

COUNTY OF LA SALLE  
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MARTIN J. RUE  
Superintendent  
(815)433-1761

LaSalle County Courthouse  
Room A103  
119 W. Madison Street  
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: Nov 14 2007

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
Bernard Smith	Marselles #235	Debate	815 795 2768
George Mason	Ottawa V.F.W 2470	Debate	815-433-0586
Ken Hank	MARSELLES VFW 5506	Del	815-795-2466
Douglas Dime	Post 260 TONICA	Del	712 375 5569
Howard Gast	POST 549 EARLVILLE	Past Com.	815-246-9689
Joseph Jucaszak	Post CWV 1799	Del	223 4179
James Namb	Post 33	Del	434-4633
Nick Hebronia	Post 426	Del	224-2204

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS

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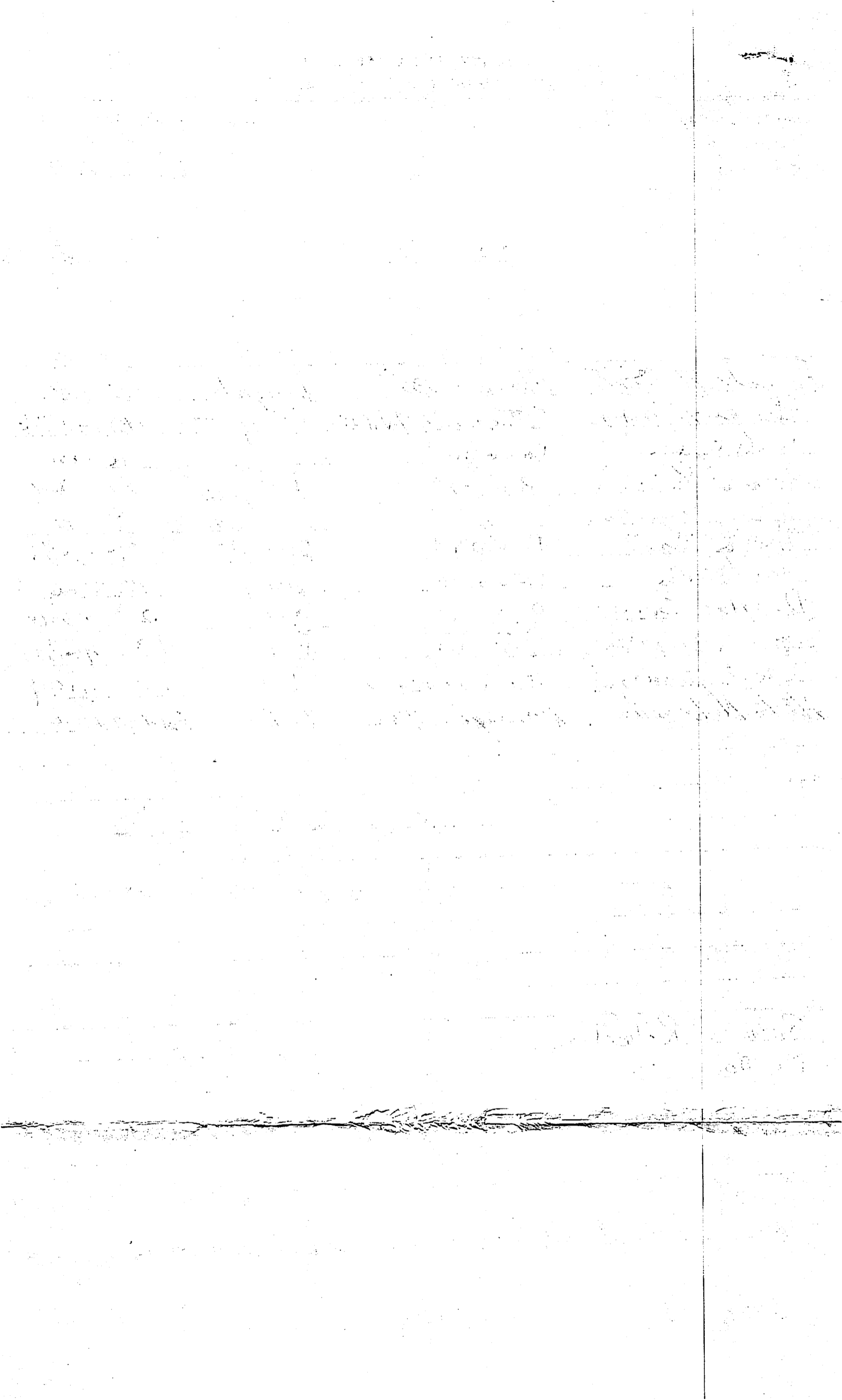
DATE: Nov. 15, 2006

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
Bernard M Smith	Marseilles 235	Delegate	78-2768
George Mason	Ottawa 247 V.F.W.	Delegate	433-0586
Lowell Ambler	Earlville		246-6821
Raymond Richardson	Post # 549	Delegate	246-7181
Lawrence Graham	Chap. 86	Delegate	431-0106
Howard Gast	Post 549	Delegate	815-9689
Ken Hauke	VFW 5506	Del	795-2466
Douglas Griere	Post 260	Del	712 375 5589
Jim Marouli	Post 33	Del	434-4633
Joseph Swaszko	C.V.V Post 1929	Del	223 4179
Mark Nakrasim	Am Legion 426	Del	224-2204

Raymond Richardson #30  
Marseilles 10  
Illinois 2332

RAYMOND RICHARDSON  
P.O. Box 335  
EARLVILLE, IL 60518  
attorney

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SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: Jan 24, 2007

