

Carroll County
Veterans Assistance
Commission

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

Carroll County Veterans Assistance Commission

Quarterly Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, December 18, 2024 @ 7:00 pm

Senior Citizens Center Meeting Room

Call to Order: 7:00 p.m. by Waldon Lee Gibbs

Invocation: Led by Ellis Boughton

Pledge of Allegiance: Recited by all

Roll Call: Wayne Leonard, Doug Bergren, Walden Lee Gibbs, Ernie Johnson, Ellis Boughton, Joe Drozd, Lamoille Poffenberger, Susan Jacobs, Ronda Rathje, Rod Clemens, Rob Gilliland

Amend Agenda: To show “a \$100 donation was received for the tools”.
Motioned by Rod Clemens; Seconded by Rob Gilliland; Carried

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: Motioned by Joe Drozd; Seconded by Susan Jacobs; Carried

Agenda Approval: Motioned by Rod Clemens; Seconded by Rob Gilliland; Carried

Treasurer’s Report:

- The balance as of November 30, 2024, was \$54,827.37.
- Money will be tight through July until we get more tax money.

- Dental is doing really good.
- County is really good on paying the tax payments
- Motion to approve, by Joe Drodz; Seconded by Lamoille Poffenberger; Carried.

Old Business:

- Thanked Susan Jacobs for the file cabinet. She stated that she still has one more.
- \$100 donation was received for the tools

New Business:

- Special meeting was held on Nov. 14th, 2024 and accepted Darlene Sisler's resignation. Held interviews with two candidates to fill Darlene's position. Ronda Rathje was hired. There was discussion as to why Ronda was hired over a veteran. Ronda's resume was in the packet for all to read. Other candidate was encouraged to reach out to other county offices for a position.
- Can we pay attorney fees for a client? Discussion was held about how we could help a client with fees. Contacting JAG was brought up to help fight military side. Bylaws say that we can help with financial assistance, but do we want to open "that can of worms." Motion was made by Susan Jacobs to research alternative routes and revisit at a later date. Seconded by Ellis Boughton. Motion carried.
- Budget for 2025 – Ellis Boughton explained that the new budget would be pretty much the same, but mileage and training were a bit higher. Rob Gilliland made a motion to accept the budget. Seconded by Joe Drozd. Motion carried.
- Approval of Holiday Schedule for 2025. Error on page noted. Need to scratch "Vacation" from the top and put "Holiday". Motion to accept by Rod Clemens; Seconded by Rob Gilliland. Motion carried.
- Approval of board meeting schedule for 2025. Discussion was held and decided to change the December 31st, 2025 meeting to December 17th, 2025. Motion to approve by Rob Gilliland; Seconded by Ernie Johnson. Motion carried.

- Request approval for Ronda's NACVSO membership and schooling for January 20-24th, 2025. Cost is \$50 membership fee and \$400 for the schooling. Motion to approve by Susan Jacobs; Seconded by Rob Gilliland. Motion carried.

Superintendent's Report:

- Request for the purchase of a plaque for Darlene Sisler for her service. Motion made to approve purchase made by Susan Jacobs; Seconded by Lamoille Poffenberger. Motion carried.
- We served 256 clients for the year and got over \$1.2 million collected for the veterans.
- The county administrator is working with Ripley to see what can be done in regards to our audit. Will know more in January.
- Discussion was held in regards to county paying for transportation fees. Nothing was decided so things will remain as is.
- Request was made to purchase a heater with a timer for the office as there is very little heat coming into the office and we do not have any control over it. Motion to approve was made by Ellis Boughton; Seconded by Joe Drozd. Motion carried.

Report from the Board President: None

Public Comments: None

Executive Session if any: None

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn by Rob Gilliland; Seconded by Susan Jacobs; Motion carried.

Meeting Adjourned at: 7:51 pm