



# Carroll County Veterans Assistance Commission

301 North Main Street – Mount Carroll, Illinois 61053

## CCVAC Quarterly Meeting September 21, 2017 Minutes

Meeting called to order at 7:43 PM in the Carroll County Courthouse conference room with the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by invocation by Ellis Boughton, and Roll Call.

### Roll Call

Present were Ellis Boughton, Lee Gibbs, Lyle Musselman, Terry Lattin, Wayne Leonard, Lamoille Poffenberger, Ernie Johnson, Richard Groharing, Vic Hartman, Bill Hanna, and Shannon Grove. Paul Hartman, Gary Imel, and Mike Yuswak of the Carroll County Board and guest speaker Pat Arbuthnot were also in attendance.

### Posts Present

Thomson American Legion, Milledgeville American Legion, Shannon American Legion, Lanark / Mount Carroll VFW, Lanark American Legion, Mount Carroll American Legion, Chadwick American Legion

### Minutes Approval (Prior)

Motion to approve June 2017 meeting minutes was made by Richard Groharing, seconded by Lyle Musselman, motion carried.

### Agenda Approval

The motion to approve agenda was made by Lyle Musselman, seconded by Richard Groharing, motion carried.

### Guest Speaker

A presentation was made by Pat Arbuthnot on a proposed Veterans Support Project for

Phone: (815) 244-0226 – Fax: (815) 244-6295 – Email: [office@cc-vac.org](mailto:office@cc-vac.org)

Website: [www.cc-vac.org](http://www.cc-vac.org)



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veterans in both Carroll and Jo Davies Counties.

- Project would provide Transitional Housing for veterans returning to the area.
- Would teach vets about farming and allow them to participate in “Dirt Therapy”.
- Hopes to have both an on-site VSO and counselors to assist with veteran needs.
- Hope to be up and running within 6 months.

## Old Business

- Lawsuit Update
  - Ellis emailed the Attorney to proceed with the lawsuit after receiving the official denial vote from the County board on the VAC 2017-2018 Budget proposal for Salaries.
- VA Transportation
  - Have not yet had a vet utilize the transportation, since startup of the program.
  - Transportation Ideas for next year to be discussed at next quarterly meeting.
- Donation Management Update
  - Homeless Fund -\$2001.19.
  - Steer Raffle - \$5044.23 after all expenses were deducted.
  - Lawyer Fund - \$1100, only 2 posts have provided agreed funds.
- VAC Facebook Page
  - Bill reminded everyone that he posts useful benefits information for Vets to see.
  - Currently at 39 likes / followers
  - All Members are encouraged to like and share the page to promote it.
- 2018 VAC Budget Proposal
  - Training and salary increases denied outright. The remaining line items will be voted on during the final County Board vote in November.
  - Additional funds allocated for digital claims software and Fold3 membership were penciled in by the County Board.

## New Business

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- 2018 Appointment of Post Delegate and Alternate Representatives
  - Annual forms were given to Commanders and Delegates present at meeting.
  - Need completed forms by December 2017 VAC board meeting.
- Financial Assistance Expansion
  - Bill was tasked to draw up a plan based on other Counties using a maintenance program for financial assistance.
- VetPro Software for VA Digital Claims
  - Bill explained the new software (VetPro) needed to meet the VA's digital claims requirement.
  - Motion to approve VetPro purchase was made by Lyle Musselman, seconded by Richard Groharing, motion carried.

## Report from Superintendent / VSO:

- Handout with office stats for budget and activity third quarter presented by Bill Hanna.
- Presented attending members with a copy of a scam alert of a person trying to get money from various VFW's, American Legions, and VAC's across the state.

## Adjournment

Motion to adjourn made by Lyle Musselman, seconded by Lamoille Poffenberger, motion carried.

Adjourned at 9:11 pm

Minutes submitted by Shannon Grove  
Administrative Assistant  
CCVAC

Minutes Approved by William L. Hanna  
Superintendent  
CCVAC