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
George Mason	V.F.W. Ottawa #2470	Delegate	433-0586
Jim DeMaso	VF W MARS #5506	ANT	795-2959
Bernie Smith	American Legion #235	Delegate	795-2768
Ken Hauker	VFW 5506 MARS	DELEGATE	795-2466
Jim Naranjo	Post 33 Ottawa	Delegate	434-4633
Jimmy Finck	POST 570 LELAND	Delegate	495-9404

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DATE: Feb. 28, 2007

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
LARRY TORAHAN	* 86	Delegate	437-0106
RAY RICHARDSON	<del>445</del> 549	Alternate	246-7181
George Mason	2470	Vice Chairman	433-0586
GARY HAMILTON	235	ALT.	357-8006
Bernie Smith	235	Delegate	795-2768
Ken Hauke	VEN 5506	DEL	795-2466
Joseph Swanson	CWU 1279	Del. -	228 4179
Mick Makosina	Am Legion 426	Del	224 2204
Howard H. Gast	POST 549	Post Comm.	246-9689
John Nambie	Post 33	Del	434-4633

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SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: March 28/07

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
GARY Hamilton	Legion 235 Marseilles	ALT.	357-8006
Larry Terkham	DAV 86 Morris	Del	431-0106
Bergie Smith	Legion 235 Marseilles	DET	78-2768
Carl Key	Legion 540 Mendota	-	539-7759
Albert Spitz	VFW - 4079	Del	538-2023
Howard Gast	Legion 549 Earlville	<del>Del</del> <del>Com</del>	815-246-9689
Jerry Fuchs	Legion 570 Leland	<del>Del</del> <del>Com</del>	815-495-9404
Ken Hauke	VFW 5506	DC	Fax 795-2466
Jim Monahan	Post 33 Ottawa	Del	434-4633
Doug Griere	Post 260 Tonica	Del	712 375 5569
George Mason	Post 2470 Ottawa	<del>Del</del> Vice Chm	433-0586

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SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: April 25, 2007

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
GARY Hamilton	MARSEILLES Legion	ALT	357-8006
Bernard Smith	Marsailles Legion	Del	815 795 2768
Nick Nekrasius	LaSalle Legion	Del	224-2204
George Mason	Ottawa V.F.W. Post #470	Vice Chair	433-0586
Paul [unclear]	Leland Legion	570 <del>Del</del>	495-9407
John [unclear]	Ottawa	Del	<del>246-9689</del>
Howard Gast	Earville,	Post 549	246-9689
Douglas Grienc	Touica	Post 260	712 375 5569
Jim Nourlin	Ottawa	Post 33	434-4633

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS

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DATE: May 23, 2007

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
Nick Nekrasine	Am. Legion	Del.	224 2204
RAY Richardson	Reg. Richardson #549	MS	246-7181
JERRY TUCKS	Region 570	Del	495-9404
KEN HANUSKON	UFWS506	DEL	295-2466
Howard Gast	Earlville 549	Post Commander	246-9689
Jim Monahan	Ottawa	Post 33 Del	434-4633
LARRY TORBURN	MORRIS	86	431 0106
Doug Grieco	Tonica	POST 260	712 375 5569

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS



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SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: July 25, 2007

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
Howard Gast	Post 549	Post Commander	246-9689
Jerry Graham	# 86	Chaplain	431-0106
George Mason	Post 2490	Delegate	433-0586
Phil Hunter	VFW 5506	Del	795-2466
Bernard Smith	Legion #235	Del	795-2768
GARY Hamilton	Legion 235	ALT Del.	357-8006
Joseph Swaschek	CWV 1779	Del	923-4179
Jim Nennig	Post 33	Del	434-4633

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS

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Ottawa, Illinois 61350

SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: Aug. 22/07

NAME	VETERANS POST.	TITLE	PHONE
Ray Richardson	Post 549	AIT	246-7181
Bennie Smith	Post 235	Del	795-2768
Larry Graham	chap. 86	Del	431-0106
George Mason	Post 2470	Del.	433-0586
Douglas M. Griere	Post 260	Del	712 375 5569
Terry Fuchs	570 AL	Del.	815-495-9404
Joseph Quaszel	Post 1779	Del	223 4179
Joni Mowbray	Post 33 Ottawa	Del	434-4637
Nick Nekrosim	Am Legion LaSalle	Del	224-2204

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS

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SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: Oct 24 2007

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
Bernard Smith	Mareilles #235	Delegate	795-2768
Larry Graham	Morris Dav 81	Delegate	4310106
George Mason	V.F.W. Post 2470	Delegate	433-0586
Mick Makrasian	M. Legion 426	Delegate	224-2204
Joseph Swaseh	C.W.V. Post 1229	Delegats	223 4179
Howard Gant	Post 549	P. Comm.	815-246-9699
Douglas Mills	Post 260	Delegate	712 375 5569

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS

The LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of August 22, 2007.

Meeting opened in due form by Chairman Nanowski. A roll call of officers was taken showing the Sgt. at Arms excused and all other officers present.

The minutes of the previous meeting were presented. Being no additions or corrections to those minutes, Chairman Nanowski stated that the minutes would stand approved as presented.

New business: The service officers' report was presented. All questions pertaining to the service officers' report were answered. A motion was made by Nick Nekrosius and seconded by George Mason that the service officers' report be accepted as presented. Motion passed.

