

County

VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION MINUTES FROM 10 APRIL 1985

Meeting opened with proper ceremonies at 8:00 p.m. Chairman Robert Wachowiak presiding. Roll call and reading of the minutes by Mr. Wachowiak.

Motion made by Delegate Ernie Patton, Post 217 for verification of the Bogardus Act. Motion second by Delegate Carl Kirar, Post 283. Passed unanimously.

Superintendent Rue asked for the OK to setup a program to bring funds into the county to hire the veterans. We will be using the Viet-Nam Veterans as a target group. The VAC will supervise and setup the program. They will need an administrator and workers. They will qualify veterans for the different programs. We will have workers come in to help train these individuals.

Delegate Ralph Adler, Post 235 made a motion that we follow through on the Veterans Out-Reach and Information Center. Howard Smith Delegate Post 33 second the motion. Passed unanimously.

We are now getting a list of unemployed veterans in La Salle County. La Salle County Job Service will give us a monthly update.

Sunday the 14 of April 1985, at 10:00 a.m., the Viet-Nam Vets at the American Legion Post in Ottawa will host a doctor from Westside VA Hospital. He will be explaining the procedures for getting VA physicals and screening for agent orange. It will be an open meeting. The article is in the Nam Vets Newsletter.

It was requested that Superintendent Rue attend the meeting.

Ira Schmidt, Earlville Post 549 added his name to the list of drivers to the VA hospitals.

After the closing ceremonies the meeting was ajourned.

The next meeting will be held on May 8, 1985, at the Old Courthouse, Ottawa. The south door will be open from 7:00 until 7:40 p.m.

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Motion made by Delegate Ernie Patton, Post 217 for verification of the Boqardus Act. Motion second by Delegate Karl Kerar, Post 883. Passed unanimously.

Superintendent Rue asked for the OK to setup a program to bring in funds into the county to hire the veterans. We will be using the Viet-Nam Veterans as a target group. The VAC will supervise and setup the program. They will need an administrator and workers. Someone preferably from each war-era in the office. It will be their job to go to the industries and seek the employment, build up a repertoire with industry, and learn how to screen job personnel. They will qualify veterans for the different programs. We will have workers come in to help us train these people from other veteran organizations. We are just the overseers. We may have to work the program through a three county area. In the SDA 12 area there are three counties, we may have to work it through like J.T.P.A. It would not require any monies from the county or the VAC. We will have opposition to this program.

Alternate Ralph Adler, Post 235 made a notion that we follow through on the Veterans Out-Reach and Information Center. Howard Smith Delegate Post 33 second the motion. Passed unanimously.

We are now getting a list of unemployed veterans in La Salle County. La Salle Job Service will give us a monthly update.

Superintendent Rue stated that he had Sue Weed of the Dept. of Veterans Affairs, contact Springfield on the hospital deal. I wrote a letter requesting 300 beds instead of 60 because I was told that Mantino is going for another 1500. This was stated at the V.F.W. dinner in Springfield. Tillis the State Commander of the V.F.W., Bartel and Motley were all together with Sam Maggio and myself. Panzenca, Francis Perra, and Smith were standing off to the side when Tillis told Maggio, myself, Bartel, and Motley what they were planning to do. I told the Dept. of Veterans Affairs that we were applying for a 300 bed facility instead of 60. We want it now before they get the 1500. Ms. Norwood called me last week about the letter I wrote to the Governor. They all denied making any statements. She also stated when she talked to Ms. Weed, that the letter is in the Governor's hand. They are waiting on the feasibility study that is to be in by April 15, 1985. She seemed to think that they will be breaking ground this summer.

A question was asked about the financing of the 300 bed unit.

The state pays total cost. They then get reimbursed 65% from the federal government. There is no cost to the county.

Superintendent Rue explained a case he has been working on. "I got a call Sunday about an indigent veteran who has been rated mentally incompetent since July of last year. Social Security has no where to send his checks,

because no one was appointed as guardian. The VA put him into a nursing home on a two month contract. His ex-wife picked him up and he left the nursing home. The police found him roaming the streets. He was beaten. The hospital kept him a week until his Public Aid funds ran out and then called me. I told them to keep him another day. I can't transfer him yet. I called Danville. They could not take the veteran because Hines had already rated him. I found out that once you have been rated by the VA in that capacity and you leave the place that you are at, they will not accept you back. I then went down to Danville. They did a super job. The service was excellent. Everyone worked with me. We got him admitted. They will be moving him to Quincy. One of the other agencies that were called in this area said that their place was not a flophouse. I contacted that director and I will be sending a written copy of the letter that was sent to me from the hospital. The veterans residency was I.V.C. Hospital when I picked him up."

Superintendent Rue explained that he had talked to George Watts of the Dept. of Veterans Affairs concerning an article that came out in the Legion Bulletin from the National. There is a new move that is being made in Washington to get better health care techniques and methods. The Director for the American Legion wrote a letter to a congressman in Washington. In the letter it states, "This is what you have asked me to write, so I am writing it as you requested." This new medical procedure is to put the indigents that need help back into their environment, living in houses and paying a little additional assistance for help. To do away with custodial care and cut down on the admission to the VA hospitals. I told George Watts that if they let that go through there will be a reduction in VA hospitals. They are again trying to get rid of aid for the large number of U.W.II vets. How a man that is a national officer can make a statement like that is beyond me. He said that the American Legion is 100% behind that procedure. We are all going to have to become concerned as veterans or we will lose our VA hospitals and our nursing homes. Their statement is that we are institutionalizing these people and that is inhumane. A person that needs constant care can get it only by institutionalization. If they can knock that group out we will lose the beds, so bring that up at your meetings.

Sunday the 14 of April 1985, at 10:00 a.m., the American Legion Post in Ottawa will be giving a room to a speaker who is a doctor for giving physicals at Westside VA Hospital for agent orange. He will be explaining the procedures for getting up there for the screening for agent orange. It will be an open meeting. The article is in the Nam Vets Newsletter.

It was requested that Superintendent Rue attend the meeting.

Ira Schmidt, Earlville Post 549 added his name to the list of drivers to the VA hospitals.

After the closing ceremonies the meeting was adjourned.

The next meeting will be held on May 8, 1985, at the Old Courthouse, Ottawa. The south door will be open from 7:00 until 7:40 p.m.

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Motion made by Delegate Ernie Patton, Post 217 for verification of the Bogardus Act. Motion second by Delegate Carl Kirar, Post 883. Passed unanfmously.

Superintendent Rue asked for the OK to setup a program to bring funds into the county to hire the veterans. We will be using the Viet-Nam Vets as a target group. The VAC will supervise and setup the program. They will need an administrator and workers. They will qualify veterans for the different programs. We will have workers come in to help train these individuals.

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VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION MINUTES FROM MAY 8, 1985

County Minutes

Meeting opened with proper ceremonies at 8:00 p.m. with Chairman Robert Wachowaik presiding. Reading of the minutes from the previous meeting were read and roll call was taken.

Dave Harvey discussed a case that he had worked on concerning a veteran that had been discharged from Hines VA Hospital. He explained that a VA nursing home contract expires after six months. After that the family has to pay the bill. The VA does not tell you that going into a nursing home.

Superintendent Rue explained that the VA will appoint a guardian to assume the check as soon as it is authorized. Social Security does not have to do this until the individual tells Social Security who is the guardian. One veteran had monies coming from last July, he never received a check because there is no appointed guardian. It is not Social Security's job to appoint one.

A question was asked regarding what a service officer can do?

The service officer will get ahold of the social worker immediately. There is a social worker located at every VA hospital. Talk to the social worker and tell them that they cannot send this veteran home. If no one calls them they will permit the VA to discharge a veteran that should remain hospitalized.

Superintendent Rue stated that the social workers do not always work on the behalf of the veteran. A social worker has to be approached by someone other than the veteran. They have to tell them that they are not going to tolerate this type of treatment. They will then do what they can do to help the veteran.

Can the veterans go into the nursing home on Medicaid or Social Security at any age?

Yes, you can if the individual doesn't have funds you can get Public Aid assistance. Most of the nursing homes like other businesses has to make money to operate. The state will take care of a percent of the bill. If it is a war era veteran they can sometimes get aid and attendance from the VA. If a service officer does the work they will work hand-in-hand with them. The family sometimes has a hard time working with them.

Superintendent Rue stated that he met with the Vet Rehab Officer from Chicago for disabled vets around the State of Illinois. They are funded by the VA and work hand-in-hand with them. They are part of the VA. They cannot get their own clientele into the hospitals. This is due to the lack of funds.

Superintendent Rue explained the numbering system of the Assistance Report. Instead of the name of the veteran we assign a number. It was also stated that some of the officers have been complaining that it has taken them too long to reach the office by phone.

Superintendent Rue explained the reports that he sends to the service officer with a complete medical search on the individual. I prepare the case for them and send it to Chicago so that he is ready for the VA when the VA denies the claim. It is ironic that my medical information is always different from the VA. The service officer has to ask the VA to reconsider the case based on the medical information in their files or else they can appeal it. They can also demand a new examination which many of them are doing. The veterans go to another VA hospital and get the examination, they then compare the two. They send the appeal to Washington D.C.

Several cases were discussed that our office has been working on.

The letters that were sent to Mr. Whetstone and the American Legion were discussed. Mr. Lyngh from the American Legion wrote and told Mr. Rue to keep his nose out of his business. He stated that none of these decisions have to go to any of these conventions. They have to power on the national level to make the decisions. Superintendent Rue stated that he will be discussing the letter at the Concerned Veterans meeting. Mr. Lyngh also stipulates that he has never heard of custodial care in the VA. Mr. Rue stated that is what we are trying to bring to LaSalle.

The letter from Mr. Whetstone from the Job Training Program Division stated the reasons Dislocated Workers Center doesn't qualify veterans with honorable discharges into the program. This is Mr. Whetstones opinion:

1. Primarily to serve those people that were unemployed due to major close-ups and layoffs. This was the intent of the Title 3 money.
2. Federal Public Law 97-362 effective as of October 1982. This reduced veterans unemployment insurance benefits to 13 weeks from 26 weeks based on the premise that the veterans had the opportunity to reenlist.

Mr. Whetstone went on to say that he would recommend to any veteran determined ineligible for Title 3 services be referred to Title 2 services and if not there on to Title 1 funding. Mr. Rue stated that Mr. Whetstone is skirting the issue.

Mr. Whetstone sent a list of the Representatives that were responsible for setting up rules in the State of Illinois. We might write to these people and ask them for a revision based on the unemployment revision of the 13 weeks. Maybe we could make them eligible through that passage. The Commerce Commission is who we have to deal with.

Mr. Rue discussed the secretarial job description.

When the departments made their budgets for the year they were to include X amount of dollars into that budget for the salary increase December 1, 1985. The board said that this was an oversight on their part that the VAC was not informed of this. There is no monies in our budget for the increase. Had you appropriated the money into the budget she would have gotten the raise.

The Fee and Salary Committee suggested that Mr. Rue go to the County VAC Committee and transfer out of the contingency fund due to the fact that it was an oversight of the Fee and Salary Committee. Unless the monies come from within the budget you cannot reopen your salaries.

Motion made by Delegate Adler, Post 235 to take \$500 from the contingency fund to pay the secretary's additional salary with the approval of the County VAC. Second by Delegate Patton, Post 217. Motion passed.

Election of a new chairman due to the resignation of Chairman Wachowiak. Motion was made and seconded to accept the resignation of Chairman Wachowiak, passed unanimously.

Motion made by Delegate Larry Anderson, Post 8414 to accept Delegate Patton, Post 217 as Chairman of the VAC Committee to serve the remainder of the term. Second by Alderman John Sadowski, Post 883. Passed unanimously.

Meeting was ajourned at 9:00 p.m. The next meeting will be July 10, 1985 at the Old Courthouse in Ottawa. The doors on the south side of the building will be opened from 7:00 until 7:40 p.m.

JUNE 1985

5/30/85 Talked with Mental Health regarding a veteran missed appointments.

5/31/85 Veteran called and requested an application; Township Supervisor
him to our office.

6/4/85 Secured ride for veteran to Chicago for physical.

6/4/85 Vouchers paid for the following veterans:

84)	Transportation	\$40.50
58)	Transportation	61.20
56)	Transportation	19.20
84)	Transportation	20.25
64)	Assistance with rent and utilities	
82)	Assistance with utilities and rent	
80)	Assistance with utilities	
43)	Assistance with personal and laundry	
86)	Assistance with rent	
87)	Assistance with rent and utilities	

6/5/85 Veteran 88 applied for assistance with rent

6/6/85 Veteran 84 reapplied for assistance

6/14/85 Vouchers paid for the following veterans:

43)	Assisted with June rent and utilities
39)	Assistance with June rent
28)	Assistance with June rent
29)	Assisted with June rent and utilities
40)	Assistance with June rent
72)	Assistance with June rent
88)	Assistance with June rent
84)	Assisted with transportation

6/17/85 Veteran 42 reapplied for assistance

6/17/85 Veteran 43 reapplied for laundry assistance

6/18/85 Sent notices of approval to veterans.

6/18/85 Sent forms to Bruce Township, Recordbooks, and Journal Graphics.

6/19/85 Letters sent applicants

6/20/85 Letter sent to Social Security Administration

6/25/85 Letter sent to West Side V.A. Hospital

6/26/85 Notice of approval sent to veterans

6/28/85 Letters sent to all V.A.C members and Veterans posts.

June 1965

6/2 6:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
6/3 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
6/4 6:00 a.m. to 10:30 p.m.
6/5 9:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

total of 1st week 37 hours

6/14 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. 5 days leave approved by the VAC

Total 2nd week 12 hours

6/17 7:00 a.m. to 10:30 p.m.
6/18 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
6/19 6:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.
6/20 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
6/21 6:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Total of 3rd week 60½

6/24 7:00 a.m. to 10:30 p.m.
6/25 6:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.
6/26 7:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.
6/27 6:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
6/28 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

total of 4th week 57½

Agencies contacted:

Social Security
Tri-County
Governor's Office
Department of Public Aid
Prairie State Legal Services
Township Supervisors
Salvation Army
Veterans Administration
Amvets Service Officer
Hines VA Hospital
Mental Health

Northern Illinois Gas
Illinois Bell Telephone
AT&T
Commonwealth Edison
Illinois Power
Illini Communications
Bill Ficek Electric
Illinois Valley Business Equipment
Modern Business Equipment

Supplies used:

69 stamps @ 22¢
100 copies

VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION minutes from July 10, 1985

Meeting opened with proper ceremonies at 7:45 p.m., Chairman Patton presiding. After roll call and reading of the minutes of the May 8, 1985 meeting, motion was made by Delegate Adler, Post 235 to accept the minutes, second by Delegate Jim Bump, Amvets Post 78, passed unanimously.

New business was discussed, Superintendent Rue stated that he has been in contact with a man from St. Joseph's Retirement Home in Wedron, Illinois. It is a corporation that is in the process of buying that hospital facility. The way that it has been explained to me is that they are trying to make it into a low-income housing. People will be able to move into this facility and have their own apartments there. If the individual has any skills such as a boilermaker, pipefitter, or anything on that order he could work at the facility three or four hours a day and they would credit him points towards the rent. Also at the facility will be a vocational training school. They bring in people who have no skills, who are looking for jobs, and these individuals would train them and receive credit for that. This facility also has sites in Wisconsin, Michigan, and Missouri. These have all been accredited by these states as non-profit organizations. I told them that this might be interesting to the veterans due to the fact that the veterans have trouble finding housing if he is an indigent. I told him that the Concerned Veterans will be meeting in August should he want to speak at that meeting I would be glad to have him talk before the group to explain the program. If it would be certified by the State of Illinois we would be more than happy to support it. I told him that I would bring that up at the meeting tonight.

A question was asked how this program would benefit the younger ones?

Mr. Rue explained that it would be like an apprentice program for them. Like a vocational school they would be working there to receive credits towards a certificate. It was explained that there is no problem in the other states with industry. Industry has a problem with making cash donations. When asked for services, extra equipment, and such that they have on hand, they can donate it and write it off. They have been very supportive at these other sites. It is something that they are trying to setup here in LaSalle County.

An announcement to participate in the National POW Recognition Day which will be Friday, July 19, 1985 at 8:30 p.m., it will be held at the Vietnam Veterans Plaza, downtown Ottawa. Anyone interested in participating please contact our office and I will contact them.

Superintendent Rue stated that he has received authorization from the county to attend a meeting in St. Louis, Missouri for two days concerning the J.T.P.A. Title 4 funding.

Superintendent Rue stated that there has been several veterans in our office that are having a hard time finding work. He explained that Burns Security out of the Joliet area are in dire need of guards. Our office assisted in finding several veterans work in the past few months.

Continued

VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION Minutes from July 10, 1980

Meeting opened with prayer. Chairman Paton presided. After roll call and reading of the minutes of the May 8, 1980 meeting, motion was made by George... to accept the minutes... seconded by Delegate Jim... by a vote of 15, passed unanimously.

Mr. Superintendent... stated that he has been in contact with a man from St. Joseph's Retirement Home in Webster, Illinois. It is a concern that in the process of buying this hospital facility, the way that it has been explained to me is that they are trying to make it into a low-income housing. People will be able to move into this facility and have their own apartments there. If the individual has any skills such as a bookkeeper, typewriter, or anything on that order he could work at the facility three or four hours a day and they would credit him points towards the rent. Also at the facility will be a vocational training school. They bring in people who have no skills, who are looking for jobs, and these individuals would train them and receive credits for that. This facility also has sites in Wisconsin, Michigan, and Missouri. There have all been accredited by these states as non-profit organizations. I told them that this might be interesting to the veterans plus to the fact that the veterans have trouble finding housing it is an independent. I told them that the Co-located Veterans will be meeting in August should we want to speak at that meeting I would be glad to have him call before the group to explain the program. If it would be certified by the State of Illinois we would be more than happy to support it. I told him that I would bring that up at the meeting tonight.

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An announcement to participate in the National POW-Recognition Day which will be Friday, July 19, 1980 at 8:30 a.m. it will be held at the Vietnam Veterans Plaza downtown Ottawa. Anyone interested in participating please contact our office and I will contact them.

Superintendent Rue stated that he has received authorization from the county to attend a meeting in St. Louis, Missouri for two days concerning the S.T.A. Title A funding.

Superintendent Rue stated that there has been several veterans in our office that are having a hard time finding work. He explained that Burns Security out of the Joint area are in dire need of guards. Our office assisted in finding several veterans work in the past few months.

The budget has to be submitted Friday, July 12, 1985. If it is approved it then is submitted to the finance committee. The county agreed to the purchase of a new telephone system, one with two lines, a hold button, and an intercom system. This was listed with the lowest bid of \$725. On the typewriter I listed the lowest bid \$636. I will also submit the other bids that I received to show the county that these are the lowest bids.

We are going to have to advertise. We have two drivers Chairman Patton and Charlie Beicker. I suggested to them that they bring all the veterans into the office to fill out an application due to the fact that we have found several that should have filed for non-service disability pension years ago that have not applied. We have found three Social Security disability cases eligible that have been going on for five years. I have gotten two of them approved. If they come through the office we will know if they have a case and start filling out forms. We develop the case here then send the case to a service officer. The VA examines the veteran and ironically their exam never turns out the same way as the medical evidence we submit. The service officer can then jump on them immediately.

A letter was discussed from Lynch. We wrote a letter to the American Legion in Washington D.C. Subject: Survey and Compensation of Pension Examination. It is in regards to reports from all over the United States that they are having numerous complaints that veterans are not getting proper physicals. The VA is running them in, giving them a quick exam, and denying them. They are in the process of setting-up another federal investigation of the VA.

Superintendent Rue stated that he received a letter from I.V.C.C. that had been sent to them June 26, 1985 talking about Title 3 funding. This year a committee drafted new regulations in this one section pertaining to dislocated worker center regulations.

Military Service: Termination of Military service per se cannot be used to establish Title 3 eligibility. The state Title 3 Program is to assist individuals who have suffered permanent loss of employment due to change in the economy; therefore, it is the intent of this program to serve applicants who were involuntarily terminated from employment.

A question was asked pertaining to St. Mary's Hospital. Mr. Rue stated that in the area and Chicago papers that it was not listed as being passed. He talked to Springfield a week and a half ago and they told him that the Certificate of Need is going as scheduled. The monies is in the Capital Development Board's budget. He stated that he hasn't read anywhere that the budget has been approved. He was assured that the money was in there. Route 51 was not listed in the paper either as being funded. Jim Bump called the City Attorney in LaSalle and they have not heard anything about the funding of St. Mary's Hospital. He is very concerned and will be writing them a letter asking what is going on with the project. The Dept. of Veterans Affairs has assured us that it is on their priority list, but we cannot get anything in writing. One thing that they did say is that the ground breaking is scheduled for August.

Meeting was adjourned. The next meeting will be held on August 14, 1985 at the Old Courthouse, downtown Ottawa.

The budget has to be submitted Friday, July 12, 1965. If it is approved it then is submitted to the finance committee. The county agreed to the purchase of a new telephone system, one with two lines, a hold button, and an intercom system. This was listed with the lowest bid of \$250. On the typewriter I listed the lowest bid \$300. I will also submit the other bids that I received to show the county that these are the lowest bids.

We are going to have to advertise. We have two drivers Chairman Patton and Charlie Becker. I suggested to them that they bring all the veterans into the office to fill out an application due to the fact that we have found several that should have filed for non-service disability pension years ago that have not done so. We have found three social security disability cases that have been going on for five years. I have gotten two of them approved. If they come through the office we will know if they have a case and start filling out forms. We develop the case here then send the case to a service officer. The VA examines the veteran and finally their exam never turns out the same way as the medical evidence we submit. The service officer can then jump on them immediately.

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A question was asked pertaining to St. Mary's Hospital. Mr. Rue stated that in the area and Chicago papers that it was not listed as being paid. He talked to Springfield a week and a half ago and they told him that the Certificate of Need is going as scheduled. The money is in the Capital Development Board's budget. He stated that he hasn't read anywhere that the budget has been approved. He was assured that the money was in there. Route 51 was not listed in the paper either as being funded. Jim Bump called the City Attorney in LaSalle and they have not heard anything about the funding of St. Mary's Hospital. He is very concerned and will be writing them a letter asking what is going on with the project. The Dept. of Veterans Affairs has assured us that it is on their priority list, but we cannot get anything in writing. One thing that they did say is that the ground breaking is scheduled for August.

