treas. Gutierrez

Submitted by,

John Albers

Secretary

Veteran's Assistance Commission

Full Commission

September 12, 2022

Called to order at 7:00 PM.

Present:

Past Minutes: Motion by Cope to accept. Second by Rhodes. Motion passed.

Treasurers Report: No report

Superintendent's Report:

Referrals:	32
Client Contacts	41
Phone Contacts	86
Equipment Loans	0
Claims Paid: Month	\$189.33
Claims Paid: Year	\$2,924.17
Assistance w/ Forms, Apps	96
New Clients:	25
Cell Phones Collected:	1

Motion by Rhodes to accept. Second by Hartel to approve. Motion passed.

Committee Reports: None

Old Business: Budget hearing was completed

New Business: ACVAC Conference is on September 22 & 23. Copple is the delegate. Replacement interviews will be conducted in October.

General Discussion: None

Next Officers Meeting: October 3, 2022, 6:30 PM. Annual Meeting immediately following.

Next full Council Meeting: December 5, 2022, 7:00 PM.

Motion to adjourn by Rhodes, Second by Gutierrez.

Submitted by,

John Albers

Secretary

VAC MEETING MINUTES

November 7, 2022

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by President Copple. Superintendent Strowmatt called the roll with 3 present and Secretary Albers excused. There were no October minutes available. Ray Kellenberger was welcomed as a guest.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Gutierrez moved to accept his Treasuere's report, seconded by Vice President Cope; the motion carried.

Superintendent's Report: Cope made a motion to accept the Superintendent's report, seconded by Gutierrez; the motion carried.

Committee Reports: The Finance Committee will meet at 1:00 pm on Friday, November 18, 2022, to review the Tax Levy and Budget Request approved by the County Board.

Old Business: The 2023 Budget Proposal was adjusted to reflect an increase in the IT Subscription service expense line. One interview has been completed with the final to be completed this afternoon. Second interviews will be at the Full Commission Meeting on December 5, 2022.

New Business: A Closed Seesion for interviews and election of Superintendent will be called at the December 5, 2022, Full Commission meeting.

General Discussion: None

The next, Full Commission Meeting will be held Dcember 5, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. at the joint conference room, courthouse annex, and the next Officers' Meeting will be held January 9, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. at the joint conference room, courthouse annex and Vice President Cope made a motion to adjourn.

for the Secretary,

Dave Strowmatt