Superintendent Rue discussed an advisory resolution that Lt. Governor Pat Quinn has asked to be presented in all counties in the state of Illinois so that it could be on the February ballot. This advisory referendum is asking our United States Congressmen to totally fund our VA Health Care System. The delegates present refused to take action to support this resolution that was drafted by Lt. Governor Quinn without it first being presented to their post membership for consideration. Superintendent Rue assured the delegates that he could not support this resolution at this time. The county board could do whatever they wished.

A motion was made by Ray Richardson and was seconded by Larry Graham that the Commission take no position on this mandatory resolution to fund the VA Health Care System at this time. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Larry Graham and seconded by Bernard Smith that we adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Bernard Smith, American Legion Post 235; Larry Graham, Disabled American Veterans Post 86; George Mason, VFW Post 2470; Douglas Grieve, American Legion Post 260; Jerry Fuchs, American Legion Post 570; Joseph Iwaszek, Catholic War Veterans Post 1229; Nick Nekrosious, American Legion Post 426; Alternate Ray Richardson, American Legion Post 549; and Chairman Jim Nanowski, American Legion Post 33

**SERVICE OFFICER'S REPORT  
SEPTEMBER and OCTOBER 2007**

Vietnam veteran, Oglesby awarded 100% service connected disability 2/06 – 11/06 \$2615; 12/06 – 12/07 \$2699 TOTAL \$61,237

Widow of a WWII veteran, Mendota awarded DIC \$1067 4/07 – 12/07; burial benefit \$2000; veterans last 100% S/C check \$2590 TOTAL for 2007 \$16,245

Iraq veteran, LaSalle, awarded 60% S/C 6/06 – 11/06 \$5562; 12/06 – 12/07 \$12,441 TOTAL \$18,003

Vietnam veteran, Streator, awarded S/C for diabetes and residual effects; 40% \$645; 2/06 – 12/07 TOTAL \$16,311

Vietnam veteran, Ottawa, awarded Social Security Disability \$1273 monthly 2/07 – 12/07 TOTAL \$14,003

Vietnam widow, Mendota, awarded DIC \$1067 3/07 – 12/07 and veterans last S/C check \$2994 TOTAL 13,664

Vietnam veteran, Tonica, awarded 20% 7/06 – 12/07 \$225 TOTAL \$4050

Vietnam veteran, Ottawa, awarded 100% S/C for convalescence 12/06 – 12/07 TOTAL \$33,761

WWII veteran, Mendota awarded IUE with Aid and Attendance 8/06 – 11/06 @ \$3112 monthly and 12/06 – 12/07 @ \$3214 TOTAL \$54,230

TOTAL VA BENEFITS FOR SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER	<b>\$217,501.00</b>
TOTAL SOCIAL SECURITY	<b>\$14,003.00</b>
TOTAL BENEFITS FOR SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER	<b>\$231,504.00</b>
TOTAL BENEFITS YEAR TO DATE	<b>\$1,573,911.00</b>

*No SOP for meeting*

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of  
October 24, 2007.

Meeting was opened in due form by Vice-Chairman George Mason. A roll call of officers was taken showing Chairman Nanowski excused, Sgt. at Arms excuses and all other officers present.

Minutes of previous meeting were presented, being no additions or corrections to those minutes Vice-Chairman George Mason stated that the minutes would stand approved as presented.

New Business: The service officer's report was read. Again this year our veterans received monetary awards totaling \$1,730,911.00. A motion was made by Joe Iwaszek and seconded by Nick Nekrosius that the service officer's report be accepted as presented. Motion passed.

A motion by Bernard Smith and seconded by Lawrence Graham that meeting adjourns. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Bernard Smith, American Legion Post 235; Larry Graham, Disabled American Veterans Post 86; George Mason, VFW Post 2470; Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; Joseph Iwaszek, Catholic War Veterans Post 1229; Howard Gast, American Legion Post 549; and Douglas Grieve, American Legion Post 260

The LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of July 25, 2007.

Meeting was opened in due form by Chairman Nanowski. A roll call of officers was taken showing the Chaplin excused and all other officers present.

Minutes of the previous meeting were presented. Being no additions or corrections to those minutes, Chairman Nanowski stated that the minutes would stand approved as presented.

New business: The service officer's report was read. All questions pertaining to the service officer's report was answered. A motion was made by George Mason and seconded by Lawrence Graham that the service officer's report be accepted as presented. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Lawrence Graham and seconded by Howard Gast that we adjourn. Motion passed.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Delegates Howard Gast, American Legion Post 549; Larry Graham, DAV Chapter 86; George Mason, VFW Post 2470; Ken Hausken, VFW 5506; Bernard Smith, American Legion Post 235; Joseph Iwaszek, Catholic War Veterans Post 1229; Alternate Gary Hamilton, American Legion Post 235; and Chairman Jim Nanowski, American Legion Post 33

## **SERVICE OFFICER'S REPORT AUGUST 2007**

Vietnam widow awarded burial benefits \$2000, Sandwich TOTAL \$2000

Iraq veteran, awarded IUE 2/06 – 11/06 \$2830 and 12/06 – 12/07 \$2921  
TOTAL \$66,273 STREATOR

Vietnam veteran awarded IUE 7/05 – 12/07 TOTAL \$78,645 OTTAWA,

WWII widow awarded VA pension with Aid and Attendance 5/07 12/07  
\$976 TOTAL \$7808 PERU

Vietnam veteran awarded 60% 8/06 – 11/06 \$960 - \$3840; 12/06 – 12/07  
\$990 - \$12,870 TOTAL \$16,710 WEST END

TOTAL VA BENEFITS FOR MONTH	\$171,436.00
TOTAL SOCIAL SECURITY	.00
TOTAL BENEFITS FOR AUGUST	\$171,436.00
TOTAL BENEFITS YEAR TO DATE	<b>\$1,342,407.00</b>



Minutes of the LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission meeting of June 27, 2007.