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August 20, 1985

New--96	Payment level \$330 No Income or Food Stamps	Voucher #147--\$50 Utilities #148--\$115 Rent
87	Payment level \$240 No Income	Voucher #145--\$100 Rent
64	Payment level \$149 Township Assistance \$56.50	Voucher #144--\$82.50 Rent
72	Payment level \$240 No income	Voucher #143--\$115 Rent
42	Payment level \$149 No Income	Voucher #142--\$80 Lot Rent
82	Payment level \$149 Township Assistance \$49	Voucher #141--\$100 Rent
New-106	Payment level \$149 No Income	Voucher #140--\$115 Rent
89	Payment level \$330 Public Aid \$279	Voucher #139--\$50 Utilities
90	Payment level \$149 No Income	Voucher #139--\$50 Utilities
New-105	Payment level \$149 No Income	Voucher #138--\$100 Rent
29	Payment level \$149 Township Assistance \$59	Voucher #149--\$90
105		Voucher #151--\$38.73 Utilities

August 20, 1958

Voucher #151--\$38.73 Utilities	89 Payment level \$149 Township Assistance \$59
Voucher #149--\$30	88 Payment level \$149 Township Assistance \$59
Voucher #138--\$100 Rent	87 Payment level \$149 No Income
Voucher #132--\$10 Utilities	86 Payment level \$149 No Income
Voucher #130--\$80 Utilities	85 Payment level \$330 Public Aid \$279
Voucher #140--\$115 Rent	New-106 Payment level \$149 No Income
Voucher #141--\$100 Rent	84 Payment level \$149 Township Assistance \$59
Voucher #142--\$00 Lot Rent	83 Payment level \$149 No Income
Voucher #143--\$115 Rent	82 Payment level \$240 No Income
Voucher #144--\$82.50 Rent	81 Payment level \$149 Township Assistance \$59.50
Voucher #145--\$100 Rent	80 Payment level \$240 No Income
Voucher #147--\$50 Utilities #148--\$115 Rent	New-96 Payment level \$330 No Income or Food Stamps

VETERANS ASSISTANCE Commission minutes from July 10, 1985

Meeting opened with proper ceremonies at 7:45 p.m., Chairman Patton presiding. After roll call and reading of the minutes of the May 8 meeting, motion was made by Delegate Adler, Post 235 to accept the minutes, second by Delegate Jim Bump, Amvets Post 78, passed unanimously.

New business was discussed, Superintendent Rue stated that he has been in contact with a man from St. Joseph's Retirement Home in Wedron, Illinois. It is a corporation that is in the process of buying that hospital facility. The way that it has been explained to me is that they are trying to make it into a low-income housing. ^{People} ~~They~~ will be able to move into this facility and have their own apartments there. If the individual has any skills such as a boiler-maker, pipefitter, or anything on that order he could work at that facility three or four hours a day and they would credit him points towards the rent. Also at the facility ^{will be} a vocational training school. ~~where~~ They bring in people who have no skills, who are looking for jobs, and these individuals would train them and receive credit for that. ~~In order to make the students acceptable to industry.~~ This facility also has sites in Wisconsin, Michigan, and Missouri. These have all been accredited by these states as non-profit organizations. I told them that this might be interesting to the veterans, due to the fact that the veterans ~~may~~ have trouble finding housing if he is an indigent. I told him that ^{the} Concerned Veterans meeting in August. ~~Should he want to speak,~~ ^{it would be} glad to have him talk before the group to explain the program. If it would be certified by the State of Illinois ~~and we could check the legalities out on it to make sure that it is not one of these fly-by-night outfits~~ we would be more than happy to support it. I told him that I would bring that up at the meeting tonight.

A question was asked how this program would benefit the younger ones?

Mr. Rue explained that it would be like an apprentice program for them. Like a vocational school they would be working ^{towards} ~~in~~ ^{order to receive} a certificate. It was explained that there is no problem in the other states with industry. Industry has a problem with making cash donations, ~~such as this due to the cash flow,~~ ^{but} when asked for services, extra equipment, and such that they have on hand, they can donate it and write it off. They have been very supportive at these other sites. It is something that they are trying to setup here in LaSalle County.

An announcement to participate in the National POW Recognition Day which will be Friday, July 19, 1985 at 8:30 p.m. it will be held ^{at} the Vietnam Veterans Plaza, downtown Ottawa. Anyone interested in participating please contact our office and I will contact them.

Superintendent Rue stated that he has received authorization from the County to attend a meeting in ^{St. Louis} ~~Springfield~~, Illinois for two days concerning the J.T.P.A. Title 4 funding. ~~The county wants us to pursue this. I called the man in charge and it is not in Springfield, but in St. Louis. I will bring this up at the meeting Friday and explain that it is not Springfield but St. Louis.~~

Superintendent Rue stated that there has been several veterans ^{in our} ~~into~~ the office that are having a hard time finding work. He explained that Burns Security out of the Joliet area are in dire need of guards. Our office assisted in finding several veterans work in the past few months. ~~The main concern of Burns is the psychological outlook of the individual, to know that if he needs to pull the trigger he will.~~

Superintendent Rue explained that the budget has to be submitted Friday, July 12, 1985. If ~~they~~ ^{it} approved it ~~they~~ ^{is} then submit ~~it~~ to the finance committee with their approval and recommendations. ~~This year is different than in the past, they sent a memo stating that in the event that new equipment be purchased throughout the year, if it is not filled out on this form listing the model no. and cost you will not be able to purchase the equipment this year.~~ The County agreed to the purchase of a new telephone system, one with two lines, a hold button, and an intercom system. This was listed with the lowest bid of \$725.00. On the typewriter I listed the lowest bid \$636.00. I will also submit the other bids that I received to show the County that these are the lowest bids. ~~Superintendent Rue stated that there are no other items that have to be replaced.~~

~~Superintendent Rue explained the process for hooking up the phone system the total cost for the installation and purchase is around \$1,500 this year we proposed \$900 to them last year and they didn't honor it last year. That leaves us an additional \$1,500 to the phone bill. Our line item last year was \$1,400 we have expended already \$863, 61% of what they have given us. This year we proposed that with everything combined \$3,000. The VAC Committee suggested that the amount be raised to \$4,000.~~

~~Building rental and utilities- will be covered as a fixed item, if that does change we will request that it be changed on the line item, because they are the ones that are charging us so if they charge more than that they say they will have to take the loss. It will be requested that fixed line items be listed.~~

~~Postage- has not been charged to the VAC, but I have been told that they are going to charge at the last County board meeting. So far the VAC has used \$45 worth of postage. Last year \$700 was approved the VAC suggested that the line item be raised to \$900.~~

~~Conferences and Seminars in the past six months, I have gone to two seminars, one which I took care of, the other one they authorized the trip to Bloomington, Ill. The first was before the office was setup, the veterans took care of it. Roughly we have about \$150 this year. It was suggested that both meals and mileage be charged for these meetings. There are four VAC meetings a year. The line item was changed to \$800. Different agencies meetings is considered in this line item.~~

~~Travel and Transportation- we have expended 71% of what they have appropriated, \$1,600. Last year was asked for \$1,800 and where denied we have already spent \$1,240. They are worried that the~~

~~line item will run out before the end of August. The budget will not come into effect until the end of this year. \$5,000 will be requested for the 1986 budget. Any reimbursements are added to the general fund.~~

~~Education- is a new line item there are seminars that are taught by Social Security in DeKalb. If a class should come available we would have the funds to attends. \$500 will be entered in the budget.~~

~~Bonds-I have to be bonded, all the vouchers have to be notarized the auditors office suggested that we get our secretary licensed as a Notary Public. There is a \$5 fee. Should the secretary leave the office the contract would be ended. It will cost \$50 to bond her for three years for a \$1,000. It also says in the application that you have to have two people atest to the fact that they will pay for a \$1,000 loss should something happen, or show a surety bond for a \$1,000. This is the way they do it at the County office. It was suggested that the line item amount be \$2000.~~

~~Dues and Membership- The only thing that I have joined there is the VAC for the State of Illinois. There are possibly other organizations that are in the process of setting up a legislative committee on the state level. The legislators are trying to do away with the Bogardus Act completely now. It was stated that the line item read Professional Dues and Membership, \$200.~~

~~Office Equipment Repair-The county has the contract with the office repairman. I will take a bill to the meeting Friday concerning a repair bill on an Olivetti typewriter. \$200 will be submitted to the County Board.~~

~~Printing-We have been averaging approximately 700 to 800 copies a month, we have been keeping a list of the copies that we make. If they charge us 10 cents a copy we will owe some money at the end of the year. I suggested that they put a copier in an open office that no one is using and give the department heads a key, so that if someone needed to use it after hours they would have access to it. \$500 will be submitted.~~

~~Loan to repay-I carried over from last years budget. The amount to be submitted will be \$30,000.~~

~~Emergency Relief- I submitted an amount of \$100,000 because we are going to have to advertise. We have two drivers Chairman Patton and Charlie Beicker. I suggested to them that they bring all the veterans into the office to fill out an application due to the fact that we have found several that should have filed for non-service connected disability pension years ago that have not applied. We have found three Social Security disability cases eligible that have been going on for five years. I have gotten two of them approved. If they come through the office we will know if they have a case and start filling out forms. We developpe the case here ^{we are} send the case to a service officer, the VA examines the veteran and ironically their exam never turns out the same way as the medical ^{presented} ~~presented~~ so the service officer can then jump on them immediately. \$150,000 will be submitted.~~

A letter was discussed from Lyngh. We wrote a letter to the American Legion in Washington D.C. Subject: Survey and Compensation of Pension examination. It is in regards to reports form all over the United States that they have received numerous complaints that veterans are not getting ^{proper} physicals. The VA is running them in, giving them a quick exam, ~~and running them out~~ and denying them. They are in the process of setting up an other federal investigation of the VA.

~~Health and Life insurance- This is a fixed line item, \$1,440 will be submitted.~~

~~Unemployment insurance- This is also a fixed item \$850 will be submitted.~~

~~Superintendent| Director- \$25,000 at forty hours a week worked out to \$12.06 an hour. I listed the months worked and the total that I have worked, presently when that was figured out it averaged to \$4.99 an hour at the present \$18,000 salary. In order to be fair the county should adjust the salary to the rest of the department heads. I listed the salaries, a job description, years of experience, schooling, ect. and with the pay have to be minimum. On the other one I went to Job Service and went through the Illinois Wage Survey publication magazine which list between \$198 to \$450 a week. If we were to come under Public Aid guidelines I would be paid \$30,000 to \$35,000. With the state each year they receive a severance pay of 2%. There is a new state law being passed where the Detention Dept. will start at a minimum of \$17,000 this will be for their four years of college, also they will receive a 2% increase each year. A salary will be submitted for \$25,000 plus any adjustments for the position of Superintendent.~~

~~Administrative Clerk- The two secretaries listed in the book they range from \$9,000 to \$15,000 a year. The job description of the position should be listed as a Administrative Clerk was stated by Job Service. This position is higher than a stenographer, secretary, or a clerk. The County Board has given the secretary permission to meet with the Board. The wage for 1985 is \$8200 that was the wage that they said would be readjusted to possibly \$8500 as of January 1, 1985. Mr. Rue stated that the secretary would not be joining the union unless a settlement could not be reached. A salary of \$13,000 will be submitted for the position of Administrative Clerk.~~

~~Motion was made by Delegate Adler that the budget be accepted, second by Delegate Maggio. Passed unanimously.~~

Superintendent Rue stated that he received a letter from I.V.C.C. that had been sent to them June 26, 1985, talking about Title 3 funding. This year a committee drafted new regulations in this one section *pertaining to dislocated work center regulations.*

Military Service: Termination of Military service per se cannot be used to establish Title 3 eligibility. The state Title 3 Program is to assist individuals who have suffered permanent loss of employment due to change in the economy; therefore, it is the intent of this program to serve applicants who ~~had~~ involuntarily terminated from employment.

A question was asked pertaining to ~~the~~ St. Mary's Hospital. Mr. Rue stated that in ~~both~~ the area and Chicago papers that it was not listed as being passed. He talked to Springfield a week and a half ago and they told him that the Certificate of Need is going as scheduled. ~~the monies is in the Capital Development Board's budget should have been approved.~~ He stated that he hasn't read anywhere the budget hasn't been approved, ~~as yet~~. He was assured that the money was in there. Route 51 was not listed in the paper either as being funded. Jim Bump called the City Attorney in La Salle and they have not heard anything about the funding of St Mary's Hospital, ~~and~~ he is very concerned and will be writing them a letter asking what is going on with the project. The Dept. of Veterans Affairs has assured us that it is ~~on~~ their priority list, but we cannot get anything in writing. One thing that they did say is that the ground breaking is scheduled for August.

Meeting was ajourned. The next meeting will be held on August 14, 1985 at the Old Courthouse, Ottawa.

JULY 1985

7/1 105 Applied for assistance, denied due to income.
7/1 88 Reapplied for assistance with rent.
7/2 28 Reapplied for assistance with rent.
7/9 9 Requested assistance with contacting the Veterans Administration
in order to straighten out his disability checks.
7/15 89 Applied for assistance with the power bill.
7/15 90 Applied for assistance with rent and utilities.
7/16 91 Applied for assistance with rent and utilities.
7/16 92 Requested assistance with rent, informed him to acquire his DD 214.
7/16 93 Requested assistance in admittance into Danville VA.
7/16 94 Requested assistance in admittance into Danville VA.
7/19 96 Applied for assistance with rent, utilities, and food.
7/26 100 Applied for assistance with utilities.
7/26 101 Applied for assistance with rent.
7/26 102 Requested assistance with appeal for Social Security Disability and
Service connected disability.
7/30 106 Requested assistance for admission into a VA hospital (Iowa City)
7/31 103 Applied for assistance with rent.
7/31 99 Applied for assistance with rent.

Letters: sent:

7/2 Letter to Amvets, Chicago
7/16 7 Notice of approvals
7/16 Letter sent to Dr. Gildersleeve
7/16 forms sent to power companies of notice to assist.
7/17 13 letters sent to senators and representatives
7/23 Power of Attorney forms sent to American Legion, Chicago.
7/24 Notice of Approval, (7)
7/25 Notice to assist, Bruce Township
7/26 Repayment agreement sent to LaSalle Twp.

Supplies used:

46 stamps @ 22 cents
2 stamps @ 39 cents
600 copies

Agencies contacted:

Bruce Township
LaSalle Township
Ottawa Township
Prairie State Legal Services
States Attorneys Office
Attorney General's Office
Peru Township
Amvets Service Officer
American Legion Service Officer
Dept. of Veterans Affairs
St. Louis, Missouri--Title 4 funding
Burns Security - Bensonville

Tri-County
Commonwealth Edison Company
Northern Illinois Gas
Illinois Power Company
Public Aid
Social Security
Governor Thompson's Office
Veterans Administration
Iowa City VA Hospital
I.V.C. Hospital
Job Service LaSalle
Hines VA Hospital

July 1985

7/1 7:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
7/2 8:00 a.m. - 10:30 p.m.
7/3 5:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
7/4 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
7/5 7:00 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Total hours week 1 - 54 hours

~~7/8~~ 8:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
7/9 6:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
7/10 6:00 a.m. - 11:00 p.m.
7/11 7:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
7/12 6:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Total hours week 2 - 63 hours

7/15 8:00 a.m. - 10:30 p.m.
7/16 5:30 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.
7/17 7:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.
7/18 4:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
7/19 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.

Total hours week 3 - 65½ hours

7/22 7:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.
7/23 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
~~7/24~~ 7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
7/25 8:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
7/26 5:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.
7/27 5:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
7/28 12:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.

Total hours week 4 - 86 hours

7/29 5:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.
7/30 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
7/31 6:00 a.m. - 9:30 p.m.

Total hours last 3 days - 41½

Total hours for month 310

Signature

Martin J. Puse
CM

COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815)433-1761

LaSalle County Courthouse
Room 411
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

July 31, 1985

Attorney General's Office
State of Illinois

Dear Sir:

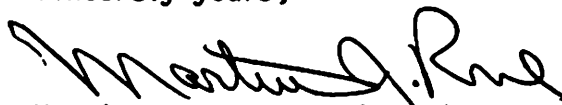
The Veterans Assistance Commission of LaSalle County was organized and operational as of December 1, 1984. The veterans groups in LaSalle County followed the required procedures for forming this office. As their superintendent I have been asked to secure a written opinion from your office as to the interpretation of the Illinois Revised Statutes of the Bogardus Act of 1907. In particular we are concerned with Chapter 23 Section 3089, headed Veterans Assistance Commission Administration of Funds. In the second paragraph it states, "The commission and the president or chairman of the county board or some other county official appointed by him shall have general oversight of the distribution of all moneys and supplies appropriated by the county for the benefit of the indigent veterans of the wars...." It further states, "No warrant authorized under this Act may be issued for the payment of money without the presentation of an itemized statement or claim, approved by the superintendent of the commission and the chairman of the county board or some other officer, designated by him."

It is the opinion of the delegates of the Veterans Assistance Commission and myself that our bills for providing services to the indigent are to be submitted to the chairman of the county board or an appointed official of the county board that he designates. We do not feel that this information pertaining to cases should be submitted to a committee of seven county board members.

We are also ultra concerned that we would be directly in violation of the Privacy Act of 1974 should we permit a committee of seven county board members to review our applications for assistance.

Please submit in writing your interpretation to the Section 3089 of Chapter 23 and the Privacy Act of 1974.

Sincerely yours,


Martin J. Rue, Superintendent
V.A.C. of LaSalle County

MJR/cam
cc: File

Sept 27 County VAC

~~Sept 11 VAC meeting~~

VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION minutes from August 14, 1985

Reading of the minutes by Chairman Patton. Motion made to accept minutes of the July 10, 1985 meeting. Passed unanimously.

New business was discussed. Superintendent Rue explained his trip to St. Louis, Missouri concerning Title 4 funding. He explained that the J.T.P.A. works hand-in-hand with the Job Service. Their placement for veterans that are unemployed is running at 65%. They have a contract with J.T.P.A. and they then subcontract through the different corporations. I do have the materials to set up and apply for the 1986 funding.

I then stopped in Springfield and saw Norm Bess. He took me to the Capital Building to see some of the people in the Dept. of Veterans Affairs. I learned in St. Louis that the Dept. of Veterans Affairs had legislation passed in Springfield to fund counties who wanted to try and find employment for those veterans who are unemployed. I told him that we hadn't been notified of this legislation being passed or of any such program. The man that told me of this is a retired Army officer of 20 years and he wasn't contacted either. The problem is that the application had to be in the day after I got back. He told me that there is no way a corporation of attorneys can fill out the application in less than a week. I then went to the Dept. of Veterans Affairs to talk to the man in charge of the program and find out why the veterans weren't notified. He said that there was a public record made and announcements in the newspapers in our area (Kankakee) and in the Springfield Registrar. The man told me that this program would be available next year. I took an application and we will apply for this and Title 4 funding also. We then went to the Governors Office. There was no one in that has been handling the St. Mary's case.

Also under new business: I had another meeting with the gentleman from the Wedron Home. He brought down a friend of his, Mr. Carpenter a retired Judge from Chicago. He is a millionaire who wishes to invest monies in this home. They will be using the veterans as a target group. This would work similar to a housing project unit. If they had no place to stay, they could use the shelter. In the event that you have a veteran who needs a place to live and their Social Security is limited they would take them in. If the individual could do any work at all they could work and earn credits to bring down the rental. We will be pursuing this project. I told them to come to the Concerned Veterans meeting August 29, 1985. Another group you could consider on that program is some veterans who are unemployed and disabled. They would also be candidates for this facility.

On August 8, 1985 I went to Iowa City to assist in getting a veteran admitted to the hospital.

August 14, 1985 I was in Bureau County at a General Assistance Seminar. While I was there I met one of the county board members from Bureau County. He told me that he was very interested in setting up a VAC in that county. I told him that I would work hand-in-hand with him. He will be contacting us in the future. I have no jurisdiction in Bureau County.

The budget was presented at the last board session. At that meeting they requested that I make out duplicate applications on our clients. Instead of putting the name on the application I would put the clients number, as I do on the voucher. I would have to list all of the statistical data, liabilities, assets, and family incomes. I told them that I need an opinion. The Assistant States Attorney was at the meeting and he rendered an oral opinion. Where it said, "Chairman of the County Board and he may designate an official," he said, "that an official could be seven people." I argued that an official is one. Officials is more than one. I said that until

I have a written opinion there was nothing that I could do. I then went to the Attorney General's Office in LaSalle. I talked to Jerry Sisle and showed him a copy of the Bogardus Act. I also mentioned the Privacy Act of 1974. I told him that I needed a written opinion. He told me to take it to Mr. Peterlin at the States Attorney's Office. In the event that Mr. Peterlin cannot answer the question due to a conflict of interest, have him state that due to conflict he cannot offer an opinion. Then forward the letter to the Attorney General's Office and he will render an opinion. He also told me that he did not think that the Privacy Act of 1974 applied to our commission. He said that is federal regulations and that our records and applications should be opened to everyone. I said, "No, the States Attorney's Office already rendered an opinion that the records are not open." Our office, dealing in general assistance with indigents is private information. It is not public record. At the county board meeting it was agreed that the opinion should come from Springfield.

The county VAC decided that they would wait until they get the written opinion before they request the applications. Infact, some of the members stated that if the written opinion comes back conclusive to what we believe here then there is no reason to meet with the committee. I told them that I had stated that three months ago.

Also under new business: I received a call from the committee chairman from Springfield on the Commerce Commission that made the decision that veterans for the Dislocated Workers Center were not eligible. They sent me a letter that stated that they were going to start investigation of the regulation to find out if it can be changed. They will follow through and find out if honorable veterans could be eligible for Title 3 funding. They told me that they are running an investigation. I asked her if there was any veterans on the committee that drafted the legislation. She had no comment.

