



MONTHLY REPORT

JANUARY 2024

PREPARED BY

Christa Hammers
Superintendent

MEETING AGENDA

1-24-2024

- I. Call to Order & Salute to the Colors
- II. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag
- III. Chaplin's Prayer
- IV. Roll Call of Officers
- V. Reading & Approval of Meeting Minutes
- VI. Public Comment
- VII. Superintendent's Report
 - a. Office Activity
 - b. Annual Report/Governor Letter
 - c. Renewal of Post Delegate/Alternates
- VIII. Old Business
- IX. New Business
- X. For the Good of the Commission
- XI. Closing Prayer
- XII. Adjournment

Meeting MINUTES

11/22/2023

Call to Order & Salute to the Colors

President Harold Olsen called the meeting to order at 5:00pm and lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Delegates & Alternates Present

Tom Troutman - VFW - Mendota / Kenneth Harden - AmLeg - Ottawa / Bill Luther - VFW - Ottawa / Lance Sires - AmLeg - Marseilles / Greg Stock - AmLeg - Marseilles

Officers Present

President – Harold Olsen
Vice President – Dennis Znaniacki
Guard – Bill Paterson
Chaplin – Andy Ruggerio

Employees Present

Christa Hammers – Superintendent
Lissa Olson - Assistant Superintendent- EXCUSED
James Sturtevant- VSO
Emily Hackler- VSO- EXCUSED
Kelli Rietgraf - Administrative Assistant

Meeting

MINUTES

Approval of Meeting minutes as presented:

Motion by Andy Ruggerio and seconded by Kenneth Harden. Motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment

NONE

Superintendent's Report

Christa told the commission that the community was fantastic support in assisting the VAC Office with supplying all of the Veterans at the LaSalle VA Home everything on their wish lists! Our Admin Asst - Kelli was able to create a system that kept everything from being mis-placed and able to get to the right Veteran. She also happened to wrap EVERY gift!

Also discussed that on December 7th the VAC and our Commission President, Harold Olson, painted windows at the VA Home. The date moved due to weather on the 5th. It was a great event and one we look forward to annually!

Christa stated that Santa is visiting on December 16th from 9-NOON. Bring the kids and support the office!

Christa is currently working on the Annual Reports and Govenor's Letter. Those will posted on our website as soon as possible.

Christa then told the Commission that we are now over \$7 million in benefits payouts and had 93 walk-ins for the month of Novermber.

Superintendent's report was motioned for approval by Kenneth Harden and seconded by Bill Patterson. Motion passed unanimously.

Old Business- NONE.

Meeting MINUTES

New Business

NONE

For the Good of the Commission

Dennis stated that Peru's Pearl Harbor Day Vigil will be at South Shore Boat Club in Peru. December 2 - starts at 11:30AM. They will be serving Chilli Bean Soup. Also stated that the VAC is doing a great job and that he is happy with our numbers, seconded by the rest of the commission.

Christa reminded the Commission that there is NO December meeting and to have a great holiday season! Next Meeting- January 24, 2024.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was made by Bill Patterson and seconded by Bill Luther.
Motion passed unanimously at 5:13pm.

DECEMBER/JANUARY**Office Activity:**

Santa visited the VAC office on December 16th and we had a pretty good turnout. He looks forward to visiting again next year!

The annual reports are now up on our website, they are also attached as an overview of our FY 23. The letter to the governor is also attached and up on our website.

Annual renewal for Post Delegate/Alternate papers have been mailed to posts- please have those to the office no later than March 1st. Nominations/voting in for positions on VAC Board will be at the March meeting- nominations have to be Post Delegate/Alternate.

Be sure to have new members complete OMA Certificate/bring in DD214.

On January 10-12 Christa and Lissa will be in East Peoria for our State Association Winter Meeting. Lissa will again be running for the position of Secretary on that Board.

Property Tax Season is upon us- so be sure that if you are Service-Connected 30% or more, you make an appointment and come in to file for your exemptions.