Meeting was opened in due form by Chairman Nanowski. A roll call of officers was taken showing the Sgt. at Arms excused and all other officers present.

Minutes of the previous meeting were presented. Being no additions or corrections to those minutes, Chairman Nanowski stated that the minutes would stand approved as presented.

**OLD BUSINESS:** Delegates discussed the LaSalle Veterans' Home. Superintendent Rue stated that it is entirely enclosed and on schedule. He further stated that additional parking areas would be appreciated.

**NEW BUSINESS:** The service officer's report was presented showing that the financial awards to area veterans are now past the \$1 million mark for the year. All questions pertaining to the service officer's report were answered. A motion was made by George Mason and seconded by Lawrence Graham that the service officer's report be accepted as presented. Motion passed.

Delegates and alternates reviewed the budget for fiscal year 2008. The Commission reviewed each line item and entered the dollar amount that they felt our VAC would need in order to fund its 2008 operations. A motion was made by Lawrence Graham and seconded by George Mason that the VAC budget for fiscal year 2008 be passed as recommended. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Doug Grieve and seconded by George Mason that we adjourn. Motion passed.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Delegates George Mason, VFW Post 2470; Lawrence Graham, DAV Chapter 86; Douglas Grieve, American Legion Post 260; and Chairman Jim Nanowski, American Legion Post 33.

**SERVICE OFFICER'S REPORT  
JULY 2007**

Vietnam veteran, east end awarded 70% for P.T.S.D. 7/2005 – 12/07  
TOTAL \$34,200

Persian Gulf veteran, Seneca, burial benefits \$600.00

Vietnam veteran's widow awarded D.I.C., death benefits, and last veteran's  
last 100% S/C VA check for veteran received TOTAL Benefits \$16,359.00

Vietnam veteran, Streator, received waiver of overpayment of \$4000 of VA  
Pension benefits

Vietnam veterans, Granville awarded 50% for diabetes and residuals 3/07 –  
12/07 \$810 monthly TOTAL \$8010

Vietnam veteran, Sandwich awarded 100% 6/06 – 11/07 \$2528; 12/06 –  
6/07 \$2610; 60% 7/07 – 12/07; TOTAL \$39,342.00

Iraq veteran, LaSalle awarded 70% for mental disorder 3/06 – 12/07 \$1135  
TOTAL \$24,970.00

TOTAL VA BENEFITS FOR JULY \$127,481.  
TOTAL SS BENEFITS FOR JULY 0.  
TOTAL BENEFITS FOR JULY \$127,481.  
TOTAL BENEFITS FOR YEAR \$1,170,971.

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of May 23, 2007.

Meeting opened in due form by Chairman Nanowski. A roll call of officers was taken showing Vice-Chairman excused. All other officers were present.

Minutes of previous meeting were presented. Being no additions or corrections to those minutes, Chairman Nanowski stated that the minutes would stand approved as presented.

Old Business: Superintendent Rue explained to the delegates and alternates present that the LaSalle Veterans Clinic van is operating four days a week, Monday through Thursday. The clinic further stated that if they get additional volunteer drivers they would be operating five days a week.

The LaSalle Veterans Home is on schedule and is completely enclosed. Anyone wishing to work there should make application at the LaSalle Veterans' Home. Once they start the hiring process it will be too late to get on Central Management Services list of applicants eligible for hire. We expect the interview process to start sometime after January 2008.

New Business: The service officer's report was read showing that our veterans as of May 2007 have received awards of \$830,277 for this fiscal year. All questions pertaining to the service officer's report were answered. A motion was made by Nick Nekrosius and seconded by Jerry Fuch that the service officer's report be accepted as presented. Motion passed.

Delegate Doug Grieves announced that the LaSalle County Historical Society will be paying tribute to all past and present servicemen and servicewomen who have served in our United States Armed Forces. This patriotic observance will be held June 16, 2007 in Utica as part of the LaSalle County Historical Society Centennial Year Celebration. It will take place at 10:00 in the morning and will be the start of the formal ceremonies and the public address by Lt. General Richard C. Henry, U.S.A.F (Ret.).

Motion was made by Howard Gast seconded by Jerry Fuch that we adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; Ray Richardson, American Legion Post 549; Jerry Fuch, American Legion Post 570; Ken Hausken, VFW Post 5506; Howard Gast, American Legion Post 549; Larry Graham, DAV Chapter 86; Doug Grieve, American Legion Post 260; and Chairman Jim Nanowski, American Legion Post 33

**SERVICE OFFICER'S REPORT  
JUNE 2007**

Veteran awarded Social Security Disability, West end, 11/03 – 12/07  
\$825.70 monthly TOTAL \$36,275.50

WWII veteran awarded IUE, Streator, \$2528.00 (1/06 -11/06) \$2610 (12/06  
– 12/07) TOTAL \$61,738.00

Vietnam veteran, Marseilles awarded PTSD \$70 \$1135 awarded 8/02 –  
12/07 Total \$81,000

Vietnam veteran, east end, awarded PTSD 70% 7/05 – 12/07 Total \$34,200

TOTAL VA benefits for month	\$176,938.00
Social Security for month	\$36,275.50
TOTAL for month	\$213,213.00
TOTAL year to date	\$1,043,490.00

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of April 25, 2007

Meeting was opened in due form by Chairman Nanowski. A roll call of officers was taken showing Sgt. at Arms excused and all other officers present.