Handouts were given to the VAC members. The first page consisted of the budget that we had approved and the adjustments that are in the minutes. The 1985 appropriations per line item, the 1986 requests of the VAC committee, the county recommendations. The cuts were made on the following:

1. Telephone \$4,000 cut to \$2,000
2. Rental was a fixed item, it remained the same.
3. Postage \$900 cut to \$700
4. Conferences and Seminars was kept the same.
5. Travel and Transportation \$5,000 cut to \$3,000
6. Dues and Membership was left the same
7. Office equipment was left the same
8. Office repair was left the same.
9. Printing \$500 cut to \$250
10. Books and Periodicals remained the same
11. Loan to repay - We were loaned \$30,000 last year. They are going to recoup that money out of the money that we have accrued in taxes. They want our operating capital to remain at least 50% funded before taxation. They asked that the title be changed. They are going to take the \$30,000 out and put the \$30,000 back in as New Program. They want it budgeted and left in there in case of an emergency.

In order to get state funding you have to have your levied amount appropriated. We are presently appropriated at .8 of one mil, so we wouldn't qualify for state assistance if we needed it. The county never appropriated the 3 mil that they were supposed to in the first place. Should the bottom drop out they will have to borrow money and pay the interest rate on the money until we get up to the 3 mil then they can get state assistance. We asked for the 3 mil. Have it set in the

general fund under VAC. Then if we went through the 3 mil levied they would qualify for state funding. Since we don't have the 3 mil levied they would have to somehow relevel an additional 2 mil. They can only levy once a year. They are intitled by law to levy 3 mil for the VAC. They refused to do that because they said that it would increase taxes. They are giving us .8 mil and they are taking that out of the general fund. In essence we don't have our own monies setting there. They are loaning it to us.

12. Emergency Relief \$150,000 cut to \$50,000. If we run out of this line item they will have to take additional monies out of the general fund or borrow the money and sell bonds.

13. Insurance stayed the same.

14. Contingency \$5,000 cut to \$2,500

15. Salaries no discussion

Page two: This is a printout that the Auditor's Office sends to every office. It is the original that we submit to the Finance Committee for approval. It has to be signed by the County VAC or else the budget will not be accepted. The line item for unemployment insurance will be taken out of a different fund. They also crossed out salaries. I told them that in any business that I am familiar with has all operating cost listed on the budget. Salaries are a part of operational cost; consequently, our committee stated that they must be listed. The county VAC stated that they would not deal with that. Finance committee deals with salaries.

Page three: Administrative Personnel, these come out of your GA regulations, State of Illinois. It tells what the job is and what the duties are.

Page four: The VAC secretaries job description. What the job duties are concerning applications and interviewing. The county has a copy of this also. The next page comes from the Job Service this is the Illinois Wage and Survey publication. I wrote in the pay ranges. The description of an administrative clerk was done by Jim Yeasel. According to state regulations these are the duties of an administrative clerk.

Page six: Is the GA regulations for different job classifications of the State of Illinois. This will be presented to the Finance Committee.

Page seven: Is the agencies that the office has contacted over the past months since we have been in existence. Many of those have been contacted numerous times on different cases.

The next page is the appeals that our office have been involved in so far. Each one of these numbers represents a client. There is a file on each one of these numbers. I am the only one who has a code of the name that goes with the number. There are appeals before the Veterans Administration, Social Security, and Public Aid. Public Aid appeals all have been completed and won. These are all legal appeals.

Superintendent Rue stated that he had heard that the Finance Committee will also cut the budget. I discussed that at the meeting and Mr. Bradley got upset. He said that if that is the case he will never again cut another budget. He stated that it is the County VAC's job to cut and sign it. It is then to be passed by finance. Mr. Bradley stated that he wants to go to that meeting with us. Mr. Rue stated that he has given a copy of the handout to A. Morandi, O. Smith, D. McConville, and Mr. Hallet. I have to get ahold of A. Madden, J. Johnson, J. Janko, and J. Hettle. From there we will have to go to Fee and Salary, because they will determine the salary.

Work that has been done for the month of July: I am trying to keep the cost down as low as possible. We have had numerous cut off notices. I have been working with the townships trying to get them connected or to keep them from being disconnected. Our bills are running between \$1,000 to \$1,500 every two weeks. I have asked the Dept. of Veterans Affairs to refer clientel to us. I also made mention to the Dept. of Veterans Affairs of a veteran that had made four trips to Iowa City VA. They contacted the VA and George told her to contact Sue Weed. Sue told her that there was nothing that they could do for her. She then went back to George and he told her to contact our office. We did get the veteran hospitalized. I went to Sue and told her that I had requested that their office contact our office in regards of veterans in need of casework.

Old business: Superintendent Rue asked members of posts be present at the Concerned Veterans meeting August 29, 1985 at the LaSalle VFW.

At the P.O.W. celebration we had approximately 105 balloons. One for every P.O.W. in the State of Illinois. There were five veterans posts from the west end of the county represented. The post represented were the Peru V.F.W., Peru Catholic War Vets, Amvets, Oglesby American Legion, and John Jerman, past commander of the Legion. As the names were read off they released the balloons. There was one newsman from Ottawa covering the ceremonies. Rep. Peg Breslin, representatives from Congressman Grotberg's Office, the VAC commissioner, county and distric members of the veterans organizations were present. It is to bad that the news media did not see the importance of covering this event.

Our transportation fund ran out. At the last VAC county meeting they transferred \$1,000 from the \$2,000 contingency fund. We also transferred an additional \$200 in the petty cash fund. We are running on an average of 10 veterans every two weeks to the hospital.

Several letters were read and discussed. One was a letter from Mr. Riley of the Governor's Office. It stated that the reason they were not expediting the hospital was due to the fact that there is no funding available for the project. A letter Supt. Rue wrote to Governor Thompson was also read and discussed.

In another conversation between the City Attorney of LaSalle, John Duncan and Judy Moore of the Dept. of Veterans Affairs in Springfield, Ms. Moore stated that the Certificate of Need has not been started.

A copy of a letter from John Duncan to the State of Illinois showed a graft of the land available and asked how much land would be needed for the hospital facility. A letter from Jim Bump was also discussed and read.

Supt. Rue stated that he sent copies of all the letters concerning the St. Mary's Home Care Program to Governor Thompson. It included letters from the Governor concerning the hospital. A copy of July's issue of "What Every Veteran Should Know," was also sent to the Governor.

A meeting has been set up with Mayor Brady, John Duncan, Len Cordy, Jim Bump, and Supt. Rue for Monday, August 19, 1985. The Illinois Valley Chamber of Commerce would now like to get involved in the project.

The American Legion Post in LaSalle donated \$50 to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial State of Illinois.

The meeting closed with proper ceremonies. The next meeting will be held on September 11, 1985 at the Old Courthouse in Iowa. The south door will be open between 7:00 to 7:40 p.m.

September 27, 1985

Voucher # 167	Client # 82
Rent \$100	Township \$49
	Food Stamps \$78
168	Client # 28
Rent \$75	Township \$49
	Food Stamps \$78
169 & 170	Client # 86
Rent \$115	Payment level \$330
Utilities \$40.04	No income
171, 181, and 182	Client # 105
Rent \$100	Food Stamps \$78
Water \$14.74	No income
Utilities \$35.36	
NEW----- 172	Client # 116
Rent \$115	Food stamps \$79
173	Client # 106
Rent \$115	No income
	Food Stamps \$78
174	Client # 96
Food Order \$50	Payment level \$330
178 and 179	Client #43
Food order \$30	No food stamps
Laundry for Aug. and Sept. \$10	
182	Client #115
Utilities \$50	Payment level \$382
	No income
183	Client # 72
Rent \$115	Payment level \$240
	Food stamps \$142
184	Client # 29
Rent \$90	Food Stamps \$78
	Township \$59
185	Client # 87
Rent \$100	Payment level \$240
	Township \$150
186	Client # 186
Rent \$82.50	Township \$66.50

VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION minutes from August 14, 1985

Reading of the minutes by Chairman Patton. Motion made to accept minutes of the July 10, 1985 meeting. Passed unanimously.

New business was discussed. Superintendent Rue explained his trip to St. Louis, Missouri concerning Title 4 funding. He explained that the J.T.P.A. works hand-in-hand with the Job Service. Their placement for veterans that are unemployed is running at 65%. They have a contract with J.T.P.A. and they then subcontract through the different corporations. I do have the materials to set up and apply for the 1986 funding.

I then stopped in Springfield and saw Norm Bess. He took me to the Capital Building to see some of the people in the Dept. of Veterans Affairs. I learned in St. Louis that the Dept. of Veterans Affairs had legislation passed in Springfield to fund counties who wanted to try and find employment for those veterans who are unemployed. I told him that we hadn't been notified of this legislation being passed or of any such program. The man that told me of this is a retired Army officer of 20 years and he wasn't contacted either. The problem is that the application had to be in the day after I got back. He told me that there is no way a corporation of attorneys can fill out the application in less than a week. I then went to the Dept. of Veterans Affairs to talk to the man in charge of the program and find out why the veterans weren't notified. He said that there was a public record made and announcements in the newspapers in our area (Kankakee) and in the Springfield Registrar. The man told me that this program would be available next year. I took an application and we will apply for this and Title 4 funding also. We then went to the Governors Office. There was no one in that has been handling the St. Mary's case.

Also under new business: I had another meeting with the gentleman from the Wedron Home. He brought down a friend of his, Mr. Carpenter a retired Judge from Chicago. He is a millionaire who wishes to invest monies in this home. They will be using the veterans as a target group. This would work similar to a housing project unit. If they had no place to stay, they could use the shelter. In the event that you have a veteran who needs a place to live and their Social Security is limited they would take them in. If the individual could do any work at all they could work and earn credits to bring down the rental. We will be pursuing this project. I told them to come to the Concerned Veterans meeting August 29, 1985. Another group you could consider on that program is some veterans who are unemployed and disabled. They would also be candidates for this facility.

On August 8, 1985 I went to Iowa City to assist in getting a veteran admitted to the hospital.

August 14, 1985 I was in Bureau County at a General Assistance Seminar. While I was there I met one of the county board members from Bureau County. He told me that he was very interested in setting up a VAC in that county. I told him that I would work hand-in-hand with him. He will be contacting us in the future. I have no jurisdiction in Bureau County.

The budget was presented at the last board session. At that meeting they requested that I make out duplicate applications on our clients. Instead of putting the name on the application I would put the clients number, as I do on the voucher. I would have to list all of the statistical data, liabilities, assets, and family incomes. I told them that I need an opinion. The Assistant States Attorney was at the meeting and he rendered an oral opinion. Where it said, "Chairman of the County Board and he may designate an official," he said, "that an official could be seven people." I argued that an official is one. Officials is more than one. I said that until

Reading of the minutes by Chairman Patton. Motion made to accept minutes of the July 10, 1982 meeting. Passed unanimously.

How business was discussed. Superintendent has explained his trip to St. Louis Missouri concerning Title 3 funding. He explained that the U.T.A. works hand-in-hand with the 501(c)(3) services. Their placement for veterans that are unemployed is running at 50%. They have a contract with U.T.A. and they have a sub-contract through the Veterans Commission. He has the materials to set up and apply for the 100 funding.

I then stopped in Springfield and saw John Lee. He took me to the Capital Building to see some of the people in the Dept. of Veterans Affairs. I learned in St. Louis that the Dept. of Veterans Affairs had legislation passed in 1981 which would allow veterans who were discharged for less than 30 years and who were not in receipt of a pension to apply for a pension. The man that sold me this as a pension plan was not the man that was contacted. The man that was contacted is now an attorney of attorney can fill out the application in less than a week. I then went to the Dept. of Veterans Affairs to talk to the man in charge of the program and fill out the veterans' pension's petition. He said that there was a public hearing in the next few days and announcements in our area (Springfield) and in the Springfield area. The man told me that this program would be great. I then went to the Veterans Office. There was no one there that has been handling the St. James case.

Also under new business: I had another meeting with the department from the location here. He found a friend of his, Mr. Carpenter a retired judge from Chicago. He is a veterinarian who wanted to invest money in this home. They will be using the veterans as a garage space. It is worth \$100,000 to a housing project unit. If they had no place to stay, they could use the station. In the event that you have a veteran who needs a place to live and their Social Security is limited they would take them in. If the individual could do any work at all they could work and earn credits to bring down the cost. He will be pursuing this project. I told them to come to the upcoming Veterans meeting August 20, 1982. Another group you could consider for that program is some veterans who are unemployed and disabled. They would also be candidates for this facility.

On August 14, 1982 I went to Iowa City to assist in setting a veteran exhibit at the hospital.

August 14, 1982 I was in Bureau County at a General Assistance meeting. I was there I met one of the county board members from Bureau County. He told me that he was very interested in setting up a VAC in that county. I told him that I would work hand-in-hand with him. He will be contacting us in the future. I have an jurisdiction in Bureau County. The budget was a

The budget was presented at the last board session. At that meeting they requested that I call out jurisdictional requests on our clients. Instead of putting the name on the application I would put the client's name, as I do on the voucher. I would have to list all of the jurisdictional requests, titles, assets, and family income. I said that I need an opinion. The Assistant State Attorney was at the meeting and he reported on our opinion. He said that the county board and I may designate an official. He said that an official could be a county board member. I agreed that an official is more than one. I then went to

I have a written opinion there was nothing that I could do. I then went to the Attorney General's Office in LaSalle. I talked to Jerry Sisle and showed him a copy of the Bogardus Act. I also mentioned the Privacy Act of 1974. I told him that I needed a written opinion. He told me to take it to Mr. Peterlin at the States Attorney's Office. In the event that Mr. Peterlin cannot answer the question due to a conflict of interest, have him state that due to conflict he cannot offer an opinion. Then forward the letter to the Attorney General's Office and he will render an opinion. He also told me that he did not think that the Privacy Act of 1974 applied to our commission. He said that is federal regulations and that our records and applications should be opened to everyone. I said, "No, the States Attorney's Office already rendered an opinion that the records are not open." Our office, dealing in general assistance with indigents is private information. It is not public record. At the county board meeting it was agreed that the opinion should come from Springfield.

The county VAC decided that they would wait until they get the written opinion before they request the applications. Infact, some of the members stated that if the written opinion comes back conslusive to what we believe here then there is no reason to meet with the committee. I told them that I had stated that three months ago.

Also under new business: I received a call from the committee chairman from Springfield on the Commerce Commission that made the decision that veterans for the Dislocated Workers Center were not eligible. They sent me a letter that stated that they were going to start investigation of the regulation to find out if it can be changed. They will follow through and find out if honorable veterans could be eligible for Title 3 funding. They told me that they are running an investigation. I asked her if there was any veterans on the committee that drafted the legislation. She had no comment.

Handouts were given to the VAC members. The first page consisted of the budget that we had approved and the adjustments that are in the minutes. The 1985 appropriations per line item, the 1986 requests of the VAC committee, the county recommendations. The cuts were made on the following:

1. Telephone \$4,000 cut to \$2,000
2. Rental was a fixed item, it remained the same.
3. Postage \$900 cut to \$700
4. Conferences and Seminars was kept the same.
5. Travel and Transportation \$5,000 cut to \$3,000
6. Dues and Membership was left the same
7. Office equipment was left the same
8. Office repair was left the same.
9. Printing \$500 cut to \$250
10. Books and Periodicals remained the same
11. Loan to repay - We were loaned \$30,000 last year. They are going to recoup that money out of the money that we have accrued in taxes. They want our operating capital to remain at least 50% funded before taxation. They asked that the title be changed. They are going to take the \$30,000 out and put the \$30,000 back in as New Program. They want it budgeted and left in there in case of an emergency.

In order to get state funding you have to have your levied amount appropriated. We are presently appropriated at .8 of one mil, so we wouldn't qualify for state assistance if we needed it. The county never appropriated the 3 mil that they were supposed to in the first place. Should the bottom drop out they will have to borrow money and pay the interest rate on the money until we get up to the 3 mil then they can get state assistance. We asked for the 3 mil. Have it set in the

general fund under VAC. Then if we went through the 3 mil levied they would qualify for state funding. Since we don't have the 3 mil levied they would have to somehow relevel an additional 2 mil. They can only levy once a year. They are intitled by law to levy 3 mil for the VAC. They refused to do that because they said that it would increase taxes. They are giving us .8 mil and they are taking that out of the general fund. In essence we don't have our own monies setting there. They are loaning it to us.

12. Emergency Relief \$150,000 cut to \$50,000. If we run out of this line item they will have to take additional monies out of the general fund or borrow the money and sell bonds.

13. Insurance stayed the same.

14. Contingency \$5,000 cut to \$2,500

15. Salaries no discussion

Page two: This is a printout that the Auditor's Office sends to every office. It is the original that we submit to the Finance Committee for approval. It has to be signed by the County VAC or else the budget will not be accepted. The line item for unemployment insurance will be taken out of a different fund. They also crossed out salaries. I told them that in any business that I am familiar with has all operating cost listed on the budget. Salaries are a part of operational cost; consequently, our committee stated that they must be listed. The county VAC stated that they would not deal with that. Finance committee deals with salaries.

Page three: Administrative Personnel, these come out of your GA regulations, State of Illinois. It tells what the job is and what the duties are.

Page four: The VAC secretaries job description. What the job duties are concerning applications and interviewing. The county has a copy of this also. The next page comes from the Job Service this is the Illinois Wage and Survey publication. I wrote in the pay ranges. The description of an administrative clerk was done by Jim Yeasel. According to state regulations these are the duties of an administrative clerk.

Page six: Is the GA regulations for different job classifications of the State of Illinois. This will be presented to the Finance Committee.

Page seven: Is the agencies that the office has contacted over the past months since we have been in existance. Many of those have been contacted numerous times on different cases.

The next page is the appeals that our office have been involved in so far. Each one of these numbers represents a client. There is a file on each one of these numbers. I am the only one who has a code of the name that goes with the number. There are appeals before the Veterans Administration, Social Security, and Public Aid. Public Aid appeals all have been completed and won. These are all legal appeals.

Superintendent Rue stated that he had heard that the Finance Committee will also cut the budget. I discussed that at the meeting and Mr. Bradley got upset. He said that if that is the case he will never again cut another budget. He stated that it is the County VAC's job to cut and sign it. It is then to be passed by finance. Mr. Bradley stated that he wants to go to that meeting with us. Mr. Rue stated that he has given a copy of the handout to A. Morandi, O. Smith, D. McConville, and Mr. Hallet. I have to get ahold of A. Madden, J. Johnson, J. Janko, and J. Hettle. From there we will have to go to Fee and Salary, because they will determine the salary.

Work that has been done for the month of July: I am trying to keep the cost down as low as possible. We have had numerous cut off notices. I have been working with the townships trying to get them connected or to keep them from being disconnected. Our bills are running between \$1,000 to \$1,500 every two weeks. I have asked the Dept. of Veterans Affairs to refer clientel to us. I also made mention to the Dept. of Veterans Affairs of a veteran that had made four trips to Iowa City VA. They contacted the VA and George told her to contact Sue Weed. Sue told her that there was nothing that they could do for her. She then went back to George and he told her to contact our office. We did get the veteran hospitalized. I went to Sue and told her that I had requested that their office contact our office in regards of veterans in need of casework.

Old business: Superintendent Rue asked members of posts be present at the Concerned Veterans meeting August 29, 1985 at the LaSalle VFW.

At the P.O.W. celebration we had approximately 105 balloons. One for every P.O.W. in the State of Illinois. There were five veterans posts from the west end of the county represented. The post represented were the Peru V.F.W., Peru Catholic War Vets, Amvets, Oglesby American Legion, and John Jerman, past commander of the Legion. As the names were read off they released the balloons. There was one newsman from Ottawa covering the ceremonies. Rep. Peg Breslin, representatives from Congressman Grotberg's Office, the VAC commissioner, county and distric members of the veterans organizations were present. It is to bad that the news media did not see the importance of covering this event.

Our transportation fund ran out. At the last VAC county meeting they transferred \$1,000 from the \$2,000 contingency fund. We also transferred an additional \$200 in the petty cash fund. We are running on an average of 10 veterans every two weeks to the hospital.

Several letters were read and discussed. One was a letter from Mr. Riley of the Governor's Office. It stated that the reason they were not expediting the hospital was due to the fact that there is no funding available for the project. A letter Supt. Rue wrote to Governor Thompson was also read and discussed.

In another conversation between the City Attorney of LaSalle, John Duncan and Judy Moore of the Dept. of Veterans Affairs in Springfield, Ms. Moore stated that the Certificate of Need has not been started.

A copy of a letter from John Duncan to the State of Illinois showed a graft of the land available and asked how much land would be needed for the hospital facility. A letter from Jim Bump was also discussed and read.

Supt. Rue stated that he sent copies of all the letters concerning the St. Mary's Home Care Program to Governor Thompson. It included letters from the Governor concerning the hospital. A copy of July's issue of "What Every Veteran Should Know," was also sent to the Governor.

A meeting has been set up with Mayor Brady, John Duncan, Len Cordy, Jim Bump, and Supt. Rue for Monday, August 19, 1985. The Illinois Valley Chamber of Commerce would now like to get involved in the project.

The American Legion Post in LaSalle donated \$50 to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial State of Illinois.

The meeting closed with proper ceremonies. The next meeting will be held on September 11, 1985 at the Old Courthouse in Ottawa. The south door will be open between 7:00 to 7:40 p.m.

VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION minutes September 11, 1985

Meeting opened with proper ceremonies Chairman Patton, Post 217 Streator presiding. Minutes of the August 14, 1985 VAC meeting were read. Motion was made by Delegate Ralph Adler to accept the minutes, second by Alderman Leo Cate. Carried.

At the last County VAC meeting they called the Assistant State's Attorney into the meeting in regards to the letter that they wrote to the Attorney General's Office concerning an opinion of statues of the Bogardus Act and the Privacy Act of 1974. Neither our office nor the county received a copy of the letter. The Attorney General's Office called our office on September 6, 1985 asking some questions pertaining to the law in question. Supt. Rue stated that he told him his point of view on the matter. The Attorney General's Office inferred that the Privacy Act of 1974 doesn't pertain to our office, because we are not receiving federal funds and that is a federal regulation. I asked him if this regulation pertained to Illinois Public Aid. It does apply.

