

Carroll County
Veterans Assistance
Commission

17612 E. Benton St., P.O. Box 126
Mount Carroll, Illinois 61053

Carroll County Veterans Assistance Commission
Special Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, July 15 @ 6:00 pm
Senior Citizens Center Meeting Room

Call to Order by Danielle Eberle @ 6:05 pm

Invocation was given by Ellis Boughton

Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.

Roll Call: Wayne Leonard, Doug Bergren, Ernie Johnson, Ellis Boughton, Joe Drozd, Susan Jacobs, Danielle Eberle, Kevin Hovorka, and Ronda Rathje were present. Absent were Waldon Gibbs, Terry Lattin, Lamoille Poffenberger, Rod Clemens, Nelson Preston, Chris Meier, and Kevin Melancon.

Approval of Last Special Meeting Minutes from 11-14-2024:

- Motion was made to change the date from Wednesday, October 14, 2025, to Thursday, November 14, 2025 and accept the minutes with changes by Joe Drozd. Seconded by Susan Jacobs. Motion carried.

Special Meeting Agenda had a motion made for approval by Joe Drozd, and seconded by Ernie Johnson. Motion carried.

Special Meeting Business:

- Condition of our Financial Status and how to move forward.
 - Discussion of the dental program was started out by Ronda Rathje. She supplied paperwork to show the deposits and money spent since the beginning of the program. Deposits were made in the total of \$40,000.00 with the last one being on October 21, 2024. The amounts that were spent to date were \$42,856.83 which has the dental program in the hole for **-\$2,855.83**. This money was taken from the regular VAC budget money. The dental program owes the VAC this

money. Per the initial agreement, a separate account was to be set up at TBK Bank in Mt. Carroll, IL. A recommendation was made to allow Wayne & Ronda to set up a separate account at TBK Bank for the dental program. The accounting and checkbook would be maintained in the VAC office and removed from the VAC budget. A motion was made by Susan Jacobs to accept the recommendation for the dental program. Seconded by Ernie Johnson. Motion carried.

- Discussion was held by Wayne Leonard to remove the budget line item, "Printing, Supplies & Postage", and add those to Administrative along with the amount totals. It was decided that Wayne and Ellis would get together to go over all the line items. Susan Jacobs made a motion to accept this change, and it was seconded by Joe Drozd. Motion carried.

- Discussion was then held about our current budget and the shortfalls we have due to not getting the right percentage but receiving a flat fee. Wayne passed out a new budget and letter requesting 0.035% from the county for the next budget year. Wayne explained that we need more hours to complete all the cases we have, which includes the 41 new cases so far this year. Ellis inquired if the posted income included raises. He was advised that the income went up to accommodate the three of us in the office to work 20 hours a week and a raise was included in that. Ellis asked if the equipment needed to be that high and it was explained that new computers, power battery backups, and software would be needed. We are currently spending about \$7200 a month right now. Discussion was held in regard to funding our shortfall this year with another beef raffle or donations. Kevin Hovorka made a motion to submit to the county that we require 0.035% of the EAV for their 2025-2026 budget year. Joe Drozd seconded it. Motion carried.

Motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Kevin Hovorka and seconded by Susan Jacobs. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 6:47 pm

Minutes taken and submitted by:
Ronda L Riffe-Rathje

Copies attached: VAC accounting, 2025-2026 budget proposal, Letter to County Board.