Minutes of previous meeting were presented. Being no additions or corrections to those minutes, Chairman Nanowski stated the minutes would stand approved as presented.

Old business: Delegates discussed the LaSalle Veterans Clinic Van Program which goes to Hines VA Hospital in Hines, Illinois. They stated that there are four volunteer drivers. They want the superintendent to contact the clinic and find out which days of the week the van travels to Hines VA Hospital.

New business: The service officer's report was read showing that our veterans have received \$727,236 in financial benefits this fiscal year. All questions pertaining to the service officer's report were answered. Motion by George Mason and seconded by Nick Nekrosious that the service officer's report be accepted as presented. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Larry Graham and seconded by George Mason that we adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Bernard Smith, American Legion Post 235; Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; George Mason, VFW Post 2470; Jerry Fuchs, American Legion Post 570; Larry Graham, DAV Chapter 86; Howard Gast, American Legion Post 549; Douglas Grieve, American Legion Post 260; Alternate Gary Hamilton, American Legion Post 235 and Chairman Jim Nanowski, VFW Post 33

**Service Officer's Report  
May 2007  
Office Copy**

1. WWII Widow, DIC, west end, \$2610 12//06 – 12/07 and death benefit total \$17,414
2. VIETNAM WIDOW, DIC and death benefit, LaSalle 2/07 -12/-07 \$1067 monthly TOTAL \$16,347
3. VIETNAM WIDOW, west end, DOD survivor benefit \$790 2/07 - 12/07 TOTAL \$8690
4. IRAQ VETERAN, PENSION, Earlville TOTAL with backpay \$24,580
5. IRAQ VETERAN, Streator S/C 705 for back condition, 6/05 – 12/07 and backpay TOTAL \$36,010.00

TOTAL VA benefit for month	\$103,041.00
Social Security	00.00
TOTAL BENEFITS FOR MONTH	\$103,041.00
TOTAL YEAR TO DATE	\$830,277.00

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of March 28, 2007.

Meeting was opened in due form by Chairman Nanowski. A roll call of officers was taken showing all officers present.

Minutes of previous meeting were presented. Being no additions or corrections to those minutes, Chairman Nanowski stated that the minutes would stand approved as presented.

**OLD BUSINESS:** Alternate Hamilton stated that there is still a problem with the LaSalle Clinic's Van Program to Hines VA Hospital. He stated that some of those potential drivers from Marseilles were upset with the VA's request of a background check of potential drivers. Delegate Graham stated that Hines VA was going to be sending individuals to the LaSalle Veterans' Clinic to test the potential volunteer drivers. Chairman Nanowski stated that the van was going to Hines and that he has an appointment scheduled for next Monday.

**NEW BUSINESS:** The service officers' report was read. All questions pertaining to the service officers' report were answered. A motion was made by Larry Graham and seconded by George Mason that the service officers' report be accepted as presented. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Delbert Spitz and seconded by Ken Hausken that we adjourn. Motion passed.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Delegates Larry Graham, DAV Chapter 86; Bernie Smith, American Legion Post 235; Carl Key, American Legion Post 540; Delbert Spitz, VFW Post 4079; Howard Gast, American Legion Post 549; Jerry Fuchs, American Legion Post 570; Ken Hausken, VFW Post 5506; Doug Grieve, American Legion Post 260; George Mason, VFW Post 2470; Alternate Gary Hamilton, American Legion Post 235; and Chairman Jim Nanowski, American Legion Post 33

Service Officers' Report  
APRIL 2007

1. WWII veteran awarded I.U.E. \$2471 monthly from 11/1/04 – 12/07 total \$91,427
2. Iraq veteran from Streator awarded Social Security Disability from 2/07 through 12/07 \$1237 monthly and back pay \$27,209 total \$40,824
3. Vietnam veteran from Sandwich awarded 100% service connection for Lymphoma 7/05 \$2299; 12/05 \$2393; and 12/06 – 12/07 \$2471 total \$74,805
4. Vietnam era veteran from Mendota awarded 20% service connection for a back condition \$218 9/06 – 12/06; 1/07 – 12/07 \$225 total \$3579
5. Vietnam veteran from Ottawa awarded back pay for dependents from Social Security and monthly compensation for those dependent \$28,788
6. Vietnam veteran from Streator awarded Social Security Disability 6/07 – 12/07 total \$8970

TOTAL VA benefits for month \$169,811.00  
Social Security for month \$78,582.00  
TOTAL BENEFITS for month \$248,393.00  
TOTAL YEAR TO DATE \$727,236.00



**COUNTY OF LA SALLE**  
**VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION**

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**MARTIN J. RUE**  
Superintendent  
(815) 433-1761

April 9, 2007

LaSalle County Courthouse  
Room 103A  
119 W. Madison Street  
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

Honorable Representative Careen Gordon  
760 E. Division Street  
Coal City, IL 60416