The Freedom of Information Act was brought to our attention by the States Attorney. It was the interpretation of the Auditor that this Act meant the county departments were entitled to see our files under that Act. Supt. Rue stated that if an individual wanted a department to see that information they had a right to sign a waiver from that department stating they had the right to view it. Supt. Rue then told the Attorney General's Office that should his opinion be unfavorable to the commission, the commission stated that they would go to court, due to the fact that it is only an opinion.

The Attorney General's Office asked if our attorney drafted the letter discussing the Bogardus Act, Freedom of Information Act, and the Privacy Act. Supt. Rue stated that he had drafted the letter. Apparently, the States Attorney's Office forwarded the letter. The Attorney General's Office then stated that they can't offer an opinion, due to the fact that an attorney hadn't written it, but they would give us an informal opinion. This would be sent to the States Attorney's Office. I then requested a copy for our office, the State's Attorney assured me that I would receive a copy.

It was stated that a formal opinion should be received from the Attorney General's Office.

A list of cases that the VAC office has been handling was handed out. These cases are some of the hospital admissions that we have assisted in. These veterans were refused admission into the VA hospital facilities. Supt. Rue stated that he represented a veteran before an administrative law judge at the Department of Social Security, and won his disability case. Supt. Rue also stated that he has gone through Mental Health to get a veteran disability through the VA. The Attorney General's Office said that no one is entitled to see that information.

A copy of the hospital refusals will be sent to the VAC delegates, without the client numbers. These papers are not to be shown to anyone.

Motion was made by Delegate Earl Kirar to adjourn the meeting. Second by Aldernate John Sadowski. Carried

The next meeting will be held at the Old Courthouse in Ottawa, Illinois on October 9, 1985. The south door will be open at 7:00 until 7:45 p.m.

COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815)433-1761

LaSalle County Courthouse
Room 411
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

September 13, 1985

Members of the LaSalle County
Veterans Assistance Commission

Dear Comrades:

In behalf of the veteran, these are the type of cases that our office has had to intercede.

Sincerely yours,



Martin J. Rue, Superintendent
V.A.C. of LaSalle County

VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION OF LA SALLE COUNTY OCTOBER 30, 1985

Roll call of officers: Chairman Robert Wachowiak, Secretary Fran Perra, Vice-President Ralph Adler. Meeting opened at 7:00 p.m. at the La Salle V.F.W. Roll call of veterans attending: Irish Smith, Sam Maggio, Grinney Nalasco, Frank Foley, Clarence Babcock, James Massett, Ed Burski, James Massett, Larry Anderson, James Kathleeni, Harold Olson, John Sadowski, Jim Bump, Nick Paccetti, Nathan Adams, Frank Rathburn, Richard Moore; and Harold Grabowski was asked to leave because he was not a delegate or alternate. Meeting for just delegates and alternates elected by their post for VAC meetings.

This meeting was called because of action taken by the County Advisor Committee to discuss the cuts in the budgets. Copies of resolutions and budgets was given to membership present. Discussion on salary. Veterans stated that the paper misinformed the citizens of La Salle County on the way money would be spent by the VAC. Taxes from the general fund, which general fund has at present is \$2 million. Martin Rue was asked by the VAC to comment on budget cuts.

Rue commented on each budget cut and how it would be impossible to properly take care of indigent veterans. Rue's comment about salary for both him and a secretary was it is impossible to find a qualified secretary for the money that the County Finance Committee proposed. Salary proposed for Mr. Rue is not comparable to other supervisors either for the county, state, Veterans Affairs, or other VAC with the amount of veterans in La Salle County.

Rue as Superintendent of the VAC has already assisted and secured help from Social Security, Public Aid, and medical card for an indigent veteran in La Salle County which had no help from a Township Supervisor. He has also assisted four other veterans.

Rue commented on salaries for supervisor and secretary once accepted may never be raised, it's up to the County Board.

Richard Moore stated that he is opposed to the cuts on salaries because VAC has no way to secure additional raised for secretary or supervisor.

Motion was made by Frank Foley to submit original budget to the County Board at November meeting in Ottawa. Second by Ralph Adler.

Motion made by Ralph Adler to have Attorney Dale Murrin to represent VAC at November meeting. Passed by total membership.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:45 p.m. Minutes will be passed out at next VAC meeting.

VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION OF LA SALLE COUNTY OCTOBER 30, 1967

Roll call of officers: Chairman Robert W. Roberts, Secretary Frank Perry, Vice-President Ralph Adler. Meeting opened at 7:00 p.m. at the La Salle V.F.W. Roll call of veterans attending: Frank Smith, Sam Meehan, Pringle Kasper, Frank Foley, Clarence Paddock, James Maslett, Ed Hurst, James Haverly, Larry Anderson, James Kahlert, Harold Olson, John Sedowski, Jim Lump, Nick Pasceri, Nathan Adams, Frank Kahlert, Richard Moore, and Harold Sedowski was asked to leave because he was not a delegate or alternate. Meeting for just delegates and alternates elected by their post for VAC meetings.

This meeting was called because of action taken by the County Auditor Committee to discuss the cuts in the budget. Copies of resolutions and budgets was given to membership present. Discussion on salary. Veterans stated that the paper misstated the position of La Salle County on the way money would be spent by the VAC. Taxes from the general fund which general fund had at present is \$3 million. This was asked by the VAC to comment on budget cuts.

He commented on each budget cut and how it would be important to give early take care of indigent veterans. His comment about salary for both him and a secretary was that it was impossible to find a qualified secretary for the money that the County Finance Committee proposed. Salary proposed for Mr. Roe is not comparable to other supervisors either for the county, state, Veterans Affairs, or other VAC with the amount of veterans in La Salle County.

Roe as Superintendent of the VAC has already assisted and secured help from Social Security, Public Aid, and various cards for an indigent veteran in La Salle County which had no help from a Township Supervisor. He has also assisted four other veterans.

He commented on salaries for supervisor and secretary once selected may never be raised, this up to the County Board.

Richard Moore stated that he is opposed to the cuts on salaries because VAC has no way to secure additional raised for secretary or supervisor.

Resolution was made by Frank Foley to submit original budget to the County Board at November meeting in Ottawa. Second by Ralph Adler.

Resolution made by Ralph Adler to have Attorney Dale Munnin to represent VAC at November meeting. Passed by total membership.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:45 p.m. Minutes: 111 passed out at next VAC meeting.

VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION minutes from October 9, 1985 meeting.

Meeting opened with proper ceremonies Chairman Ernie Patton, Streator Post 217 presiding. Minutes from the September 11, 1985 VAC meeting were read and a motion was made by Delegate Carl Kirar, St. Mary's C.W.V. Post 883 to accept the minutes. Second by Nick Pattelli, V.F.W. Post 4668 in LaSalle. Carried

Motion was made by Delegate Sam Maggio, Marine Corp League to write up an advertisement for the LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission. Motion was second by Delegate Ralph Adler, Post 235 Marseilles American Legion. Carried

A letter is to be drafted to all post commanders to attend the next VAC meeting in November.

Motion to close the meeting was made by Delegate Larry Anderson, Wedron V.F.W. of Post 8414. Motion was second by Delegate Richard Moore V.F.W. Post 2470. Carried.

The next VAC meeting will be held on November 13, 1985 at the Old Courthouse in downtown Ottawa. The south door will be open from 7:00 until 7:40 p.m.

COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815)433-1761

LaSalle County Courthouse
Room 411
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

My office deals with a variety of needs:

1. Financial assistance (food, shelter, utilities, ect.)
2. Informational (knowing where to send clients for additional aid)
3. Educational (constant update of VA legislation, public aid changes, state statutes, and federal statutes.)
4. Legal assistance (Social Security, VA, State appropriations committees, Public Aid, Unemployment Compensation, Health Care facilities, Township Supervisors, Departments of State and Federal Governments)
 1. Department of Veterans Affairs
 2. Department of Commerce
 3. Policy and procedural, Department of Public Aid
 4. Department of Insurance
 5. Department of Medicine and Surgery
 6. Attorney Generals Office
 7. States Attorney's Office
 8. VA Regional Office
 9. Department of Immigration
 10. Governor's Office
5. Prepare appeals, take testimony, represent client if need be before:
 - a. Administrative Law Judge
 - b. Medical Review Board of the Veterans Administration
 - c. Public Aid
6. Prepare cases for the following:
 - a. VA caseworkers
 - b. local law firms

VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION minutes from October 9, 1985 meeting.

Meeting opened with proper ceremonies Chairman Ernie Patton, Streator Post 217 presiding. Minutes from the September 11, 1985 VAC meeting were read and a motion was made by Delegate Carl Kirar, St. Mary's C.W.V. Post 883 to accept the minutes. Second by Nick Pattelli, V.F.W. Post 4668 in LaSalle. Carried

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Motion to close the meeting was made by Delegate Larry Anderson, Wedron V.F.W. of Post 8414. Motion was second by Delegate Richard Moore V.F.W. Post 2470. Carried.

The next VAC meeting will be held on November 13, 1985 at the Old Courthouse in downtown Ottawa. The south door will be open from 7:00 until 7:40 p.m.

VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION minutes from November 13, 1985

Meeting opened with proper ceremonies Vice-Chairman Ralph Adler, Post 235 presiding. Minutes from the October 9, 1985 VAC meeting were read. Motion made by Alternate John Sadowski, Post 883 to accept the VAC minutes. Second by Delegate Francis Perra, Post 78, carried.

Motion made by Delegate Carl Kirar, Post 883 for salary comparable to Administrative Clerk title change. Seconded by Alternate Bob Eide, Post 78, unanimous.

Motion made by Delegate Larry Anderson, Post 8414 to have Attorney Racculia's Office represent the VAC. Seconded by Alterman John Sadowski, Post 883, carried.

Delegate Al Strozewski, Post 426 was appointed to represent the VAC on the state level at the VAC meeting on December 6, 1985, and December 7, 1985. The meeting will be held at the American Legion Headquarters in Bloomington, Illinois.

The next meeting will be held on December 11, 1985, at the Old Courthouse in Ottawa. The south door will be open between 7:00 and 7:40 p.m.

New VAC officers:

Chairman: John Sadowski Catholic War Veterans
Vice-Chairman: Sam Maggio Marine Corp League
Adjutant: Skip Anderson Wedron V.F.W.
Chaplain: Nick Pacetti Post 4668 American Legion

VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION MINUTES FROM 13 MARCH 1985

Meeting opened with proper ceremonies at 8:00 p.m. Chairman Robert Wachowiak presiding. After roll call and reading of the minutes by Adjutant Francis Perra, old business was discussed. The newspaper article that the V.A.C. Committee had requested were handed out along with the quotes made by the County Board Committee.

New business: The earlier meeting with the County Board V.A.C. Committee which met prior to the V.A.C. Committee was discussed. The County Board would not allow a taperecorder or Marty Rue at the meeting. They stated that they wanted to discuss the problems that the board was having with Mr. Rue. The reason being that they wanted us to know of the problem through them and not an interpreter. They also stated that they have proper procedures for paying all the bills throughout the county, and the V.A.C. office is being treated the same as the other offices. They also stated that Marty Rue did resent the procedure.

Mr. Rue stated that the V.A.C. is not another departmental agency of the county. According to the Bogardus Act we are not. We are funded through the county, we are totally separate from the county. The Bogardus Act states that we deal directly through the Chairman of the County Board or an officer he appoints. We are dealing here with a committee of the County Board. We do not mind doing this if they will deal directly with us.

The Chairman of the County V.A.C. stated that in an emergency he can issue an emergency voucher. All other vouchers will have to be taken before the entire committee.

The County Board then asked that Marty Rue know the boundaries of LaSalle County, and as far as hiring more homework should be done. Case in question was the first secretary that was hired.

Mr. Rue stated that he checked out the person through proper channels. When she was initially interviewed she lived in LaSalle County.

Dave Harvey stated that the problem came up after she was interviewed by Mr. Rue and had the OK to hire her. She moved back in with her husband outside of Streator, in Livingston County. Dave said that it was no ones fault.

The County V.A.C. Committee pointed out a case of the rent being paid by a township of \$97 a month. Mr. Rue submitted a voucher for \$115 for the following months rent instead of \$97.

Mr. Rue stated that the reason he issued a voucher of \$115 was that the rent was initially \$190 a month plus utilities. The board wants to use the figure of \$115 a month not the amount of the clients actual rent and drop it then to the \$115.

The County Board then questioned the case of the client that lived with his parents. They said that they were concerned about the feedback that Mr. Rue was giving to his commission. Another case they brought to mind was a trip to Streator and back for 56 miles. They questioned it but did pay him.

They also stated that his trips where repetitious, referring to a trip to Millington.

Mr. Rue explained the route that he had took, and that he did not know all of the streets in Streator in order to take the shortest route. In the case of the Millington trip it was less cost to the county the way he submitted the voucher than if he would have submitted it the other way.

The V.A.C. committee suggested to Mr. Rue that he start all of his trips from the Ottawa Courthouse. Any meetings that he is requested to attend they would pay mileage. As far as any other meetings he attends he is a concerned vet and should attend anyway.

The Board stated that they cannot take money from one fund and use it for another fund. It goes into their cash reserve fund, you cannot touch the cash reserve fund. The budget will have to be reappropriated in November or December if the line item runs out. Because this is a new organization we don't know the exact appropriations that will be used as of yet.

Mr. Rue stated, where do we get the monies if the line item runs out?

More money would probably be allocated to that certain fund. If you don't need it in one fund it would probably be taken out of one fund and put into another.

Mr. Rue stated, yes, but it would be done next year. They told me that it would be coming out of my pocket. I told them that is the reason your committee knocked our budget to hell, because they knew this was going to happen.

The County stated that more appropriations can be asked for next year.

The quotes where then explained and suggested that they would be forgotten because they where said in the heat of an arguement.

It was explained that the only ones that knew the V.A.C. payment levels where the V.A.C. County Board members. Although when asked how the information was given to the newspaper no one knew.

The County Board asked if all of the veterans where deserving and qualified. County Board member Jim Caputo wanted to know the names of the clients. It was stated that the clients names was confidential and the information would not be given. The only people that could see the names were the Chairman of the County Board and the Chairman of the Committee. The newspapers had requested this information. Mr. Lanuti made a ruling that no names would be devulged.

Mr. Rue stated that he does contact Public Aid and their supervisors for some of his clients.

Mr. Hallet stated that he resented Mr. Rues threats, he knows the new commission has problems.

Mr. Rue: Mr. Hallet said that I threatened him? My commission had asked me to go ahead and draft the laws and the violations of the Bogardus Act at the last meeting. I drafted the laws and then spoke to Mr. Hallet.

I suggested that we iron this out between us as opposed to a writ of mandamus, and going to court. He considered that a threat? So I wrote the letter and I took it to Mr. Lanuti, the County Board Attorney. There are four statues that they are violating. Mr. Lanuti stated that he would write to the Attorney General, State of Illinois for an opinion. He also agreed that it would be best not to fight it out in court. I am also opposed to fighting this out in court. Mr. Lanuti then sends a letter dated March 5, 1985, to my office. He states that due to the meeting on March 13, 1985, with the V.A.C. Committee officers and the County Board he does not see the need to ask the Attorney General's opinion since we could possibly iron it out here. Was the problems ironed out? I drafted the violations and asked the States Attorneys opinion. He stated that he would represent us because I am the Superintendent of the department, and that he represents department heads of the county. I told him that should we have to go to court we would have to go to seek a private attorney, due to a conflict of interest; we are not a county department. He did agree. Did the board discuss the four violations that Mr. Hallet thought were a threat? Which were not a threat, the threat would have been had a writ of mandamus been served.

No, the County Board did not discuss the violations, they were not brought up at the meeting.

County Board member Chuck Klever stated that they would like to have the minutes of the last V.A.C. meeting.

Mr. Rue stated that he did not give a copy of the minutes of the last meeting to the County Board Committee due to the legal complications of the quotes... I decided not to give them a copy of it until it had been discussed here. To let you people here determine what you want to do.

It was stated that an edited copy would be given to the County Board.

Mr. Rue stated that an edited copy has been given to the Board of all the meetings except the Febuary meeting.

An edited copy of the Febuary and March meetings is to be given to the County Board.

It was suggested that one of the officers be at the next meeting with Mr. Rue. If an officer cannot make the meeting we will designate someone to go with him. We will be better represented with more than one person. So that this does not happen again we will have more than one person attending the meetings.

Mr. Rue asked if he misinterpeted the quotes.

No, they admitted to all of the quotes and we ironed them all out. We are sure that simular quotes will not be said in the future. They will be careful of what they say.

The County Board also stated that since we were new they understood that we were wanting to get things going good, and that Marty was a hustler.

The V.A.C. Committee stated that was why they had Mr. Rue as the Superintendent if he was not doing his job they did not want him.

Question: What happens when a line item runs out?

Mr. Rue stated that there is an impress fund that the committee should be aware of. The county does have an impress fund in three departments. It is a checking account, extra monies that come back in goes into that fund and the department disburses it. That is the way that this office should have been set up in the first place. I have requested that we go to a grant program. I have brought that subject up twice with them. They said that as a Township Supervisor, Public Aid Assistance, or any other public agencies that gives out funds makes a grant out to that individual for the amount that they are entitled to through the guidelines. That individual uses that money to do what they want. If the individual blows the money and shows that he is not mature enough to use those funds, then you govern how it will be paid out by the voucher system. You don't discriminate against the veterans. Public Aid and the Township Supervisor does it by the grant system. A hypothetical case, if you were an indigent vet and came into the office you would be entitled to \$149 by Public Aid standards per month for a single person. Your income is zero, public aid gave you \$79 a month food stamps, I call public aid and check it out. Technically you are eligible by law \$149 from the V.A.C. A township supervisor would give the client assistance up to \$149. He would issue a check for that amount. You would then take that grant and if you wanted to pay the money towards the rent or the utilities which ever you preferred to pay. The decision is yours to make. We should go to the grant system.

Question: What do we tell the veterans if the emergency relief fund runs out?

There will be fight the whole first year, next year we will have a little better idea of how to build the budget. We will have something to work by.

A work report for February was then discussed. Calls received and calls made was next. A copy of the telephone bills will be given to show the calls made. We do get a lot of referrals from other offices.

Dave Harvey asked if he was not to send clients over to the V.A.C. office from Job Service. Referring to the quote.

Mr Rue stated that these are all federally or state funded agencies. If those programs were eliminated the indigent would not have anywhere to go. If you could do away with them you would not have to worry about feeding them because they would not have anywhere else to go to be taken care of. That is why I told them that there is an attitude problem in dealing with these people.

The next page in the program is of partial cases that have been worked on since the office started. There has been 32 that we have had numerous dealings with. When dealing with the bureauocracy we might have to write to them several times to make the contact. We were told that at the beginning that if we serviced 100 cases in a year it would warrant the need for the office. What they are concerned about now is that we are going to run out of money, due to too many cases coming in already. In six months we will already be done with the 100 cases.

Dave Harvey stated the the federal extension expires at the end of this month. After 26 weeks of unemployment compensation there will doubtfully be another extension. There will be many more veterans applying for V.A.C. benefits.

He also explained the situation at Thatchers in Streator. Newspapers say that unemployment is down to 7%, but in LaSalle County unemployment is 14%, and going the wrong way.

Question: If the figures say that unemployment is 5% or 10% is that only the unemployment cases that are being drawn from? What about the people that their unemployment has expired?

Mr. Harvey: There is a certain percentage that the department allows for if they maintain contact with Job Service. I have people that have been coming to see me for two or three years. They have to keep in touch. I am trying, I call on employers, I try to sell programs. We don't have any employers in the area that are doing any hiring. When they tell you that there are jobs, ask them what jobs? Burger King at \$3.35 for 12 hours a week, no one is hiring full-time help.

Mr. Rue asked what to do about the violations that were submitted to the States Attorney of the Bogardus Act? What do we do about the letter we drafted to Mr. Lanuti, February 25, 1985? That was the stimulus that created the meeting tonight with the County Board and the V.A.C. officers.

The County Boards statement tonight was that if they had a landlord that was being paid \$97, why should we pay \$115? They stated that the maximum that they would pay is \$115.

Mr. Rue asked if the board gave authorization to drive to a meeting in Bloomington on the 29 and 30 of March.

Start the mileage here at Ottawa, that is the only thing that you have to do. They agreed to you either staying there or coming back if you wanted to.

Mr Rue then asked about the grant system.

The time to go to the grant system will be when we put out next years budget. We are locked into this bidget this year whether we want to or not. Keep all of the vouchers submitted this year so that we will have some guidelines to follow next year.

Mr. Rue stated that he has been paying some of the things out of his pocket they then reimburse me. I will eat the loss if the County Board does not want to pay it.

Streator Legion Post took care of an indigent veteran that was not eligible for our program. The office is getting him assistance elsewhere through the Township Supervisor.

Ralph Adlers Post in Marseilles took care of another veteran this month, We brought this up with the County Board.

Larry Andersons Post was taking into consideration assisting there.

It was explained that our area posts were helping with the veterans.

Amvets are feeding a family in Peru. I have talked to the caseworker in the WIN Program to see if there can be some changes made in the programs. If you miss those meetings they cut you off whether you are eligible or not it makes no difference.

Iowa City would not admit a veteran and they could not get ahold of Mr. Rue. Do you think that they would let you have a beeper? It could tone into the V.A.C. office. His secretary could then get ahold of him.

How many miles can a beeper travel?

A 50 mile radius.

Mr. Rue stated that the office has a residential phone with one number. I sometimes have to wait two or three days to get a call from Chicago, because they cannot get through due to the line being busy. I had requested two numbers with three extensions so that if an emergency call came in, she could connect me with that call. The County Board would not allow it.

There is a 667 number out of Utica that goes through a switchboard to your beeper, it doesn't come through the office. If only the commission had the number we would be the only ones that could get ahold of you. We would beep Marty and he would call the number where he is needed.

There is not enough money left in the line item for a beeper at the present time. We could figure it into next years line item.

Next meeting will be held April 10, 1985, at the Old Courthouse, Ottawa. The south door will be opened from 7:00 p.m. until 7:40 p.m.

VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION MINUTES FROM 13 FEBRUARY 1985

Meeting opened with proper ceremonies at 7:42 p.m. Chairman Robert Machowiak presiding. After roll call and reading of the minutes by Chairman Machowiak, the answer to the question asked last meeting concerning Mr. Rues bonding, yes he has been bonded.

