VAC Veterans Assistance Commission of WC Washington County

Meeting Minutes, Aug 26, 2026

The Veterans Assistance Commission of Washington County (VAC WC) Meeting was held at the Washington County Court House at 7:00 pm.

Members present: (6)

Lance Carr, Vice Chairman, Delegate, AL Post 233
Matthew Kasten, VAC WC Superintendent
Jane Clarke, Secretary/Treasurer, Delegate, AL Post 110
Steve Elliott, Delegate, VFW Post 5596
Kevin Pierce, Alternate Delegate, Post 233
Ken Storck, Alternate Delegate VFW Post 5596

Members Absent: (1)

Larry Harrison, Chairman, Alternate Delegate, AL Post 110

Others Present:

None.

1. Vice-Chairman, Lance Carr confirmed those present. He asked members to participate in the pledge. Noted counsel not planning on coming to every meeting. He asked for the monthly report from Matt Kasten.
2. Matt provided his Superintendent Report and discussed the budget further. Information remained the same in the handout this time, and we are waiting for feedback. Training updates on courses he is taking are very interactive, and very good training. Additional training at Peoria in September on 2 dates reserved and need to roll back into the budget, and it does satisfy all the requirements for the position. Other counties will be represented as well. Technology update, everyone will respond to this location when he calls for help. A verbal threat was met and resolved peacefully. The AI support seems great and was supportive of medical and service records. It can save hours of time. Community outreach, Washington County news got us a lot of traction, putting everything in front of everyone. Three veterans are getting awards at the end of the month. The work-study was approved, and they are sorry it hasn't happened yet, and should be no risk by the VA.
3. Discussion on the Okawville Wheat Festival and he was worried about having his space. If there is a space problem he can piggyback with the VFW there.
4. Friday night, 28 August, is the veterans appreciation night, the High School invited veterans out for the game and appreciation. He will have a tent set up, follow the

light and there is one way in. The principal had T-shirts made up and 50% will go for the county non-profit. The High School is selling T-shirts. Matt will try to have a sign-in sheet, and Post 110 may try to have representation for sign-ups as well. Matt will follow up with Facebook on the football game outing.

5. Provided a copy of the budget for the hard copy of the numbers that were turned in. He is breaking down the county finances to see what the costs are to see what the costs are, so we are ready for that. Will need to authorize a transfer of funds to cover the class costs from the budget. Discussion noted all numbers included in Matt's estimates were based on solid numbers as discussion moved around what was factored in. Lance, what is the next step in the budget process. Matt to follow close. Has to be some progress this month. Steven commented that either 1st or 3rd part of each month. Lance asked to we need to make a motion to move funds from A to B? Matt said it will be coming out of disbursements. $1125.80 for training, $535 for veterans benefits, and it should come out at one time. Matt said the $1200 is available and we could use that money since it was already funded another way. We can make this one motion. Let's make one motion to transfer money from disbursements to pay for training at Peoria on 14 - 18 September and continue with paying the $45/month GET by Steve, seconded by Kevin. Passed.
6. Matt working on the larger office space but not connected with the Point of contact. Slated for conversation with Erick. He continues to work for a larger office space and has an eye on the space on the first floor that is 4 times large as his to seat the assistant/secretarial position when provided.
7. Matt got a letter from a happy veteran about his work, exceptional report supporting his father retired meteorologist. He is more than willing to speak at any time for us, from Marissa in Washington County.
8. Matt asked for clarification on the record of minutes following the meeting. Jane to follow up.
9. Estimate Larry Harrison taking a few days to heal from surgery. Matt has a funeral weekend of the 31st.
10. Lance asked for any further business and recommended the meeting be concluded. It was motioned for conclusion by Steve and seconded by Ken and concluded.

//signed//

Jane E. Clarke
Secretary/Treasurer, VAC WC

2 References:

1) Superintendent Report

2) Budget Information