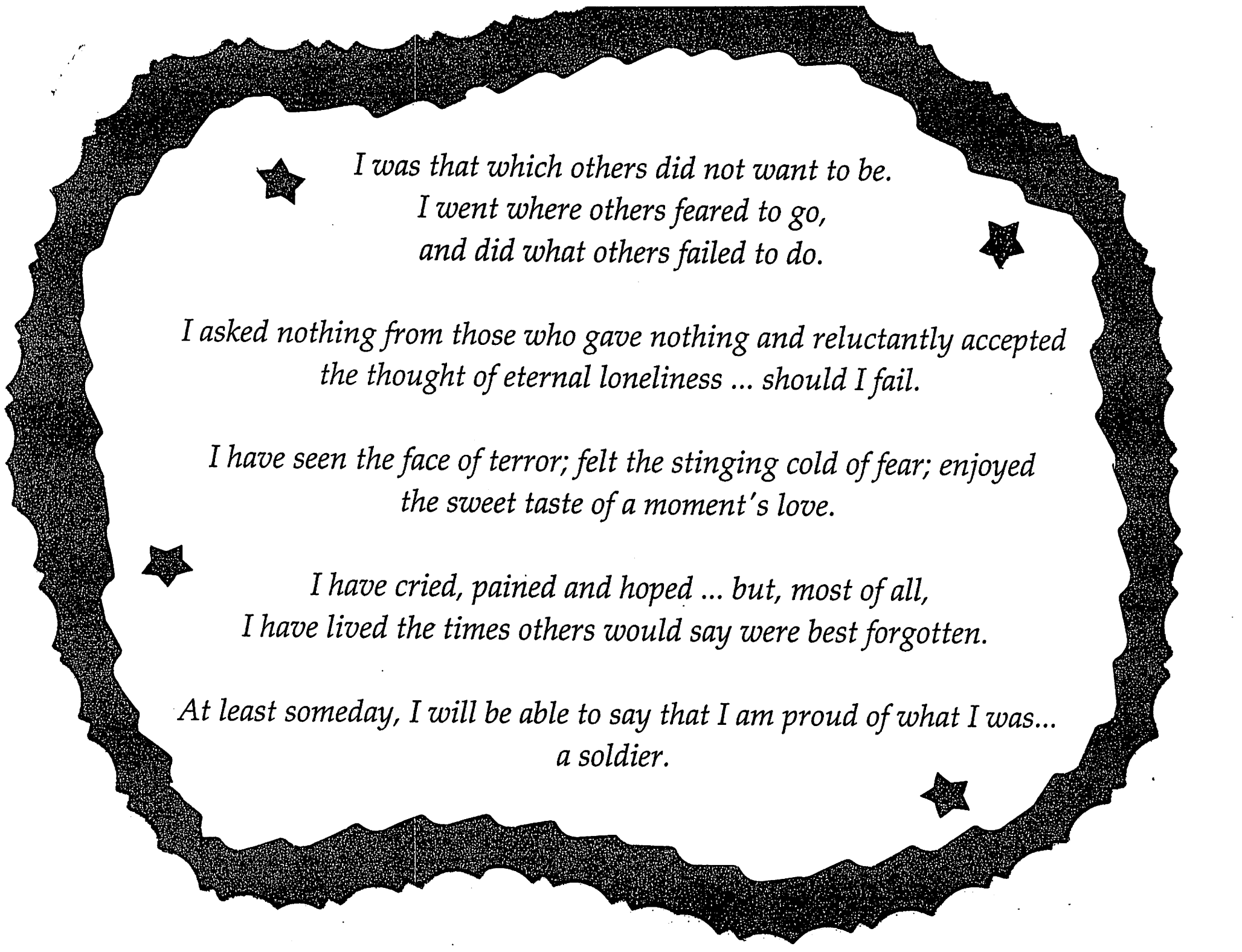
Dear Representative Gordon:

State of Illinois Representative Jack D. Franks for the fifth year has introduced H.B. 1139 which would correct the grave disparity in our State's disabled veterans "PROPERTY TAX CODE STATUTE", which denies many of our 100% service connected disabled veterans who are rated permanent and totally disabled by the United States Department of Veterans' Affairs their property tax exemption. I would ask you to sign on as a co-sponsor of H.B. 1139 if you have not already and ask your colleagues to also co-sponsor this legislation. The current state statute discriminates against 100% service connected permanent and totally disabled veterans by dividing them into two separate 100% disabled classes instead of treating them as equals. I know of no other State that says we will treat these 100% service connected disabled veterans better than these 100% service connected disabled veterans because one group must have made a greater sacrifice than the others. By not treating 100% service connected disabled veterans as equals they are saying we will provide this property tax exemption for these few and we will punish those other 100% service connected totally and permanently rated 100% disabled veterans for not sacrificing enough. To me, as a combat veteran, that is no different than saying if you are engaged in a battle and were killed by friendly fire you are not entitled to an honorable military burial as the soldier is that died in the same battle from enemy fire. Please correct this unjust statue now by seeing that H.B. 1139 gets passed now.

As of March 23, 2007 H.B. 1139 was re-referred to the Rules Committee. This is where a bill is sent to die. Please see that it is brought out of the Rules and passed by the House of Representatives. We are counting on you and your colleagues to see that H.B. 1139 becomes law this year. We need your help now.

Sincerely yours,

Martin J. Rue, Superintendent  
VAC of LaSalle County



*I was that which others did not want to be.  
I went where others feared to go,  
and did what others failed to do.*

*I asked nothing from those who gave nothing and reluctantly accepted  
the thought of eternal loneliness ... should I fail.*

*I have seen the face of terror; felt the stinging cold of fear; enjoyed  
the sweet taste of a moment's love.*

*I have cried, pained and hoped ... but, most of all,  
I have lived the times others would say were best forgotten.*

*At least someday, I will be able to say that I am proud of what I was...  
a soldier.*

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of February 28, 2007

Meeting was opened in due form by Chairman Nanowski. A roll call of officers was taken showing the Chaplain excused and all other officers present.