Ron Hickey, Vice-President, ^{and} Terry Millet, President of NAM Vets were welcomed to the meeting. They were informed that the law states that only those chartered posts that are named in the Bogardus Act are entitled to a vote at the present time.

New business: Handouts were given to all members. First and second pages explain themselves. Third page, Job Analysis, General Assistance, we try to do as much of the job analysis in our office as possible. General and Emergency Assistance Program was adopted by the County Board Committee and our Commission. It gives us our guidelines and our general assistance regulations. It governs the operations of our office.

Approximately a month ago after our last meeting, the County Board Committee decided to make a change in item two under Veterans Emergency Assistance. They included a sentence, "Prior rental amounts accepted by landlords will be taken into consideration." That is an amendment to the original regulations that we both had adopted. Then at the last meeting last week they entered another amendment to that section, "if it is a lesser amount." ~~What has transpired is that I have taken cases of veterans that are in dire need of assistance and qualify them for Public Aid and Township Assistance, and see that they contact the other proper agencies. I then submit a voucher for rent, ect. to the county. My Commission up there says that I cannot consider rent of any more than \$115 a month. I said, but the rent is \$250 a month. They said a maximum of \$115 is to be accepted. They had said we should try it for a while. It is not carved in granite. If we must we can raise it. Now they have turned around and said that not only can it not be changed, but you cannot give a \$115 rent. If a township gives \$97 you're going to only give \$97, or a lesser amount if they have accepted a lesser amount. I went to these landlords. One is renting to a Vietnam veteran here in Ottawa, and he accepted the \$97 a month rent on a \$150 a month place. I then had to call him back and tell him that my committee would not authorize the voucher that we sent based on the initial regulations that we had adopted. I then had to call the landlord back and tell him that they will not pay the \$97 they will pay only \$82.50. The landlord did accept it. This has happened twice.~~

Question: Do we have to accept this? Mr. Rue stated, that is up to the commission here. I told them that I was infatigably opposed to it. I think it is wrong. If the rent is \$150 a month it is \$150. If the rent is \$200 it is \$200. I have to work with those figures. I know that our maximum is a \$115, so I have to drop it down, ^{not a maximum} Now they are telling me that I don't drop it down to \$115 for payment, but the only rent I can consider is \$115 no matter what your actual rent is, plus we'll drop it down below that if another agency pays less. I told them that there is a Township Supervisor that pays \$149 a month, does this mean that a veteran ^{from that} township is entitled to \$115? No, stated the County Board Committee, we will talk about it. ~~If the landlord in that township has accepted a lesser amount in the past, you will pay the ~~lesser~~ amount.~~

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decided

Question: How are they going to determine what person is going to get \$115 and who will get \$97? *At this time I do not know.*

Mr. Rue stated, I always thought that the rent was the actual amount the landlord charged. We would use that figure to determine if the \$115 was to be used. They are telling me to use what ever the landlord had accepted from the other agencies in the past.

Question: Before when the rent was \$150 did we give a \$150, or did we give \$115?

I had initially proposed a \$150 rent. They said no. Lets start at \$115 as our tops. Now they added to it the phrase; prior rental amounts accepted by a landlord will be accepted, They then added an amendment to that; if it is a lesser amount.

Motion made that Mr. Rue goes before the V.A.C. and tell them that we do not accept the amendments to the resolution. *Passed unanimously*

Motion made by ~~Anderson~~ that \$115 be the minimum, and use the original rent of landlord. ~~Motion second by Ralph Adler.~~ Passed unanimously.

~~Question: How much does the Township Supervisors pay for rent?~~

~~Streator pays \$149, Peru pays \$100, and some others pay \$97. Each township has their own payment levels. The County Board is telling us with the amendments that they are not going to let our office operate as a V.A.C., but as an other township or public agency.~~

~~Question: Is that not discrimination?~~

~~Yes, the whole system is.~~

~~Question: Why does one Supervisor pay one amount, and another pay a different amount?~~

~~It is up to the township guidelines. I could check with them and find out if they submit a budget to the county for funding, and then if they have to operate within that funding.~~

~~Question: Where do they have to go to get their funds, and get an OK?~~

~~They don't they write out a check.~~

Question: If we say \$115 and that is it, what can they do?

They can refuse to honor the voucher. That means that we would have to secure a writ of mandamus from the courts to have the voucher paid.

~~The amendments added to the Veterans Emergency Assistance Program will not be accepted by the Commission. We will take this to court.~~

Mr. Rue: The vouchers that I passed ~~out~~ ^{at} the County Board ^{Committee meeting.} have no names ^{on them} of the veterans. It has only the income levels, rent, and any assistance that he is receiving. If there is any difference should be able to assist.

I then write down below that a voucher should be made for the amount of what the individual is entitled too. I then submit the voucher to the County Board Committee. Then comes the minutes of the previous V.A.C. meeting. Next there is a work report showing that our office is being used. I then submit a list of the letters written, copies made, ect. in our office in the month of January. Our office has been in contact with Washington D.C., Chicago, Iowa, Springfield, and New York. Anyone that we had to contact to get the cases resolved. We have been rather Successful on behalf of the veterans. I have met with the County V.A.C. Committee on two separate occasions. I have given this booklet to many of them twice, because they did not bring theirs to the meeting. They don't even look at it. I have to have it there to justify what we are doing in our office. I read some statements to the V.A.C. that tiplified the county committee attitude:

~~I think you are calling people and telling them to come in and apply for assistance.~~

~~I feel that Job Service, J.T.P.C., Public Aid, Displaced Worker at I.V.C.C., and your office is a waste of money, we should do away with all of them.~~

~~Yours driving too much, when that line item runs out you will get no more money. You will pay transportation out of your own pocket. Make the veterans pay for transportation; they wanted this office let them take care of their own; (referring to the 30 or 40 men that were up there to get this commission formed.)~~

~~I explained to them that the veteran organizations take care of their own members and that they do assist other veterans that are not members. Those who are not members are coming to my office.~~

~~You should not be in your office all of the time. You told us that you would be on the road most of the time. (I showed them 25 cases from this past week.~~

~~Your giving the money away. We are not paying their parents to pay for their homes. We should not pay parents or relatives any rent.~~

~~I argued that the parents are not the veterans guardians. Just because you are related to someone they are not obligated to provide for you.~~

~~You cannot use the \$200 a month figure nad divide it, use the \$115 amount and divide it by the number of families living there.~~

~~If we pay the rent, utilities, food, (\$115, \$55, \$79 = \$249 a month) they will never go back to work; they will have it made in the shade.~~

~~I was then accused of telling the veterans what to apply for. I ask them when they come into the office; How can I assist you? What do you want from us?~~

~~There are all kinds of jobs available they don't want to work~~

~~I was then told to have my secretary coordinate my trips. They will not~~

~~pay for a trip to Millington, back to Peru, then to Ottawa. What happened is that I had a case in Millington; they said to go to the office first, from there to Millington back to Ottawa, from Ottawa to Peru. I then said, do I then take the rest of the day off at 2:00 p.m.? They said no. I said, if I go back to Ottawa the way that you want me to it would be two round trips to Ottawa, one of which I am entitled to be paid transportation.~~

~~This is a letter brought into my office by a client. It was in the Ottawa paper. It list all of the things that the veterans are entitled too. I told the veteran why he could not reapply, and that he has the right to appeal before the Public Aid Committee and the County Board.~~

~~Question: Why can't you inform the veteran of what he has coming?~~

~~The County Board Committee is opposed to the office and they do not want veterans assisted in any way. They are trying to save all the money that they can.~~

~~The County Board Committee will not permit a taperecorder at the meetings. No one is allowed to have a taperecorder at the meetings. The newspaper reporters are not there and they receive more information than I do.~~

~~A request was made for copies of the newspaper article listing the benefits the veterans are entitled to receive. Give each V.A.C. member a copy.~~

~~The meetings that I attend that the County Board Committee pays ^{w/leg} for are the County and District, V.A.C., and Concerned Veterans. The rest of the meetings I pay for myself. According to the Bogardus Act I have to attend the meetings of the veterans ^{circumstances} when requested to inform them of what the V.A.C. is doing, and any changes in the law that will affect the veterans. Other members of the Board who must attend meetings are paid for transportation and meals, I do not charge them for meals.~~

~~Question: Who is on the County Board Commission?~~

~~Mr. Lambert, Wes Freebarian, Mrs. Kudrick, Mr. Klever, Mr. Caputo, Mrs. Stevenson, Mr. Bradly, Mr. Hallet, and an Attorney, Mr. Lanuti who is asked about changes in the amendments.~~

~~Most of the Township Supervisors have been of assistance when we have sent over a referral in behalf of the veteran. They have been very cooperative.~~

~~Several cases were discussed, one concerned a veteran and his wife with a problem of citizenship; another veteran with terminal cancer and their trouble with the V.A. Iowa City Hospital. ~~The~~ wife explained what had happened to her and her husband. This was one of six similar cases in the past 30 days.~~

~~The Chairman of the County V.A.C. Committee and the Chairman of the County Board Committee have the right to look through the files. I cannot get the Chairman of the County Board Committee to sit down with me prior to our meetings to go through the files to familiarize himself with the cases. On one case I was told that the landlord had the veteran do odd jobs in the past and that he could do it again to pay for his rent.~~

~~The Township Supervisor in Streator pays \$149 a month for rent, he has the veterans work for the township for the amount received. These people are~~

~~working its not that they don't want to work.~~

~~Question: Does not the County Board realize that when these people are given proper guidance to what their available benefits are, and once they receiving their entitlements, townships and other agencies don't have to pick up the tab. You are actually saving them money.~~

~~Mr. Rue: I explained that to them that you are not only saving the county money, but that they are buying commodities which helps other businesses. The commodities have taxes on them and merchants make money on them. Its keeps the circle going. They don't believe that most of these people don't understand their rights. As a result they never apply to the proper agency. They get lost in the bureaucratic red tape. Anxiety causes them to give up.~~

~~Question: Have you ever asked the County Board to get the statistics from Job Service?~~

~~Mr. Rue: I have contacted the Job Service office who has statistical data. I got ahold of LaSalle and they sent me the printout. I showed them that there is no work available. I told them what I.V.C.C. said as far as Displaced Workers Center of operations, what J.T.P.A. is doing, and that is where the comment comes in about all the agencies are a waste, and that there are jobs out there. These people do not want to work.~~

~~Question: Mr. Rue, What are we going to do about mileage?~~

~~You don't accept it, you get a writ of mandamus. Take it back to court.~~

The financial Committee promised us all the equipment we needed to set up an office. ~~That was the day that~~ Gale Murrin went before the County Board and stated that if I were representing the veteran organizations as my client, I would advise them not to accept anything, because you have nothing in writing. You have only given them words. The end result is that our office does not have the equipment it needs to operate efficiently. ~~Most~~ ^{March} of our equipment is personally owned or borrowed.

Question: Remember the last County Board meeting that we all went to where they appointed and accepted you and the office salaries? They stated what you were to receive and what equipment your office would have.

Mr. Rue: Its not in the minutes, I asked them about that. They went through the years minutes at the Finance Committee meeting two months ago and I stopped them at the time when I presented the budget, and when they had accepted it. They told me it would be discussed later. I sat there for the rest of the meeting and it was not discussed in any minutes. It was not in the minutes and they would not enter it into the minutes.

~~Question: Have you discussed any of this with our lawyer from Marseilles?~~

~~Mr. Rue: I wanted to touch base with Gale to find out if I should read these quotes or not. I suggested that Mr. Hallet and myself get together, Mr. Hallet did not make himself available. I called Mr. Bradley to see if I could talk to him before we met tonight, but that was not possible. Gale suggested that we bide our time and then contact Mr. Ferricuti. Gale's secretary said that he felt that since he was a new attorney that he felt he could adequately represent us. He suggested that we get ahold of Pete Ferricuti, due to his years of experience.~~

~~The V.A.C. County Board meeting is the 26 of February 1985, at 2:00 p.m. Several members of the Commission requested a phone call the night before the meeting so that they can be prepared to attend.~~

~~A suggestion was made that the committee meet with the County Board and try to straighten everything out. If other Board members knew what was going on they could straighten the situation out.~~

If we transport an indigent veteran who has qualified to a V.A. Hospital and he is admitted the V.A. does not pay anything until the day of discharge. On the day of discharge the V.A. pays 11 cents a mile for that trip. My commission then has to pay the 20 cents a mile up front knowing that when we go back to get him the V.A. will then turn over the 11 cents, so in essence all that it has cost us is 9 cents a mile for the trip. The driver takes the money and returns it to me, because I have already paid the driver 20 cents. I asked the county where I should put this money. We have only spent 9 cents a mile instead of 20 cents. Can I put this money back into my mileage line item? County Board: No, a miscellaneous fund is set up for next years appropriations. You will put it there. Mr. Rue; The problem with that is that the line item is running down fast. If I take them to a Social Security examine, Social Security does not pay for six weeks, but they pay 17 cents a mile, so actually its costing our commission 3 cents a mile. Why does that money not go back into the line item? We have not spent it. We temporarily borrowed it. An auditor made it very clear that it could not be done. I suggested that they set up a checking account for the V.A.C. so the V.A.C. can only write checks for authorized vouchers, such as medicine, mileage, ect. It must be authorized through the V.A.C. Committee. No, stated the auditor. There are no departments that have a checking account. Mr. Rue: Wrong, I know of ~~three~~ ^{one} already that has them, but we are not allowed to set up a petty cash fund.

Motion made: Is it possible to change the meetings to the fourth Thursday of every month. Motion denied.

Motion was made that the members go to their Post and make a donation of \$50 to the Concerned Veterans.

A need for drivers to the V.A. Hospital. Please compile a list of drivers through out LaSalle County so my office can call them if they are ~~are~~ needed.

DD-214 Discharge papers received from: Robert Wachowaik, Ralph Adler, Francis Perra, Sam Maggio, James Massat, Ernie Patton, Howard Smith Frank Rathburn, Larry Anderson, and Cappalini.

Next meeting will be March 13, 1985, at the Old Courthouse, south door. The door will be open bewteen 7:00 p.m. and 7:40 p.m.

Veterans commission OKs benefit levels

By MIKE CLANNIFF
Daily Times Staff Writer

Members of the La Salle County Veterans Assistance Commission Tuesday decided on benefit levels for indigent county veterans.

The VAC was established in late November after the county board was petitioned by 17 county veterans organizations via the 1967 Bogardus Act. The act guarantees county assistance to indigent war veterans in the form of food, shelter and clothing on an emergency basis. Martin Rue, VAC superintendent, told the committee he has finalized an application form for those seeking assistance. The committee approved a

maximum rent assistance of \$115 a month after Rue suggested a higher figure. Rue said public aid recipients now receive \$97 a month for housing while those on lowship aid get \$110.

"I don't think you can find adequate housing at those figures," Rue said. "We have to provide shelter. I would suggest \$150 as a top figure."

"That might be a little too high," responded committee member Ted Lambert (R-Tonica). "I'd just as soon hold it down to \$110 to \$115."

After discussion, Dave McConville (D-Ottawa) added, "Since a (standing) figure is not cut into granite, let's go with \$110 to \$115 for several months and then review it." McConville made a motion that

the figure be set at \$115. The second was added by Mary Stevenson (R-Ottawa). The vote was unanimous. Utilities were then considered with a cap of \$50 a month and \$300 a year per household, being established. Truck Klever (D-Sireator) made the motion with Jim Caputo (D-Marseilles) giving the second. It also passed without dissent.

Other benefit standards OK'd here:

- Telephone — the monthly bill and emergency calls.
- Food — \$78 per adult.
- Household supplies — \$10 per adult and \$3 per dependent.
- Personal essentials — \$20 per adult and \$5 per dependent.
- Laundry — \$5 and \$2.50 for any

home without laundry facilities.

- Medical — any bill for emergency treatment only.
- Dental and pharmacy — bill.
- Transportation — 20 cents per mile.

Applicants must show proof of county residency.

Rue also turned in his initial work report for December. He listed weekly work hour totals of 67, 64.5, 70 and 68 for the month. The county established a first-year budget of \$115,000 for the VAC. The figure includes a sum of \$50,000 for aid to the indigent veterans and their families. The implementation of the VAC resulted in a new tax levy for county residents.

I think you are calling people and telling them to come in and apply for assistance.

I feel that Job Service, J.T.P.C., Public Aid, and Displaced Workers at I.V.C.C. is a waste of money should do away with it all.

Your driving too much when that line item runs out you will get no more money. You will pay the transportation out of your own pocket. Make the veterans pay for this they wanted this office, let them take care of their own.

I am opposed to paying transportation to any meeting, you don't have to go.

Your not supposed to be in your office all the time. You told us you would be on the road most of the time.

Your giving the money away. We are not paying off their parents homes. We should not pay them anything.

You cannot take their rent of \$200 a month and divide it by any number of adults. You use our maximum of \$115 and divide it.

If we pay their rent, utilities, and food (\$115, \$55, \$79 = \$243 a month) they will never go to work.

You are telling them what to apply for.

There are all kinds of jobs available. They don't want to work. If your going to provide for them they will never work.

You better have your secretary coordinate your trips. There is no way we will pay you from Peru to Millington, back to Peru, and then to Ottawa.

VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION MINUTES FROM 9 JANUARY 1985

Meeting opened with proper ceremonies at 7:33 p.m. Chairman Robert Wachowiak presiding. After roll call and reading of the minutes by Adjutant, Francis Perra, the first item of the agenda was the question, "Is Superintendent, Rue bonded?"

Answer: Not at the present time; however, Jim Bump, Alternate Delegate from AMVETS Post #78 will check and make inquires about a \$2,000 bond for Mr. Rue.

Mr. Rue then told us of the resignation of his secretary. Although she put Streator as her residence she actually lived in Livingston County. Ms. Cindy Medler, of Seneca, has been hired in her place, and will start 14 January, 1985. She is attending I.V.C.C., and studied Psychology and Socialogy, she is now taking secretarial courses. She will be on a 90 day probation period. Holiday guidelines will follow those of other county employees. Mr. Rue will get a copy to the Adjutant.

Mr. Rue was asked by the Commission to give the status of the office, ect. He said that because of no secretary, typing is way behind. George Watts, Veterans Affairs, is giving us some much needed office equipment.

The office telephone was installed yesterday, along with the answering service. We can have only one telephone number and no extensions. This will run \$50 to \$100 to install. The dictaphone will cost approximately \$400. Superintendent will have a cassette recorder and transcriber for dictation.

Mr. Rue said he has been working an average of 67 hours per week since 1 Dec. 1984. He said he was approached by the news media as to who the V.A.C. is helping. Names cannot be divulged, because of the Privacy Act; however, hypathetical cases of Vets can be discussed.

The General and Emergency Assistance Program was discussed. Our Commission voted to accept the assistance guidelines, and the categorically listed payment schedule.

Acceptance of the Nam Vets into the V.A.C. was then discussed. They will be accepted upon the receipt of their resolution, but they will not have a vote on V.A.C. issues.

Assistance to Veterans was then discussed. If a Vet is 59 to 60 years, owns a home, he cannot get Public Aid unless he is blind or otherwise disabled. He must prove he is 100% unemployable to gain assistance. A home owner with property valued under \$25,000 has to sign a Form D.P.A. 2199. This allows Public Aid to recoup their prior assistance. What we do is file for nonservice connected disability and Social Security disability. We also have them apply for Public Aid.

Ralph Adler, Delegate A.L. Post 235 made a motion to accept the General and Emergency Assistance Program be adopted with the revisions. Al Strozewski, Delegate A.L. Post 426, second the motion. Passes unanimously.

Motion by John Sadowski, Delegate C.W.V. Post 883, and second by Al Strozewski. Future meetings will be held in the Jury Room, 3rd floor of the Old Courthouse, downtown Ottawa. The doors to the Courthouse will be open 7:00 p.m. until 7:40 p.m. on meeting nights. A Sargent-at-Arms will be at the door to admit the members and lock the door at 7:40 p.m. Anyone not there by 7:40 will not be allowed to enter. Motion was ananimously carried.

Francis Perra, Deleqate, ANVETS 78, made a motion that if a Delegate and Alternate cannot attend a V.A.C. meeting, the Post Commander can name an Alternate to attend in their place. Ralph Alder second the motion. Passed unanimously.

The present terms of Deleqates and Alternates will end on 1 Dec., 1985. Post should elect their Deleqates at their October meeting if so desired.

Deleqates and Alternates are reminded to notify their Commanders and Posts of information of the meetings of the V.A.C. All future meetings will be open unless there is need for an executive session.

County Board requested to have a copy of the minutes of our meetings.

Francis Perra made a motion to give the County Board a copy of our minutes, second by Adler. Passed unanimously.

An invitation to all was given to attend the next meeting of the concerned Veterans of the Illinois Valley area. It will be held on Thursday 31, January, 1985 at 7:30 p.m. at the LaSalle V.F.W., Post 4668.

Respectfully submitted

Francis J. Perra, ADJ, V.A.C.
1810 Fulton Street
Peru, IL 61354
(815) 223-4696

CM

Hospital Refusals: 1985

Client #2 Vietnam veterans who has had severe mental problems presumably since discharge in 1971. He had been in and out of county mental health type units since date of discharge. We became involved in April of 1985 and had him transported to North Side VA. We prepared his case for non-service connected disability. He now receives compensation for his disability.

Client #3 Veterans developed cancer in 1983 in his lungs. His doctor advised him to go to Iowa City. They took him to the University Hospital instead of the VA hospital. There they removed a lung. This cost him and his wife their live savings. Six days after the surgery Iowa City transferred him to the veterans section where he underwent chemotherapy. Two years later the cancer spread to his brain. Iowa City stated that he was uncooperative to the therapy treatments and discharged him. He was readmitted to St. Francis Hospital in dire need of custodial care. In the month of February 1985, his wife contacted our office, we contacted Chicago VA Service Office and Iowa City VA, Iowa City came by ambulance to pick up the veteran and contacted him to a local nursing home. He died two month later.

Client #16 Veterans was hospitalized at IVCH in February 1985. His friend rented a car and drove him to Iowa City VA at the request of the veterans doctor who had talked to Iowa City. Iowa City refused to examine the veterans who had emphysema and lung cancer. He was brought back to the local hospital and readmitted. It took seven days to build up his strength in order to make a transfer to a VA facility. We had him transferred to West Side VA. He died several months later.