Emily is now seeing clients every Monday in Marseilles. We are happy to have another outreach location!

| DECEMBER Office Activity | | | |
|---------------------------------|-----|-----------------------|-----|
| Office Visits | 80 | Intent to File | 20 |
| Phone | 504 | Intital Claims | 24 |
| Outstation | 12 | Appeals | 14 |
| Mendota | 1 | VA Healthcare | 7 |
| Streator | 10 | Pension/DIC | 3 |
| Marseilles | 1 | Other | 137 |

PTSD: 17 Flutes: 11 VHA: 2

Walk ins- Appts Made: 16 Walk ins- Questions: 44 - TOTAL: 60

Our Office
EVENTS

| DECEMBER Claims Summary | | | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| Total Percentage | Month Submitted | Through | 2023 Amount | Monthly Amount |
| 70% | 10/6/2023 | Dec-24 | \$ 41,879.96 | \$ 1,716.28 |
| 70% | 8/7/2023 | Dec-24 | \$ 25,086.78 | \$ 1,716.28 |
| 80% | 8/16/2022 | Dec-24 | \$ 32,995.32 | \$ 1,995.01 |
| 90% | 2/21/2023 | Dec-24 | \$ 43,592.37 | \$ 2,561.65 |
| 40% | 5/5/2023 | Dec-24 | \$ 12,459.00 | \$ 755.28 |
| 20% | 5/30/2023 | Dec-24 | \$ 6,685.80 | \$ 338.49 |
| 60% | 8/17/2023 | Dec-24 | \$ 23,521.48 | \$ 1,486.88 |
| 100% | 12/14/2023 | Dec-24 | \$ 27,221.81 | \$ 1,612.75 |
| 100% | 3/2/2023 | Dec-24 | \$ 50,831.41 | \$ 4,072.12 |
| 10% | 8/10/2022 | Dec-24 | \$ 4,503.72 | \$ 171.23 |
| burial | 10/11/2023 | Dec-24 | \$ 2,000.00 | \$ 2,000.00 |
| DIC | 10/11/2023 | Dec-24 | \$ 25,171.80 | \$ 1,612.75 |
| 10% | 8/15/2022 | Dec-24 | \$ 4,503.72 | \$ 171.23 |
| 30% | 8/9/2023 | Dec-24 | \$ 6,291.72 | \$ 524.31 |
| 80% | 8/5/2023 | Dec-24 | \$ 29,325.39 | \$ 2,365.01 |
| 60% | 6/26/2023 | Dec-24 | \$ 19,336.71 | \$ 1,486.88 |
| 100% | 10/18/2023 | Dec-24 | \$ 55,125.14 | \$ 3,946.25 |
| MOD | 11/22/2023 | Dec-24 | \$ 3,952.51 | \$ - |
| burial | 11/22/2023 | Dec-24 | \$ 2,000.00 | \$ - |
| 30% | 5/2/2023 | Dec-24 | \$ 13,116.43 | \$ 632.31 |
| 30% | 5/2/2023 | Dec-24 | \$ 13,116.43 | \$ 632.31 |
| 20% | 9/27/2023 | Dec-24 | \$ 5,056.35 | \$ 338.49 |
| 90% | 8/4/2023 | Dec-24 | \$ - | \$ 2,241.91 |
| dependent | 3/29/2023 | Dec-24 | \$ 2,185.00 | \$ - |
| HLR | 8/23/2023 | Dec-24 | \$ 2,194.64 | \$ - |
| Compensation | 8/14/2023 | Dec-24 | \$ 55,720.05 | \$ 3,737.85 |
| Compensation | 6/1/2023 | Dec-24 | \$ 22,111.21 | \$ 1,361.88 |
| DIC | 10/5/2023 | Dec-24 | \$ 31,075.60 | \$ 1,955.21 |
| Compensation | 9/13/2022 | Dec-24 | \$ 33,483.10 | \$ 1,716.28 |
| Compensation | 8/24/2022 | Dec-24 | \$ 84,991.68 | \$ 3,946.25 |
| Compensation | 8/17/2023 | Dec-24 | \$ 22,335.36 | \$ 1,861.28 |
| | | | | |
| | | Total | \$701,870.49 | \$46,956.17 |
| | | Year to Date Total | \$701,870.49 | \$46,956.17 |

The VAC is happy to report that we are starting the year off with over \$700,000 in benefits paid out to our Veterans and Families! We see our office visit numbers slowing a bit, but we remain busy with our phone calls and continued contact with our clients. We hope to continue this upward trend and bring in more events/programs for our clients this year.

Our Office
OVERVIEW

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OVERVIEW