Minutes of previous meeting were presented. Being no additions or corrections to those minutes, Chairman Nanowski stated the minutes would stand approved as presented.

Old Business: Delegates and alternates discussed the LaSalle Veterans Clinic van situation. Superintendent Rue stated that we have to find volunteer drivers because Hines will not hire an individual to drive their van for them. It must be a volunteer.

New Business: The service officer's report was presented. All questions pertaining to the service officer's report were answered. Motion was made by Nick Nekrosius and seconded by Howard Gast that the service officer's report be accepted as presented. Motion passed.

Superintendent Rue presented letters to the delegates and alternates along with a copy of H.B. 243 "COMBAT MEDICALLY RETIRED VETERANS ACT OF 2007" presented by Congressman Jerry Weller and H.B. 1139, which would correct a grave disparity of our disabled veterans "PROPERTY TAX CODE STATUTES" presented by Illinois Representative Jack D. Franks.

Superintendent Rue shared a thank you letter from a couple from Streator in which after 60 years since service our office proved that he had a severe service connected disability, which had been denied twice in the past.

The delegates and alternates received a request to reimburse Kendall County VAC for transportation reimbursement should they take a LaSalle County veteran to the hospital in the Kendall County van. Superintendent Rue shared with the commission the decline of any such proposal due to the fact that our veterans reside in three different "Veteran Intergrated Service Networks" (V.I.S.N.). As a result of this we would have to enter into three different governmental agreements with those VAC's who would be willing to transport our veterans to Danville VA Hospital, V.I.S.N. 11; Iowa City, V.I.S.N. 14; and Hines VA Hospital, V.I.S.N. 12.

A motion was made by George Mason and seconded by Ken Hausken that we adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Larry Graham, DAV Chapter 86; George Mason, VFW Post 2470; Bernie Smith, American Legion Post 235; Ken Hausken, VFW Post 5506; Joseph Iwaszek, Catholic War Veterans Post 1229; Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; Howard Gast, American Legion Post 549; Alternates Ray Richardson, American Legion Post 549; Gary Hamilton, American Legion Post 235 and Chairman Jim Nanowski, American Legion Post 33

**Service Officer's Report**  
**March 2007**

1. Vietnam veteran awarded IUE 7/05 – 11/05 \$2429; 12/05 – 11/06 \$2528; 12/06 – 11/07 \$2610; total \$73,883 West end
2. Iraq veteran awarded IUE from 1/07 -12/07 Total \$34,776 Streator
3. Vietnam veteran awarded Social Security Disability \$15,600, two dependent children \$4000 TOTAL \$19,600 backpay, Ottawa
4. Vietnam veteran overpayment waiver total \$33,000, Streator
5. Vietnam veteran Social Security Disability \$1840 monthly 2/07-12/07 \$20,240 and backpay \$80,673; TOTAL \$100,913

TOTAL VA Benefits for month	\$141,659
Social Security for month	\$120,513
TOTAL benefits for month	\$262,172
TOTAL year to date	<b>\$478,843</b>

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of January 24, 2007.

Meeting was opened in due form by Chairman Nanowski. A roll call of officers was taken showing the Chaplain excused and all other officers present.

New business: The service officer's report was presented. All questions pertaining to the service officer's report were answered. Motion was made by Bernard Smith and seconded by George Mason that the service officer's report be accepted as presented. Motion passed.

Superintendent Rue shared a thank you letter with those present from an Ottawa veteran and his wife thanking our VAC for providing the services needed to prevent total devastation to their family.

Superintendent Rue shared letters with those present pertaining to no volunteer drivers for the LaSalle Veterans' Clinic. He also shared letters from United States Congressman Jerry Weller and State of Illinois Senator Gary Dahl pertaining to their requests that Hines VA Hospital hire a van driver. We must keep the pressure on to force Hines to fulfill their obligation to support the needs of our LaSalle Veterans' Clinic.

A motion was made by George Mason and seconded by Ken Hausken that we adjourn. Motion passed.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Delegates George Mason, VFW Post 2470; Bernie Smith, American Legion Post 235; Ken Hausken, VFW Post 5506; Jerry Fuchs, American Legion Post 570; Alternate Jim DeMoss, VFW Post 5506 and Chairman Jim Nanowski, American Legion Post 33

## Service Officer's Report February 2007

1. Iraq veteran awarded 100% convalescent for degenerative disc disease, 1/06 through 12/06 at \$2898 monthly – total \$34,776 Streater
2. Vietnam era veteran awarded pension with spouse and dependent child 1/06 through 12/06 total \$15,661 Ottawa
3. Iraq veteran awarded 40% SC for stomach and 10% for right arm 9/04 through 12/06 total \$17,500 LaSalle
4. Iraq veteran awarded 20% hearing loss at \$218 7/06 through 12/06 total \$1308 LaSalle
5. Vietnam veteran added spouse to pension claim 1/06 through 12/06 total \$3276 Streater
6. Vietnam veteran awarded 100% prostrate (added spouse to claim) \$135 monthly 1/06 through 12/06 \$1620 Oglesby
7. Vietnam veteran awarded 20% for diabetes and residuals 7/05 \$210; 12/05 increased to 60% and added \$87 month (K) \$990 through 12/06; 2005 \$1268; 2006 \$8406; and 2007 \$11,880 TOTAL \$21,554 Streater

Total VA benefits for month	\$95,695.00
Social Security for month	0.00
Total benefits for month	\$95,695.00
Benefits year to date	\$216,671.00

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of November 15, 2006.