Client #83 IVCH in Peru notified us in April of 1985. I called Danville VA Hospital and transported this mental patient at 5:30 a.m.

Client #110 Local hospital discharged veteran in August 1985 even though the veteran had a broken arm in two places, unable to control his bowels, unable to ambulate at all, suffered from mental problems, nor could he eat or drink. He was transferred for the hospital by ambulance. They carried him up the stairs on a chair to the second floor and left him. The hospital spokesperson stated that Hines and Danville refused transfer of patient. I called Danville and arranged transfer late that afternoon, ordered an ambulance and the veteran was admitted.

Client #107 Veterans wife contacted our office in July 1985. Iowa City requested that she bring him out four Fridays in a row during the month of July. They refused admission all four times. He had a heart condition and it took two police officers to load him into her car. After each VA refusal he required local hospitalization. On his last refusal he required three units of blood. I prepared his medical history and transported him on a mattress in the back of my suburban. I went to see the medical administrator at the Iowa City hospital and presented my case to him. Iowa City then admitted him and contracted him to a local nursing home.

Client #111 Local hospital contacted me pertaining to a suicide attempt on the VA diagnosed delay stress veteran. I told them the procedure to get his transferred to a VA facility. I recommended the facility to send him to. The local hospital transferred him to a local mental health unit and agreed to send him to the VA hospital that I recommended. That night at home I received a call from the hospital stating the doctor had made arrangements to transfer to another VA facility that evening. I tried to prevent the transfer, but the hospital stated that an ambulance was already on the way. We will probably be seeing the patient here in LaSalle County in the next 30 days.

Client #117 Office was contacted in August 1985 pertaining to this veterans with his artery ruptured in his abdomen. They used 30 units of blood in a period of two days.

His bleeding was now minimal, but he had to be transported due to a life and death surgery which had to be performed. Due to the families inability to get through to my office the veteran had only four hours left to have the surgery performed. The veterans doctor contacted four VA hospitals all in which refused transfer. The hospital had no choice but to transfer to St. Francis in Peoria. He survived the surgery and lived an additional couple of weeks.

Client #81 Local hospital contacted our office. Veteran was suffering from no pulse in the lower left leg or feet area, difficulty in breathing, chest pain. Veteran had had coronary artery bypass and valve repair at the VA hospital. Local hospital stated that he needed vascular surgery immediately or he would lose his leg. Four VA hospitals were contacted, all refused transfer. Veteran was transferred to St. Francis Hospital.

Client #112 Local hospital contacted four VA hospitals due to the fact the veteran had a fractured hip. The VA hospital refused transfer and told the local hospital to perform the surgery. The VA then refused to reimburse the hospital for veteran. When the veteran found this out his family carried him out of the hospital on a stretcher against the wishes of the hospital. Hospital still has not been paid.

VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION MINUTES FROM 9 JANUARY 1985

Meeting opened with proper ceremonies at 7:33 p.m. Chairman Robert Wachowiak presiding. After roll call and reading of the minutes by Adjutant, Francis Perra, the first item of the agenda was the question, "Is Superintendent, Rue bonded?"

Answer: Not at the present time; however, Jim Bump, Alternate Delegate from AMVETS Post #78 will check and make inquires about a \$2,000 bond for Mr. Rue.

Mr. Rue then told us of the resignation of his secretary. Although she put Streator as her residence she actually lived in Livingston County. Ms. Cindy Medler, of Seneca, has been hired in her place, and will start 14 January, 1985. She is attending I.V.C.C., and studied Psychology and Socialogy, she is now taking secretarial courses. She will be on a 90 day probation period. Holiday guidelines will follow those of other county employees. Mr. Rue will get a copy to the Adjutant.

Mr. Rue was asked by the Commission to give the status of the office, ect. He said that because of no secretary, typing is way behind. George Watts, Veterans Affairs, is giving us some much needed office equipment.

The office telephone was installed yesterday, along with the answering service. We can have only one telephone number and no extensions. This will run \$50 to \$100 to install. The dictaphone will cost approximately \$400. Superintendent will have a cassette recorder and transcriber for dictation.

Mr. Rue said he has been working an average of 67 hours per week since 1 Dec. 1984. He said he was approached by the news media as to who the V.A.C. is helping. Names cannot be divulged, because of the Privacy Act; however, hypathetical cases of Vets can be discussed.

Meeting opened with proper ceremonies at 7:33 p.m. Chairman Robert Wachowick presiding. After roll call and reading of the minutes by Adjutant, Francis Perry, the first item of the agenda was the question, "Is Superintendent, Rue bonded?" Answer: Not at the present time; however, Jim Bunn, Alternate Delegate from AMVETS Post #78 will check and make inquiries about a \$2,000 bond for Mr. Rue.

Mr. Rue then told us of the resignation of his secretary. Although she put \$20,000 as her residence she actually lived in Livingston County, Ms. Cindy Medler of Seneca, has been hired in her place, and will start in January, 1982. She is attending I.V.C., and studied Psychology and Sociology, she is now taking secretarial courses. She will be on a 90 day probation period. Holiday guidelines will follow those of other county employees. Mr. Rue will get a copy to the Adjutant.

Mr. Rue was asked by the Commission to give the status of the office, etc. He said that because of no secretary, typing is way behind. George Watts, Veterans Affairs, is giving us some much needed office equipment.

The office telephone was installed yesterday, along with the answering service. We can have only one telephone number and no extensions. This will run \$20 to \$100 to install. The telephone will cost approximately \$400. Superintendent will have a cassette recorder and typewriter for dictation.

Mr. Rue said he has been working an average of 67 hours per week since 1 Dec. 1981. He said he was approached by the news media as to who the V.A.C. is helping. Names cannot be divulged, because of the Privacy Act; however, hypothetical cases of Vets can be discussed.

The General and Emergency Assistance Program was discussed. Our Commission voted to accept the assistance guidelines, and the categorically listed payment schedule.

Acceptance of the Nam Vets into the V.A.C. was then discussed. They will be accepted upon the receipt of their resolution, but they will not have a vote on V.A.C. issues.

Assistance to Veterans was then discussed. If a Vet is 59 to 60 years, owns a home, he cannot get Public Aid unless he is blind or otherwise disabled. He must prove he is 100% unemployable to gain assistance. A home owner with property valued under \$25,000 has to sign a Form D.P.A. 2199. This allows Public Aid to recoup their prior assistance. What we do is file for nonservice connected disability and Social Security disability. We also have them apply for Public Aid.

Ralph Adler, Delegate A.L. Post 235 made a motion to accept the General and Emergency Assistance Program be adopted with the revisions. Al Strozewski, Delegate A.L. Post 426, second the motion. Passes unanimously.

Motion by John Sadowski, Delegate C.W.V. Post 883, and second by Al Strozewski. Future meetings will be held in the Jury Room, 3rd floor of the Old Courthouse, downtown Ottawa. The doors to the Courthouse will be open 7:00 p.m. until 7:40 p.m. on meeting nights. A Sargent-at-Arms will be at the door to admit the members and lock the door at 7:40 p.m. Anyone not there by 7:40 will not be allowed to enter. Motion was unanimously carried.

The General and Emergency Assistance Program was discussed. Our Commission voted to accept the assistance guidelines, and the categorically listed payment schedule.

Acceptance of the Nam Vets into the V.A.C. was then discussed. They will be accepted upon the receipt of their resolution, but they will not have a vote on V.A.C. issues.

Assistance to Veterans was then discussed. If a Vet is 59 to 60 years, owns a home, he cannot get Public Aid unless he is blind or otherwise disabled. He must prove he is 100% unemployable to gain assistance. A home owner with property valued under \$25,000 has to sign a Form D.P.A. 2122. This allows Public Aid to recoup their prior assistance. What we do is file for non-service connected disability and Social Security disability. We also have them apply for Public Aid.

Ralph Allen, Delegate A.I. Post 838 made a motion to accept the General and Emergency Assistance Program be adopted with the revisions. At Szrowski, Delegate A.I. Post 426, second the motion. Passes unanimously.

Motion by John Szadowski, Delegate C.W.V. Post 883, and second by Al Szrowski. Future meetings will be held in the Jury Room, 3rd floor of the Old Courthouse, downtown Ottawa. The doors to the Courthouse will be open 7:00 p.m. until 7:40 p.m. on meeting nights. A Sergeant-at-Arms will be at the door to admit the members and lock the door at 7:40 p.m. Anyone not there by 7:40 will not be allowed to enter. Motion was unanimously carried.

Francis Perra, Delegate, ANVETS 78, made a motion that if a Delegate and Alternate cannot attend a V.A.C. meeting, the Post Commander can name an Alternate to attend in their place. Ralph Alder second the motion. Passed unanimously.

The present terms of Delegates and Alternates will end on 1 Dec., 1985. Post should elect their Delegates at their October meeting if so desired.

Delegates and Alternates are reminded to notify their Commanders and Posts of information of the meetings of the V.A.C. All future meetings will be open unless there is need for an executive session.

County Board requested to have a copy of the minutes of our meetings.

Francis Perra made a motion to give the County Board a copy of our minutes, second by Adler. Passed unanimously.

An invitation to all was given to attend the next meeting of the concerned Veterans of the Illinois Valley area. It will be held on Thursday 31, January, 1985 at 7:30 p.m. at the LaSalle V.F.W., Post 4668.

Respectfully submitted

Francis J. Perra, ADJ, V.A.C.
1810 Fulton Street
Peru, IL 61354
(815) 223-4696

cm

Francis Perry, Delegate, ANVETS-78, made a motion that if a Delegate and
Alternates cannot attend a V.A.C. meeting, the Post Commander can name an
Alternates to attend in their place. Ralph Alder second the motion. Passed

unanimously.

The present terms of Delegates and Alternates will end on 1 Dec. 1985.
Post should elect their Delegates at their October meeting if so desired.

Delegates and Alternates are reminded to notify their Commanders and Posts
of information of the meetings of the V.A.C. All future meetings will be
open unless there is need for an executive session.

County Board requested to have a copy of the minutes of our meetings.

Francis Perry made a motion to give the County Board a copy of our minutes.
second by Alder. Passed unanimously.

An invitation to all was given to attend the next meeting of the concerned
Veterans of the Illinois Valley area. It will be held on Thursday 31, January,
1985 at 7:30 p.m. at the LaSalle V.F.W., Post 4688.

Respectfully submitted

Francis J. Perry, ADJ, V.A.C.
1810 Fulton Street
Peoria, IL 61604
(815) 223-4098

VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 13, 1985

Meeting opened with proper ceremonies at 7:42 p.m. Chairman Robert Wachowiak presiding. After roll call and reading of the minutes by Chairman Wachowiak. The answer to the question asked last meeting concerning Mr. Rues bonding, yes, he has been bonded.

Ron Hickey Vice-President and Terry Willet President of Nam Vets were welcomed to the meeting. They were informed that the law states that only those chartered posts that are named in the Bogardus Act are entitled to a vote at the present time.

County Board Min
New business: Handouts were given to all members. First and second pages explain themselves. Third page is Job Analysis and General Assistance, we try to do as much of the job analysis in our office as possible. General and Emergency Assistance Program was adopted by the County Board Committee and our Commission. It gives us our guidelines and our general assistance regulations. It governs the operations of our office.

Approximately a month ago after our last meeting, the County Board Committee decided to make a change in item two under Veterans Emergency Assistance. They included a sentence, "Prior rental amounts accepted by landlords will be taken into consideration." That is an amendment to the original regulations that we both had adopted. Then at the last meeting last week they entered another amendment to that section, "if it is a lesser amount." If a township gives \$97 you are going to only give \$97 or a lesser amount if they have accepted a lesser amount.

Question: Do we have to accept this? Mr. Rue stated, that is up to the commission here. I told them that I was infatically opposed to it. I think it is wrong. If the rent is \$150 a month it is \$150. If the rent is \$200 it is \$200. I have to work with those figures. I know that our maximum is a \$115, so I have to drop it down to that amount. I told them that there is a Township Supervisor that pays \$149 a month, does this mean that a veteran from that township is entitled to \$115? The County Board told me, no, we will talk about it. If the landlord in that township has excepted a lesser amount in the past, you will pay the lesser amount.

Question: How are they going to determine what person is going to get \$115 and who will get \$97? At this time I do not know, answered Mr. Rue.

Mr. Rue stated, I always thought that the rent was the actual amount the landlord charged. We would use that figure to determine if the \$115 was to be used. They are telling me to use what ever the landlord had accepted from the other agencies in the past.

Question: Before when the rent was \$150 did we give a \$150, or did we give \$115?

I had initially proposed a \$150 rent. They said no. Lets start at \$115 as our tops. Now they added to it the phrase; prior rental amounts accepted by a landlord will be accepted. They then added an amendment to that; if it is a lesser amount.

Meeting opened with prayer beginning at 7:30 a.m. Chairman Robert H. ... After roll call and reading of the minutes by Chairman ... The answer to the question asked last week regarding the ... was, no has been found.

Ron Hickey, Vice President and Terry Miller, President of ... were ... They were informed that the ... those ... and ... a vote at the present time.

How business: Minutes were given to all members. First and second ... explain themselves. They gave to the ... to do as much of the job ... and emergency ... and our ... regulations. It governs the operations of our office.

Approximately a month ago after our last meeting, the County Board ... these ... They included a ... will be taken into consideration. This is an amendment to the ... original regulations that we ... last week they ... lesser amount. If a ... on a lesser amount if they have ...

Question: Do we have to accept this? ... I ... think it is wrong. ... as \$200 ... maximum is a \$115, so I have to drop it down to that amount. I told them ... that there is a Township Supervisor that pays \$115 a month, does that mean ... that a veteran from that ... we will talk about it. ... has exception a lesser amount in the past, you will get the lesser amount.

Question: How are they going to determine what person is going to get ... \$115 and who will get \$200? At this time I do not know, ... Mr. Rue stated, I always thought that the year was the actual amount the ... would use that figure to determine if the ... to be used. They are telling me to use what ever the ... from the other agencies in the past.

Question: Before when the rent was \$150 did we give a \$100, or did we give ... \$115?

I had initially proposed a \$100 rent. They said no. Let's start at \$115 ... how they added to it the ... by a ... it is a lesser amount.

Motion made that Mr. Rue goes before the V.A.C. and tell them that we do not accept the amendments to the resolution. Passed unanimously.

Motion made that \$115 be the minimum, and use the original rent of landlord. Passed unanimously.

Question: If we say \$115 and that is it, what can they do?

They can refuse to honor the voucher. That means that we would have to secure a writ of mandamus from the courts to have the voucher paid.

Mr. Rue: The vouchers that I pass out at the County Board Committee meeting have no names on them. It has only the income levels, rent, and any assistance that he is receiving. If there is any difference we should be able to assist. I then write down below that a voucher should be made for the amount of what the individual is entitled too. I then submit the voucher to the County Board Committee. Then comes the minutes of the previous V.A.C. meeting. Next there is a work report showing that our office is being used. I then submit a list of the letters written, copies made, ect. in our office in the month of January. Our office has been in contact with Washington D.C., Chicago, Iowa, Springfield, and New York. Anyone that we had to contact to get the cases resolved. We have been rather successful on the behalf of the veterans.

The meetings that I attend that the County Board pays mileage for are the County and District, V.A.C., and Concerned Veterans. The rest of the meetings I pay for myself. According to the Bogardus Act I have to attend the meetings that the veterans organization request to inform them of what the V.A.C. is doing, and any changes in the law that will affect the veterans.

Most of the Township Supervisors have been of assistance when we have sent over a referral in behalf of the veteran. They have been very cooperative.

Several cases were discussed, one concerned a veteran and his wife with a problem of citizenship; another veteran with terminal cancer and their trouble with the V.A. Iowa City Hospital. His wife explained what had happened to her and her husband. This was one of six similar cases in the past 30 days.

The Chairman of the County V.A.C. Committee and the Chairman of the County Board Committee have the right to look through the files.

The Financial Committee promised us all the equipment we needed to set up an office. Gale Murrin went before the County Board and stated, "if I were representing the veteran organizations as my client, I would advise them not to accept anything, because you have nothing in writing. You have only given them words." The end result is that the office does not have the equipment it needs to operate efficiently. Much of our equipment is personally owned or borrowed.

Question: Remember the last County Board meeting that we all went to where they appointed and accepted you and the office salaries? They stated what you were to receive and what equipment your office would have.

Mr. Rue: Its not in the minutes, I asked them about that. They went through the years minutes at the Finance Committee meeting two months

Motion made that Mr. Bus goes before the V.A.C. and tell them that we do not accept the amendments to the resolution. Passed unanimously.

Motion made that I include the minimum and use the original rent of funds. Passed unanimously.

Question: If we say \$112 and that is it, what can they do?

They can refuse to honor the voucher. That means that we would have to secure a writ of mandamus from the courts to have the voucher paid.

Mr. Bus: The vouchers that I pass out at the County Board Committee meet- ing have no names on them. It has only the names of the person and the assistance that he is receiving. If there is any difference we should be able to assist. I then write down below that a voucher should be made for the amount of what the individual is entitled to. I then submit the voucher to the County Board Committee. Then comes the minutes of the previous V.A.C. meeting. Next there is a work report showing that our office is doing well. I then submit a list of the former position, could have been in our office in the month of January. Our office has been in contact with Washington, D.C., Chicago, Iowa, Springfield, and New York. Anyone that we had to contact to get the cases retried. We have been rather successful on the behalf of the veterans.

The minutes that I found that the County Board gave minutes for the County and District V.A.C. and the County Board. The rest of the minutes I put in a folder. According to the Board that I have the attached minutes that the veterans organization would like to have a copy of what the V.A.C. has done and what is done in the law that they do for the veterans.

Most of the Township Supervisors have been of assistance when we have seen a request in behalf of the veteran. They have been very cooperative.

Several cases were discussed, one concerned a veteran and his wife with a problem of citizenship, another woman with terminal cancer and their trouble with the V.A. Local City Hospital. Minister advised that had happened to her and her husband. This was one of six similar cases in the past 30 days.

The Chairman of the County V.A.C. Committee and the Chairman of the County Board Committee have the right to look through the files.

The Finance Committee promised us all the equipment we needed to set up an office. (The Chairman of the County Board and the County Board) if I were representing the veterans organization as my client, I would advise them not to accept anything, because you have nothing in writing. You have only given them words. The answer is that the office does not have the equipment it needs to operate efficiently. Most of our equipment is personally owned or borrowed.

Question: Remember the last County Board meeting that we all went to when they approved and accepted you and the office salaries. They passed what you were to receive and what equipment your office would have.

Mr. Bus: It was in the minutes. I asked them about that. They went through the years minutes of the Finance Committee meeting two months

ago and I stopped them at the time when I presented the budget, and when they had accepted it. They told me it would be discussed later. I sat there for the rest of the meeting and it was not discussed in any minutes. It was not in the minutes and they would not enter it into the minutes.

If we transport an indigent veteran who has qualified to a V.A. Hospital and he is admitted the V.A. does not pay anything until the day of discharge. On the day of discharge the V.A. pays 11 cents per mile for the trip. My commission then has to pay the 20 cent per mile up front knowing that when we go back to get him the V.A. will then turn over the 11 cents, so in essence all that it has cost us is 9 cents per mile for the trip. The driver takes the money and returns it to me, because I have already paid the driver 20 cents. I asked the county where I should put this money. We have only spent 9 cents a mile instead of 20 cents. Can I put this money back into my mileage line item? County Board: No, a miscellaneous fund is set up for next years appropriations. You will put it there. Mr. Rue: The problem with that is that the line item is running down fast. If I take them to a Social Security examination, Social Security does not pay for six weeks, but they pay 17 cents a mile, so actually its costing our commission 3 cents a mile. Why does that money not go back into the line item? We have not spent it. We temporarily borrowed it. An auditor made it very clear that it could not be done. I suggested that they set up a checking account for the V.A.C. so the V.A.C. can only write checks for authorized vouchers, such as medicine, mileage, ect. It must be authorized through the V.A.C. Committee. No, stated the auditor. There are no departments that have a checking account. Mr. Rue: Wrong, I know of a few already that has them, but we are not allowed to set up a petty cash fund.

Motion made: Is it possible to change the meetings to the fourth Thursday of every month. Motion denied.

Motion was made that the members go to their Post and make a donation of \$50 to the Concerned Veterans.

A need for drivers to the V.A. Hospital. Please compile a list of drivers through out LaSalle County so my office can call them if they are needed.

DD 214 Discharge papers received from: Robert Wachowaik, Ralph Adler, Francis Perra, Sam Maggio, James Massat, Ernie Patton, Howard Smith, Frank Rathburn, Larry Anderson. and Cappalini.

Next meeting will be March 13, 1985, at the Old Courthouse, south door. The door will be open between 7:00 p.m. and 7:40 p.m.

ago and I stopped them at the time when I presented the budget, and when they had accepted it. They told me it would be discussed later. I sat there for the rest of the meeting and it was not discussed in any minutes. It was not in the minutes and they would not enter it into the minutes.

If we transport an indigent veteran who has qualified for a V.A. Hospital and he is admitted the V.A. does not pay anything until the day of discharge. On the day of discharge the V.A. pays 11 cents per mile for the trip. The commission then has to pay the 20 cent per mile up front knowing that when we go back to get him the V.A. will then turn over the 11 cents, so in essence all that it has cost us is 9 cents per mile for the trip. The driver takes the money and returns it to me, because I have already paid the driver 20 cents. I asked the county where I should put this money. We have only spent 9 cents a mile instead of 20 cents. Can I put this money back into my mileage fund? County Board: No, a miscellaneous fund is set up for next years appropriations. You will put it there. The question with that is that the line item is running down fast. If I take them to a Social Security examination, Social Security does not pay for six weeks, but they pay 13 cents a mile, so actually its costing our commission 3 cents a mile. Why does that money not go back into the fund? We have not spent it. We temporarily borrowed it. A auditor made it very clear that it could not be done. I suggested that they set up a checking account for the V.A. so the V.A. can only write checks for authorized vouchers, such as medicine, mileage, etc. It must be authorized through the V.A. Committee. He stated the auditor. There are no departments that have a checking account. He said that I know of a few already that had them, but we are not allowed to set up a petty cash fund.