Meeting was opened in due form by Chairman Iwaszek. A roll call of officers was taken showing in Chaplain excused and all other officers present.

Minutes of previous meeting were read. Being no additions or corrections to those minutes, Chairman Iwaszek stated the minutes would stand approved as presented.

Old Business: Superintendent Rue shared with the delegates and alternates a letter from Dixie Johnston thanking our office for helping her and her husband with their nursing home problems.

Delegate Graham stated that our van fund was short of its \$12,500 obligation by \$53.32. Delegate Grieves stated he would relinquish that obligation with a check. Alternate Richardson and Delegate Nanowski stated they would kick in with Mr. Grieves to see that the goal was met.

New Business: The election of officers for our VAC was held for the fiscal year 2006-07. Those elected is as follows:

Chairman – Jim Nanowski  
Vice-Chairman – George Mason  
Chaplain – Douglas Grieve  
Sgt. at Arms – Ken Hausken

All delegates and alternates present thanked those newly elected officers.

Motion was made by Delegate Mason and seconded by Delegate Graham that we adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Bernard Smith, American Legion Post 235; George Mason, V.F.W. Post 247;; Lawrence Graham, D.A.V. Chapter 86; Howard Gast, American Legion Post 549; Ken Hausken, V.F.W. Post 5506; Douglas Grieve, American Legion Post 260; Jim Nanowski, American Legion Post 33; Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; Alternate Raymond Richardson, American Legion Post 549; Lowell Ambler and Chairman Joseph Iwaszek, Catholic War Veterans Post 1229

## Service Officer's Report January 2007

1. Vietnam veteran received \$550 for 40% service connection for diabetes from 7/05 through 12/06 total \$9,900, west end
2. Vietnam veteran received 10% for a back injury from 2/05 through 12/06 total \$2484, west end
3. Vietnam veteran received Social Security Disability \$928 9/04 through 12/06 Total \$29,363; Ottawa
4. Vietnam dependent received Educational Benefits from VA \$827 9/06 through 12/06 \$3308; LaSalle
5. Iraq veteran added dependent child to service connected claim 3/05 through 12/06 total \$792; LaSalle
6. Vietnam veteran received 100% Convalescence care 5/06 – 6/07 \$2528; 50% 6/07 through 12/07 \$757 total \$37,406 – Ottawa
7. Vietnam veteran receives increase in service connected disability to 90% from 20% \$8699 back pay and \$1645 monthly total \$28,439; Ottawa
8. Vietnam veteran received 50% service connected for diabetes and PTSD \$844 2/1/06 – total \$9284; Earlville

Total VA Benefits 1/07 -	\$91,613.00
Social Security	\$29,363.00
Total for 1/07	\$120,976.00
Year to date	\$120,976.00



LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of November 14, 2007.

Meeting was opened in due form by Chairman Nanowski. A roll call of officers was taken showing all officers present.

Minutes of previous meeting were presented being no additions or corrections to those minutes, Chairman Nanowski stated that the minutes would stand approved as presented.

New Business: Superintendent Rue presented some news releases to those present. The delegates and alternates discussed the veterans' issues presented and all questions pertaining to those questions were answered.

Chairman Nanowski announced that we will now have the election of our officers for fiscal year 2008. Those elected are as follows:

1. Chairman – Jim Nanowski
2. Vice-Chairman – George Mason
3. Chaplain – Douglas Grieve
4. Sgt. at arms – Ken Hausken

A motion was made by Howard Gast and seconded by Joe Iwaszek that we adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Bernard Smith, American Legion Post 235; George Mason, VFW Post 2470; Ken Hausken, VFW post 5506; Douglas Grieve, American Legion Post 260; Howard Gast, American Legion Post 549; Joseph Iwaszek, Catholic War Veterans Post 1229; Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; and Chairman James Nanowski, American Legion Post 33

# **SERVICE OFFICER'S REPORT**

## **JANUARY 2008**

Vietnam veteran, Streator awarded 30% service connected disability 6/06 – 11/06  
\$2022.00 12/06 – 12/07 \$348 Total \$6546.00

Vietnam veteran, Marseilles added spouse to service connected claim total \$5970.00 with  
back pay and additional benefits through 12/07

Vietnam veteran, Marseilles added spouse to service connected claim total \$5670 with  
back pay and additional benefits through 12/07

World War II veteran, Oglesby awarded burial benefit \$300

Iraq veteran, Marseilles awarded 60% 9/05 back pay \$20,388 and \$901 monthly total  
\$26,695 through 12/07

World War II widow, Peru awarded Aid and Attendance 5/07 through 12/07 Total \$7808

Vietnam veteran, Peru awarded 100% service connected for prostate cancer with SMC  
12/06 through 8/07 total \$28,325

Vietnam veteran, west end, awarded social security disability \$973 monthly 6/07 through  
12/07 total \$6811

Vietnam veteran, LaSalle awarded 70% service connected added his dependants to his  
claim 7/05 – 12/07 \$168 monthly total \$5040

Vietnam veteran, west end awarded 100% service connected convalescent care 12/06  
through 12/07 \$2610 monthly total \$33,930

TOTAL VA BENEFITS THROUGH DECEMBER 2007	\$120,284.
TOTAL SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILTY	6,811.
TOTAL BENEFITS DECEMBER 2007	\$127,095.