It is possible to change the method to the fourth Thursday of every month. Motion denied.

Motion was made that the members go to their post and make a donation of \$20 to the Confirmed Veterans.

A need for drivers to the V.A. Hospital. I will compile a list of drivers through out LaSalle County so my office can call them if they are needed.

DD 71 - Discharge papers received from Robert Mochowski, Ralph Miller, Francis Lewis, Sam Lewis, James Mast, Ernie Patton, Howard Patton, Frank Rathburn, Larry Anderson, and Capapat.

Next meeting will be March 13, 1955, at the Old Courthouse, South door. The door will be open between 7:00 p.m. and 7:40 p.m.

ASSISTANCE GIVEN AS OF MARCH 7, 1985

1. 3/4/85 Contacted Northside V.A. Hospital in Waukegan to insure admission. Secured veteran a ride to hospital, will be admitting himself.
2. 12/30/85 Contacted Bess Searden Amvets Representative at Northside V.A. Hospital and explained his case briefly, I then called the veterans doctor and had him call the A.O.D. at Northside. I requested medical data to build a supportive case to present to the caseworker, I was refused. The second time they were cooperative, I was able to get admission for David. 2/11/85 A possibility that David will be transferred to an other site in Waukegan. Amvets Service Officer called and asked if the Ottawa Mental Health would call the V.A. Hospital and request that David be kept there until he has been rated for his disability.
3. 2/6/85 Contacted Iowa City V.A. Hospital, Amvets Service Officer in Chicago, area nursing homes, St. Margarets Hospital in Spring Valley, and Social Security office, I had him admitted to a nursing home in the Spring Valley area, 2/16/85. Four days after he was admitted he expired as a result of his cancer.
4. 12/20/85 I could not assist, because of income level.
5. 1/26/85 Contacted Dr. O'Berta and Dr. Doyle concerning this veteran. After speaking to the doctors I suggested that she either take her father home with her, or admitt him into a nursing home until she could get a second opinion. I told her that there was openings in the Riverside Nursing Home in Marseilles.
6. 2/15/85 Assisted with rent.
7. 2/2/85 Assisted in trying to locate a V.A. or G.I. loan to re-mortgage his home.
8. 2/2/85 Contacted his insurance carrier and questioned him to why he had to be approved for Social Security Disability before he was eligible to receive disability monthly income form the insurance group through his employment. I also called Peoria V.A. Outpatient Care Center and set up an appointment on behalf of veteran. Assisted with rent.
9. 2/26/85 Contacted Vocational and Rehabilitation Center in Chicago and I.V.C.C. Could not assist with rent, because income level was too high.
10. 2/14/85 Discussed the Quincy Home for Veterans and gave him the contacts to be made in order to become a resident of the home.
11. 2/7/85 Did not qualify for assistance because of dates of service, sent a letter to the Township Supervisor requesting assistance for the veteran.

12. 1/10/85 Contacted Iowa City V.A. Hospital in regards to veteran. Expired in Iowa City V.A. Hospital on January 15,1985
13. 1/10/85 Assisted with rent.
14. 1/15/85 Contacted I.V.C.C. on behalf of this veteran.
15. 1/20/85 Assisted with rent.
16. 2/15/85 Contacted Iowa City V.A. Hospital, Illinois Valley Community Hospital in Peru, Amvets in Chicago on behalf of this veteran. Received admission for him at Westside V.A. Hospital in Chicago.
17. 1/29/85 Drove to Millington to talk to veteran at the request of his father, who thinks that he is suffering from delayed stress syndrome.
18. 2/11/85 Could not assist with rent because income level was too high.
19. 1/30/85 Assisted with rent and contacted the Social Security office in Peru on his behalf.
20. 12/20/85 Assisted him with his medication, advised him to file for service connected V.A. Compensation at the Veterans Affairs office, have an screening for agent orange and delayed stress syndrome. I then comprised a medical file of his and his families numerous surgeries for him to take to his appointment for the V.A. physical. I on a different occasion had to reach vet to notify him of an appointment with Roger Garms at Mental Health.
21. 12/22/85 Assisted with rent.
22. 1/14/85 Could not assist because he was not in the area for 90 days.
23. 2/4/85 Assisted with rent.
24. 12/22/85 Contacted County Board member Mr. Caputo, Public Aid and suggested that he get in touch with Tri-County for energy assistance. I also contacted Chicago to ask about refinancing a conventional loan into a G.I. loan, the First Federal Savings and Loan in Oglesby, and Job Service inquiring about the Veterans Employment Funding Grant.
25. 2/20/85 Contacted my office to find assistance in receiving information relating to jobs. I also contacted the Veterans Reemployment Rights Office and the Dept. of Veterans Affairs.
27. 1/9/85 Could not assist due to the fact the income levels were too high, contacted I.V.C.C.
28. 2/11/85 Assisted with rent.

29. 2/15/85 Could not assist with rent because veteran was receiving assistance from the Township. I contacted the Lions Club in Streator to inquire about eye glasses for the veteran.
30. 2/3/85 Assisted with rent, contacted Township Supervisor to ask for assistance for veteran until I could get voucher submitted.
31. 1/15/85 Contacted Amvets on behalf of his wife for getting her into the County Nursing Home.
32. 1/15/85 Contacted the Health Care Agency of the Illinois Valley and his sister, Irene. We discussed admitting him into a nursing home, because he needs custodial care. I have met with them on several different occasions.
33. 2/24/85 Represented him at Public Aid several times.
34. 1/20/85 Contacted Westside V.A. Hospital for admission of veteran to be rerated.
35. 1/27/95 Could not assist with rent because income level was too high. Contacted Amvets Service Officer and Dept. of Veterans Affairs to file for non-service connected disability.
36. 1/25/85 Assisted him with a prescription that he needed filled, and contacted Public Housing Authority in Ottawa. I took him over to the Dept. of Veterans Affairs, and suggested that he consider the Veterans Home in Quincy, Illinois. I also told him that I could assist in getting him admitted and his transportation to the home.
37. 3/1/85 Applied for assistance with rent, and qualified but called back later to inform us that he had received his Federal Income Tax Return and would not require our assistance at this time.
38. 2/5/85 Assisted with rent and medication for his two diabetic children. Contacted Social Security and made an appointment for him to file for S.S.I.
39. 2/15/85 Assisted with rent.
40. 3/6/85 Assisted with rent.
41. 2/6/85 Assisted with rent.
42. 2/4/85 Assisted with Personal supplies.
43. 2/15/85 Assisted with rent.
44. 3/1/85 Could not assist with rent or food due to his service dates. Contacted Streator American Legion for assistance with food and suggested that he call Streator Township Supervisor for rent assistance.
30. 3/6/85 Assisted with rent.

45. 3/4/85 Contacted Military Records Center, St. Louis, Missouri, Dept. of Unemployment regarding veterans DD 214 discharge papers.
46. 3/6/85 Contacted Veterans Reemployment Division and was to contact Dave Moore at the Veterans Employment and Training Center in Peoria, advised veteran of his suggestion.
32. 3/7/85 Contacted Director of Illinois Valley Health Care.

This warrant is VOID if not presented to State Treasurer within six months from date of issue.

KNOW YOUR ENDORSER

If endorsement is made by (X) it must be witnessed by two persons who can write giving their place of residence in full.

Francis J. Stearns
PAYEE SIGN ON LINE ABOVE INK

REFER TO THIS NUMBER
Ad 8348158

DRAWN BY Roland W. Burris COMPTROLLER

Ad 8348158
20-2186
711

ON THE TREASURER OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS

PAY: \$*****20.06

3-05-85

DATE ISSUED

TO THE ORDER OF POLCYN FRANCIS V
14 E 10TH ST
PERU IL 61354

\$20.06
AD8348158 00045321 495-48820-4400-00-00-85 3491262776135430

COUNTERSIGNED AND REGISTERED

James H. Donnewald
JAMES H. DONNEWALD
STATE TREASURER

Roland W. Burris
ROLAND W. BURRIS
COMPTROLLER

⑈014⑈071121866⑈⑈8348158⑈

WORK REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 1985

2/1 Started at 6:00 a.m. Millington, S.S.C. physical, home at 7:30 p.m.

2/4 Started at 8:00 a.m. home at 7:00 p.m.

2/5 Started at 8:00 a.m. home at 6:00 p.m.

2/6 Started at 7:00 a.m. home at 6:00 p.m.

2/7 Started at 7:00 a.m. 4:00 and 8:00 p.m. meetings home at 10:00 p.m.

2/8 Started at 6:00 a.m. V.A.C. & Data Processing meeting home at 6:30 p.m.

Total hours first week 73 hours

2/11 Started at 7:00 a.m. home at 6:00 p.m.

2/12 Holiday office closed

2/13 Started at 7:00 a.m. stayed in Ottawa for V.A.C. meeting no cost to county.
Home at 10:30 p.m.

2/14 Start at 8:00 a.m. home at 5:00 p.m.

2/15 Started at 7:00 a.m. Met with Public Aid Representative from Joliet.
Home at 7:00 p.m.

Total hours second week 47½ hours

2/18 Started at 7:00 a.m. Quit at 11:00 a.m. Office closed holiday

2/19 Started at 7:00 a.m. home at 6:00 p.m.

2/20 Started at 7:00 a.m. home at 5:30 p.m.

2/21 Started at 8:00 a.m. Home at 6:00 p.m.

2/22 Started at 7:00 a.m. Home at 7:00 p.m.

Total hours third week 47½ hours

2/24 Started at 1:00 p.m. Quit at 4:00 p.m.

2/25 Started at 6:00 p.m. Home at 9:30 p.m.

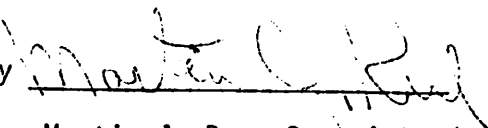
2/26 Started at 6:00 a.m. Home at 10:00 p.m.

2/27 Started at 8:00 a.m. Home at 5:30 p.m.

2/28 Started at 7:00 a.m. Home at 7:00 p.m.

Total hours forth week 57 hours

submitted by


Martin J. Rue, Superintendent
V.A.C. of LaSalle County

WORK REPORT FOR FEBUARY 1985

- 2/2 20 copies made of letter from Governor Thompson
20 copies made of letter from Congressman Grothberg
- 2/5 sent letters to Congressman Grothberg
sent letters to Representative Mautino
sent letters to area newspapers
sent letter to Amvets
sent letter to Fulton County
sent letter to United States District Court in Peoria
- 2/6 sent letter to Public Aid
- 2/7 20 booklets made for V.A.C. meeting
8 copies of completed booklet
10 letters sent to area newspapers
- 2/11 letter to Joe Carey
Budget as of date
- 2/20 letter to Amvets
- 2/25 letter to James Lanuti

SUPPLIES USED

500 sheets of paper
35 stamps @ 20 cents
1 stamp @ 22 cents
1 stamp @ 57 cents

CALLS RECIEVED

clients
Ottawa Community Hospital
Amvets of Chicago
Roger Garms
St. Francis
Representative Mautinos office
Governor Thompsons office
Veterans Administration Ottawa
Westside Hospital Chicago
Iowa City Hospital Iowa City, Iowa
James Lanuti
Mr. Halleys office

CALLS SENT

clients
Ottawa Community Hospital
Amvets of Chicago
Roger Garms
St. Francis
Representative Mautinos office
Veterans Administration
Westside Hospital Chicago
Iowa City Hospital, Iowa City, Iowa
Mr. Bradly office Streator
Mr. Halleys office Etna Road
North Chicago V.A. Hospital

VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION MUNUTES FROM 13 FEBUARY 1985

Meeting opened with proper ceremonies at 7:42 p.m. Chariman Robert Wachowiak presiding. After roll call and reading of the minutes by Chairman Wachowiak the answer to the question asked last meeting concerning Mr. Rues bonding, yes he has been bonded.

Ron Hickey, Vice-President; Terry Willet, President of NAM Vets were welcomed to the meeting. They were informed that the law states that only those chartered posts that are named in the Bogardus Act are entitled to a vote at the present time.

New business: Handouts were given to all members. First and second pages explain themselves, third page Job Analysis, General Assistance, we try to do as much of the job analysis in our office as possible. General and Emergency Assistance Program was adopted by the County Board Committee and our Commission. It gives us our guidelines and our general assistance regulations. It governs the operations of our office.

Approximately a month ago after our last meeting, the County Board Committee decided to make a change in item two under Veterans Emergency Assistance. They included a sentence, "Prior rental amounts accepted by landlords will be taken into consideration." That is a amendment to the original regulations that we both had adopted. Then at the last meeting last week they entered another amendment to that section, "if it is a lesser amount." What has transpired is that I have taken cases of veterans that are in dire need of assistance and qualify them for Public Aid and Township Assistance, and see that they contact the other proper agencies. I then submit a voucher for rent, ect. to the county. My Commission up there says that I cannot consider rent of any more than \$115 a month. I said, but the rent is \$250 a month. They said a maximum of \$115 is to be accepted. They had said we should try it for a while. It is not carved in granite. If we must we can raise it. Now they have turned around and said that not only can it not be changed, but you cannot give a \$115 rent. If a township gives \$97 your going to only give \$97, or a lesser amount if they have accepted a lesser amount. I went to these landlords. One is renting to a Vietnam veteran here in Ottawa, and he accepted the \$97 a month rent on a \$150 a month place. I then had to call him back and tell him that my committee would not authorize the voucher that we sent based on the initial regulations that we had adopted. I then had to call the landlord back and tell him that they will not pay the \$97 they will pay only \$82.50. The landlord did accept it. This has happened twice.

Question: Do we have to accept this? Mr. Rue stated, that is up to the commission here. I told them that I was infatically opposed to it. I think it is wrong. If the rent is \$150 a month it is \$150, if the rent is \$200 it is \$200, I have to work with those figures. I know that our maximum is a \$115, so I have to drop it down. Now they are telling me that I don't drop it down to \$115 for payment, but the only rent I can consider is \$115 no matter what your actual rent is, plus we'll drop it down below that if another agency pays less. I told them that there is a Township Supervisor that pays \$149 a month, does this mean that a veteran is entitled to \$115? No, stated the County Board Committee, we will talk about it.

Meeting opened with prayer commencing at 7:45 p.m. Chairman Robert Jachowiak presiding. After roll call and reading of the minutes by Chairman Jachowiak the answer to the question asked last meeting concerning the Commission was the following:

For today, Vice-President, Tom Hill, President of IAM Vets were welcomed to the meeting. They were informed that the law states that only those checked posts that are named in the Bogardus Act are eligible for a vote at the present time.

Law President, Landlords were given by all members. First and second pages explained, third page Job Analyst, General Assistance, we can do as much of the job analysts in our office as possible. General and Emergency Assistance program was adopted by the County Board Committee and our Commission. It gives us our guidelines and our general assistance regulations. It governs the operations of our office.

Approximately a month ago after our last meeting, the County Board Committee decided to make a change in their two under Veterans Emergency Assistance. They included a sentence, "Prior rental amounts accepted by landlords will be taken into consideration." That is a amendment to the original rental amount that we had adopted. That is the last meeting last week they included another amendment to that section. "If it is a lesser amount." That has changed is that I have taken cases of veterans that are in dire need of assistance and qualify them for Public Aid and Township Assistance, and see that they contact the other proper sources. I then submit a voucher for rental to the county. My Commission in there says that I cannot consider rent of any more than \$115 a month. I said, but the rent is \$200 a month. They said a maximum of \$115 is to be accepted. They had said we should try to for a while. It is not carved in granite. It was meant we can raise it. Now they have turned around and said that not only can it not be changed, but you cannot give a \$115 rent. If a township gives \$200 you are going to only give \$27, or a lesser amount if they have accepted a lesser amount. I went to these landlords. One is renting to a Vietnam veteran here in Ottawa, and he accepted the \$27 a month rent on a \$110 a month place. I then had to call him back and tell him that my committee would not authorize the voucher. That we were based on the initial conditions that we had adopted. I then had to call the landlord back and tell him that they will not pay the \$27 they will pay only \$25.50. The landlord had accepted it. This has happened twice.

Question: Do we have to accept that? Mr. Rue stated, that is up to the Commission here. I told them that I was initially opposed to that. I think it is wrong. If the rent is \$150 a month it is \$170, if the rent is \$200 it is \$200. I have to work with those figures. I know the only maximum is a \$115, so I have to drop it down. Now they are telling me that I don't drop it down to \$115 for payment, but the only rent I can consider is \$115 no matter what your actual rent is. Plus we'll give it down below that if another agency pays less. I said that there is a Township Supervisor that pays \$140 a month, does this mean that a veteran is entitled to \$115? He stated the County Board Committee, we will talk

Question: How are they going to determine what person is going to get \$115 and who will get \$97.

Mr. Rue stated, I always thought that the rent was the actual amount the landlord charged. We would use that figure to determine if the \$115 was to be used. They are telling me to use what ever the landlord had accepted from the other agencies in the past.

Question: Before when the rent was \$150 did we give a \$150, or did we give \$115?

I had initially proposed a \$150 rent. They said no. Lets start at \$115 as our tops. Now they added to it the phrase; prior rental amounts accepted by a landlord will be accepted, They then added an amendment to that; if it is a lesser amount.

Motion made that Mr. Rue goes before the V.A.C. and tell them that we do not accept the amendments to the resolution.

Motion made by Anderson that \$115 be the minimum, and use the original rent of landlord. Motion second by Ralph Adler. Passed unanimously.

Question: How much does the Township Supervisors pay for rent?

Streator pays \$149, Peru pays \$100, and some others pay \$97. Each township has their own payment levels. The County Board is telling us with the amendments that they are not going to let our office operate as a V.A.C., but as an other township or public agency.

Question: Is that not discrimination?

Yes, the whole system is.

Question: Why does one Supervisor pay one amount, and another pay a different amount?

It is up to the township guidelines. I could check with them and find out if they submit a budget to the county for funding, and then if they have to operate within that funding.

Question: Where do they have to go to get their funds, and get an OK?

They don't they write out a check.

Question: If we say \$115 and that is it, what can they do?

They can refuse to honor the voucher. That means that we would have to secure a writ of mandamus from the courts to have the voucher paid.

The amendments added to the Veterans Emergency Assistance Program will not be accepted by the Commission. We will take this to court.

Mr. Rue: The vouchers that I passed out to the County Board have no names of the veterans. It has only the income levels, rent, and any assistance that he is receiving. If there is any difference should be able to assist.

Question: How are they going to determine what person is going to get \$215 and who will get \$27?

Mr. Rue stated, I always thought that the rent was the actual amount the landlord charged. We would use that figure to determine if the \$215 was to be used. They are telling us to use what ever the landlord had accepted from the other agencies in the past.

Question: Before when the rent was \$150 did we give a \$150, or did we give \$115?

I had initially proposed a \$150 rent. They said no. Lets start at \$115 as our base. Now they added to it the previous rental amounts accepted by a landlord will be accepted. They then added an amendment to that it is a lesser amount.

Motion made that Mr. Rue goes before the V.A.C. and tell them that we do not accept the amendments to the resolution.

Motion made by Anderson that \$115 be the minimum, and use the original rent of landlord. Motion second by Ralph Adler. Passed unanimously.

Question: How much does the Township Supervisors pay for rent?

Speaker pays \$125, Fern pays \$100, and some others pay \$27. Earl Township has their own payment levels. The County Board is telling us with the amendments that they are not going to let our office operate as a V.A.C. but as an other township or public agency.

Question: Is that not discrimination?

Yes, the whole system is.

Question: Why does one Supervisor pay one amount, and another pay a different amount?

It is up to the township outlined. I could check with them and find out if they submit a budget to the county for funding, and then if they have to operate within that funding.

Question: Where do they have to go to get their funds, and get an OK?

They don't they write out a check.

Question: If we say \$215 and that is it, what can they do?

They can refuse to honor the voucher. That means that we would have to secure a writ of mandamus from the courts to have the voucher paid.

The amendments added to the Veterans Emergency Assistance Program will not be accepted by the Commissioner. We will take this to court.

Mr. Rue: The vouchers that I passed out to the County Board have no names of the veterans. It has only the income levels, rent, and any assistance that he is receiving. If there is any difference should be able to assist.

I then write down below that a voucher should be made for the amount of what the individual is entitled too. I then submit the voucher to the County Board Committee. Then comes the minutes of the previous V.A.C. meeting. Next there is a work report showing that our office is being used. I then submit a list of the letters written, copies made, ect. in our office in the month of January. Our office has been in contact with Washington D.C., Chicago, Iowa, Springfield, and New York. Anyone that we had to contact to get the cases resolved. We have been rather successful on behalf of the veterans. I have met with the County V.A.C. Committee on two separate occasions. I have given this booklet to many of them twice, because they did not bring theirs to the meeting. They don't even look at it. I have to have it there to justify what we are doing in our office. I read some statements to the V.A.C. that tiplified the county committee attitude:

I think you are calling people and telling them to come in and apply for assistance.

I feel that Job Service, J.T.P.C., Public Aid, Displaced Worker at I.V.C.C., and your office is a waste of money, we should do away with all of them.

Yours driving too much, when that line item runs out you will get no more money. You will pay transportation out of your own pocket. Make the veterans pay for transportation; they wanted this office let them take care of their own; (referring to the 30 or 40 men that were up there to get this commission formed.)

I explained to them that the veteran organizations take care of their own members and that they do assist other veterans that are not members. Those who are not members are coming to my office.

You should not be in your office all of the time. You told us that you would be on the road most of the time. (I showed them 25 cases from this past week.

Your giving the money away. We are not paying their parents to pay for their homes. We should not pay parents or relatives any rent.

I argued that the parents are not the veterans guardians. Just because you are related to someone they are not obligated to provide for you.

You cannot use the \$200 a month figure nad divide it, use the \$115 amount and divide it by the number of families living there.

If we pay the rent, utilities, food, (\$115, \$55, \$79 = \$249 a month) they will never go back to work; they will have it made in the shade.

I was then accused of telling the veterans what to apply for. I ask them when they come into the office; How can I assist you? What do you want from us?

There are all kinds of jobs available they don't want to work.

I was then told to have my secretary coordinate my trips. They will not

I then write down below that a voucher should be made for the amount of what the individual is entitled to. I then submit the voucher to the County Board Committee. Then comes the minutes of the previous V.A.C. meeting. Next there is a check book showing that our office is being used. I then submit a list of the names of the veterans, names, addresses, etc. in our office in the month of January. Our office has been in contact with Washington D.C. Chicago, Iowa, Springfield, and New York. Anyone that we had to contact to get the cases resolved. We have been rather successful on behalf of the veterans. I have met with the County V.A.C. Committee on two separate occasions. I have given the booklet to many of them twice, because they did not bring them to the meeting. They don't even look at it. I have to have it there to justify what we are doing in our office. I read some statements to the V.A.C. that criticized the county committee

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I feel that job service, U.T.P.C., Public Aid, Displaced Worker and your office is a waste of money. We should do away with all of them.

Yours driving too much, when that time runs out you will get no more money. You will pay transportation out of your own pocket. Also the veterans pay for transportation; they want this office to take care of their own; (referred to the 50 or 60 men that were up there to get this constant toward)

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You are giving the money away. We are not paying their parents to pay for their homes. We should not be paying on relatives pay rent.

I argued that the parents are not the veterans guardians. Just because you are related to someone they are not obligated to provide for you.

You cannot use the \$200 a month figure and divide it use the \$112 and divide it by the number of families living there.

If we pay the rent, utilities, food, (112, 250, 230 = 250 a month) they will never go back to work; they will have it made in the shops.

I was then accused of telling the veterans what to do only for. I ask them when they come into the office how can I assist you? What do you want from me?

There are all kinds of jobs available they don't want to work.

I was told to have my secretary coordinate my trips. They will not

pay for a trip to Millington, back to Peru, then to Ottawa. What happened is that I had a case in Millington; they said to go to the office first, from there to Millington back to Ottawa, from Ottawa to Peru. I then said, do I then take the rest of the day off at 2:00 p.m.? They said no. I said, if I go back to Ottawa the way that you want me to it would be two round trips to Ottawa, one of which I am entitled to be paid transportation.

This is a letter brought into my office by a client. It was in the Ottawa paper. It list all of the things that the veterans are entitled too. I told the veteran why he could not reapply, and that he has the right to appeal before the Public Aid Committee and the County Board.

Question: Why can't you inform the veteran of what he has coming?

The County Board Committee is opposed to the office and they do not want veterans assisted in any way. They are trying to save all the money that they can.

The County Board Committee will not permit a taperecorder at the meetings. No one is allowed to have a taperecorder at the meetings. The newspaper reporters are not there and they receive more information than I do.

A request was made for copies of the newspaper article listing the benefits the veterans are entitled to receive. Give each V.A.C. member a copy.

The meetings that I attend that the County Board Committee pays for are the County and District, V.A.C., and Concerned Veterans. The rest of the meetings I pay for myself. According to the Bogardus Act I have to attend the meetings of the veterans when requested to inform them of what the V.A.C. is doing, and any changes in the law that will affect the veterans. Other members of the Board who must attend meetings are paid for transportation and meals, I do not charge them for meals.

Question: Who is on the County Board Commission?

Mr. Lambert, Wes Freebarian, Mrs. Kudrick, Mr. Klever, Mr. Caputo, Mrs. Stevenson, Mr. Bradly, Mr. Hallet, and an Attorney, Mr. Lanuti who is asked about changes in the amendments.

Most of the Township Supervisors have been of assistance when we have sent over a referral in behalf of the veteran. They have been very cooperative.

Several cases were discussed, one concerned a veteran and his wife with a problem of citizenship; another veteran with terminal cancer and their trouble with the V.A. Iowa City Hospital. The wife explained what had happened to her and her husband. This was one of six similar cases in the past 30 days.

The Chairman of the County V.A.C. Committee and the Chairman of the County Board Committee have the right to look through the files. I cannot get the Chairman of the County Board Committee to sit down with me prior to our meetings to go through the files to familiarize himself with the cases. On one case I was told that the landlord had the veteran do odd jobs in the past and that he could do it again to pay for his rent.

The Township Supervisor in Streator pays \$149 a month for rent, he has the veterans work for the township for the amount received. These people are

...back to the office first... then said... I then said... they said no... I said... it would be two... paid...

This is a letter... office by... It was in the... I... of the things that the veterans are entitled to... the County Board and the County...

Question: Why can't you inform the veteran of what he has coming?

The County Board... office and they do not want... save all the money that they... can.

The County Board... not permit a... at the meetings... have a... The... not there and they receive more information than I do.

A request was made for copies of the newspaper... listing the benefits... the veterans are entitled to receive... V.A.C. member a copy.

The meeting that I attend... County Board... Veterans... According to the... I have to attend the... of the veterans when requested to inform them of what the V.A.C. is doing... the law that will affect the veterans... I do not... for transportation and meals. I do not... for meals.

Question: Who is on the County Board Committee?

The... Was... Mr. K... Mr. G... Mr. S... Mr. L... and an Attorney, Mr. L... who is asked about changes in the amendments.

Most of the township supervisors have been of assistance when we have sent over a referral in behalf of the veteran. They have been very cooperative.

Several cases were discussed, one concerned a veteran and his wife with a... another veteran with terminal cancer and their... V.A. Iowa City Hospital. The wife explained what had happened to her husband. This was one of six similar cases in the past 30 days.

The Chairman of the County V.A.C. Committee and the Chairman of the County Board... have the right to look through the files. I cannot get the... Board Committee to sit down with me prior to... On... had the veteran do odd jobs in the past... to pay for his rent.

The Township Supervisor in... pays \$150 a month for rent, he has the... for the township for the month received. These people are...

working its not that they don't want to work.

Question: Does not the County Board realize that when these people are given proper guidance to what their available benefits are, and once they receiving their entitlements, townships and other agencies don't have to pick up the tab. You are actually saving them money.

Mr. Rue: I explained that to them that you are not only saving the county money, but that they are buying commodities which helps other businesses. The commodities have taxes on them and merchants make money on them. Its keeps the circle going. They don't believe that most of these people don't understand their rights. As a result they never apply to the proper agency. They get lost in the bureaucratical red tape. Anxiety causes them to give up.

Question: Have you ever asked the County Board to get the statistics from Job Service?

Mr. Rue: I have contacted the Job Service office who has statistical data. I got ahold of LaSalle and they sent me the printout. I showed them that there is no work available. I told them what I.V.C.C. said as far as Displaced Workers Center of operations, what J.T.P.A. is doing, and that is where the comment comes in about all the agencies are a waste, and that there are jobs out there. These people do not want to work.

Question: Mr. Rue; What are we going to do about mileage?

You don't accept it, you get a writ of mandamus. Take it back to court.

The financial Committee promised us all the equipment we needed to set up an office. That was the day that Gale Murrin went before the County Board and stated that if I were representing the veteran organizations as my client, I would advise them not to accept anything, because you have nothing in writing. You have only given them words. The end result is that our office does not have the equipment it needs to operate efficiently. Most of our equipment is personally owned or borrowed.

Question: Remember the last County Board meeting that we all went to where they appointed and accepted you and the office salaries? They stated what you were to receive and what equipment your office would have.

Mr. Rue: Its not in the minutes, I asked them about that. They went through the years minutes at the Finance Committee meeting two months ago and I stopped them at the time when I presented the budget, and when they had accepted it. They told me it would be discussed later. I sat there for the rest of the meeting and it was not discussed in any minutes. It was not in the minutes and they would not enter it into the minutes.

Question: Have you discussed any of this with our lawyer from Marseilles?

Mr. Rue: I wanted to touch base with Gale to find out if I should read these quotes or not. I suggested that Mr. Hallet and myself get together, Mr. Hallet did not make himself available. I called Mr. Bradley to see if I could talk to him before we met tonight, but that was not possible. Gale suggested that we bide our time and then contact Mr. Ferricuti. Gale's secretary said that he felt that since he was a new attorney that he felt he could adequately represent us. He suggested that we get ahold of Pete Ferricuti, due to his years of experience.

working it so that they don't want to work.

Question: Does not the County Board realize that when these people are given proper guidance to what their available benefits are, and once they receiving their entitlements, townships and other agencies don't have to pick up the tab. You are actually saving them money.

Mr. Puet: I explained that to them that you are not only saving the county money, but that they are buying commodities which helps other businesses. The commodities have taxes on them and merchants take money on them. It keeps the circle going. They don't believe that most of these people don't understand their rights. As a result they never apply to the proper agency. They get lost in the bureaucratic red tape. Another cause that to give us

Question: Have you ever asked the County Board to get the statistics from Job Services?

Mr. Puet: I have contacted the Job Service office who has statistical data. I got ahold of Lofie and they sent me the printout. I showed them that there is no work available. I told them what I.V.O.C. said as far as displaced workers center of operations, what I.T.A. is doing, and that is where the comment comes in about all this waste, and that they are not out there. These people do not want to work.

Question: Mr. Puet that we were going to do about midnight?

You don't accept it, you get a writ of habeas. Take it back to court.

The financial committee promised us all the equipment we needed to get up an office. That was the day that Gabe came in front of the County Board and stated that if I were representing the veteran organizations as my client, I would advise them not to accept anything, because you have nothing in writing. You have only given them words. The end result is that our office does not have the equipment it needs to operate efficiently. Most of our equipment is personally owned or borrowed.

Question: Remember the last County Board meeting that we all went to where they appointed and accepted you and the office salaries? They stated that you were to receive and that equipment your office would have.

Mr. Puet: It's not in the minutes. I asked about that. They went through the minutes of the Finance Committee and two minutes and I stopped them at the time when I presented the budget, and when they had accepted it. They told me it would be discussed later. I got them on the next of the minutes and it was not discussed in my minutes. It was not in the minutes and they would not enter it into the minutes.

Question: Have you discussed any of this with our lawyer from Merrill?

Mr. Puet: I wanted to touch base with Gabe to find out if I should read these over or not. I suggested that Mr. Lofie and myself get together. Mr. Lofie did not make himself available. I called Mr. Brady to see if I could talk to him before we met tonight, but that was not possible. Gabe suggested that we file our time and that contact Mr. Ferriotti. Gabe's secretary said that he felt that since he was a new attorney that he felt he could adequately represent us. He suggested that we get ahold of Peter Ferriotti, due to his years of experience.

The V.A.C. County Board meetin is the 26 of Febuary 1985, at 2:00 p.m. Several members of the Commission requested a phone call the night before the meeting so that they can be prepared to attend.

A suggestion was made that the committee meet with the County Board and try to straighten everything out. If other Board members knew what was going on they could straighten the situation out.

If we transport an indigent veteran who has qualified to a V.A. Hospital and he is admitted the V.A. does not pay anything until the day of discharge. On the day of discharge the V.A. pays 11 cents a mile for that trip. My commission then has to pay the 20 cents a mile up front knowing that when we go back to get him the V.A. will then turn over the 11 cents, so in essence all that it has cost us is 9 cents a mile for the trip. The driver takes the money and returns it to me, because I have already paid the driver 20 cents. I asked the county where I should put this money. We have only spent 9 cents a mile instead of 20 cents. Can I put this money back into my mileage line item? County Board: No, a miscellanous fund is set up for next years appropriations, you will put it there. Mr. Rue; The problem with that is that the line item is running down fast. If I take them to a Social Security examine, Social Security does not pay for six weeks, but they pay 17 cents a mile, so actually its costing our commission 3 cents a mile. Why does that money not go back into the line item? We have not spent it. We temporarily borrowed it. An auditor made it very clear that it could not be done. I suggested that they set up a checking account for the V.A.C., so the V.A.C. can only write checks for authorized vouchers, such as medicine, mileage, ect. It must be authorized through the V.A.C. Committee. No, stated the auditor. There are no departments that have a checking account. Mr. Rue: Wrong, I know of three already that has them, but we are not allowed to set up a petty cash fund.

Motion made: Is it possible to change the meetings to the fourth Thursday of every month. Motion denied.

Motion was made that the members go to their Post and make a donation of \$50 to the Concerned Veterans.

A need for drivers to the V.A. Hospital. Please compile a list of drivers through out LaSalle County so my office can call them if they are in needed.

DD-214 Discharge papers received from: Robert Wachowaik, Ralph Adler, Francis Perra, Sam Maggio, James Massat, Ernie Patton, Howard Smith Frank Rathburn, Larry Anderson, and Cappalini.

Next meeting will be March 13, 1985, at the Old Courthouse, south door. The door will be open bewteen 7:00 p.m. and 7:40 p.m.

The V.A. County Board meeting is the 26 of February 1957, at 2:00 p.m.
Several members of the Commission requested a phone call the night before
the meeting so that they can be prepared to attend.

A suggestion was made that the committee meet with the County Board and
try to straighten everything out. If other Board members knew what was
going on they could straighten the situation out.

If we transport an indigent veteran who has qualified to a V.A. Hospital
and he is admitted the V.A. does not pay anything until the day of discharge.
On the day of discharge the V.A. pays 11 cents a mile for that trip. My
commissioner then has to pay the 20 cents a mile up front knowing that when
we go back to get him the V.A. will then turn over the 11 cents, so in
essence it just has cost us 9 cents a mile for the trip. The driver
takes the money and returns it to me, because I have already paid the driver
20 cents. I asked the county where I should put this money. We have only
spent 9 cents a mile instead of 20 cents. Can I put this money back into
my budget for the County Board? No, miscellaneous fund is set up
for next year's appropriations, you will not get it there. The problem
with this is that the first time you run down that, I take them to
a Social Security number, Social Security does not pay for six weeks, but
they pay 17 cents a mile, so actually its costing our commission 9 cents
a mile. Why does that money not go back into the five items we have not
accounted for? Miscellaneous fund is set up. An auditor made it very clear that
it could not be done. I suggested that they set up a checking account for the
V.A. so the V.A. can only write checks for authorized vouchers such as
indigent veterans, etc. It must be authorized through the V.A. Committee.
They should be audited. There are no departments that have a checking account
that I know of. I know of three already that has them, but we are not allowed
to set up a petty cash fund.

It is possible to change the meeting to the fourth Tuesday
of every month. Motion denied.

It was made that the members go to their Post and make a donation of \$50
to the Concerned Veterans.

A need for drivers to the V.A. Hospital. Please complete a list of drivers
through out LaSalle County so my office can call them if they are needed.

UD-214, 215 change papers received from: Robert Wachowick, Ralph Adams,
Francis Gorno, Sam Haggler, James H. Lee, Ernie Patton, Howard Smith,
Frank Patterson, Larry Anderson, and Geraldine.

Next meeting will be March 13, 1957, at the Old Courthouse, south door.
The door will be open between 7:30 p.m. and 7:45 p.m.

VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION MINUTES FROM 13 MARCH 1985

Meeting opened with proper ceremonies at 8:00 p.m. Chairman Robert Wachowiak presiding. After roll call and reading of the minutes by Adjutant Francis Perra, old business was discussed. The newspaper article that the V.A.C. Committee had requested were handed out along with the quotes made by the County Board Committee.

New business: The earlier meeting with the County Board V.A.C. Committee which met prior to the V.A.C. Committee was discussed. The County Board would not allow a taperecorder or Martin Rue at the meeting. They stated that they wanted to discuss the problems that the board was having with Mr. Rue. The reason being that they wanted us to know of the problem through them and not an interpreter. They also stated that they have proper procedures for paying all the bills throughout the county, and the V.A.C. office is being treated the same as the other offices. They also stated that Marty Rue did resent the procedure.

Mr. Rue stated that the V.A.C. is not another departmental agency of the county. According to the Bogardus Act we are not. We are funded through the county, we are totally separate from the county. The Bogardus Act states that we deal directly through the Chairman of the County Board or an officer he appoints. We are dealing here with a committee of the County Board. We do not mind doing this if they will deal directly with us.

The Chairman of the County V.A.C. stated that in an emergency he can issue an emergency voucher. All other vouchers will have to be taken before the entire committee.

The County Board then asked that Marty Rue know the boundaries of LaSalle County, and as far as hiring more homework should be done. Case in question was the first secretary that was hired.

Mr. Rue stated that he checked out the person through proper channels. When she was initially interviewed she lived in LaSalle County.

Dave Harvey stated that the problem came up after she was interviewed by Mr. Rue and had the OK to hire her. She moved back in with her husband outside of Streator, in Livingston County. Dave said that it was no ones fault.

The County V.A.C. Committee pointed out a case of the rent being paid by a township of \$97 a month. Mr. Rue submitted a voucher for \$115 for the following months rent instead of \$97.

Mr. Rue stated that the reason he issued a voucher of \$115 was that the rent was initially \$190 a month plus utilities. The board wants to use the figure of \$115 a month not the amount of the clients actual rent and drop it then to the \$115.

The County Board then questioned the case of the client that lived with his parents. They said that they were concerned about the feedback that Mr. Rue was giving to his commission. Another case they brought to mind was a trip to Streator and back for 56 miles. They questioned it but did pay him.

VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION MINUTES FROM 19 MARCH 1962

Meeting opened with prayer sponsored by 8:00 p.m. Chairman Robert Macdonald presiding. After roll call and reading of the minutes by Assistant Francis Gorman old business was discussed. The newspaper article that the V.A.C. Committee had requested were handed out along with the notes made by the County Board. Continued.

New business: The earlier meeting with the County Board V.A.C. Committee which met prior to the V.A.C. Committee was discussed. The County Board would allow a transfer of the funds of the County Board to the V.A.C. Committee. The reason being that they wanted us to know of the transfer through them and not an intermediary. They also stated that they have proper procedures for paying all the bills throughout the County and the V.A.C. office is being treated the same as the other offices. They also stated that they had the recent procedure.

Mr. Bus stated that the V.A.C. is not another separate agency of the County. According to the Board Act we are not. We are funded through the County. We are totally separate from the County. The Board Act states that we deal directly through the Chairman of the County Board on all our appointments. We are dealing here with a committee of the County Board. We do not want to deal with it if they will deal directly with us.

The Chairman of the County V.A.C. stated that in an emergency he can issue an emergency voucher. All other vouchers will have to be taken before the entire committee.

The County Board stated that they would like to have the Chairman of the County Board and as far as financial matters should be done. There is a question was the best economy that was hired.

Mr. Bus stated that he checked out the County Board through proper channels. She was initially interviewed in the Lasalle County.

Mr. Bus stated that the program came up and she was interviewed by Mr. Bus and she OK to him. She would deal with the County Board. He stated that in the County Board. He stated that in the County Board.

The County V.A.C. Committee pointed out a case of the County Board in the township of 207 a month. He submitted a voucher for \$112 for the 21st. Township months rent instead of \$27.

Mr. Bus stated that the reason he issued a voucher of \$112 was that the amount was initially \$100 a month plus utilities. This voucher was for the 21st of 212 a month not the amount of the other 21st and 21st. He stated that to the 21st.

The County Board then questioned the case of the office that they had with his parents. They said that they were concerned about the fact that Mr. Bus was giving to his commission. They also stated that they had a trip to Stretton and back for 20 days. They questioned if they had him.

They also stated that his trips where repetitious, referring to a trip to Millington.

Mr. Rue explained the route that he had took, and that he did not know all of the streets in Streator in order to take the shortest route. In the case of the Millington trip it was less cost to the county the way he submitted the voucher than if he would have submitted it the other way.

The V.A.C. committee suggested to Mr. Rue that he start all of his trips from the Ottawa Courthouse. Any meetings that he is requested to attend they would pay mileage. As far as any other meetings he attends he is a concerned vet and should attend anyway.

The Board stated that they cannot take money from one fund and use it for another fund. It goes into their cash reserve fund, you cannot touch the cash reserve fund. The budget will have to be reappropriated in November or December if the line item runs out. Because this is a new organization we don't know the exact appropriations that will be used as of yet.

Mr. Rue stated, where do we get the monies if the line item runs out?

More money would probably be allocated to that certain fund. If you don't need it in one fund it would probably be taken out of one fund and put into another.

Mr. Rue stated, yes, but it would be done next year. They told me that it would be coming out of my pocket. I told them that is the reason your committee knocked our budget to hell, because they knew this was going to happen.

The County stated that more appropriations can be asked for next year.

The quotes where then explained and suggested that they would be forgotten because they where said in the heat of an arguement.

It was explained that the only ones that knew the V.A.C. payment levels where the V.A.C. County Board members. Although when asked how the information was given to the newspaper no one knew.

The County Board asked if all of the veterans where deserving and qualified. County Board member Jim Caputo wanted to know the names of the clients. It was stated that the clients names was confidential and the information would not be given. The only people that could see the names were the Chairman of the County Board and the Chairman of the Committee. The newspapers had requested this information. Mr. Lanuti made a ruling that no names would be devulged.

Mr. Rue stated that he does contact Public Aid and their supervisors for some of his clients.

Mr. Hallet stated that he resented Mr. Rues threats, he knows the new commission has problems.

Mr. Rue: Mr. Hallet said that I threatened him? My commission had asked me to go ahead and draft the laws and the violations of the Bogardus Act at the last meeting. I drafted the laws and then spoke to Mr. Hallet.

They also stated that his name was registered, referring to a birth to Hittman.

Mr. Rue explained the route that he had taken and that he had not seen any of the streets in the area to take the alternate route. In the case of the Hittman this it was also possible that the way he had taken was the other way.

The V.A.C. committee suggested Mr. Rue should be started off his trip from the Ottawa Courthouse. Any meetings that he is requested to attend they would pay mileage. As far as any other meetings he attends he has a concern, yet and should attend anyway.

The Board stated that they cannot take money from one fund and use it for another fund. It goes into their cash reserve fund, you cannot take the cash reserve fund. The budget will have to be reappropriated in November or December if the line runs out. Because this is a new organization we don't know the exact appropriations that will be used as of yet.

Mr. Rue stated, where do we see the money if the line runs out?

More money would probably be allocated to that certain fund. If you need it in one fund it would probably be taken out of one fund and put into another.

Mr. Rue stated, yes, but it would be done next year. They told me that it would be coming out of my pocket. I told them that is the reason we committee knocked our budget to hell, because they know this was going to happen.

The County stated that more appropriations can be asked for next year.

The quote where then explained and suggested that they would be responsible because they were said in the part of an agreement.

It was explained that the only ones that know the V.A.C. agreement would be where the V.A.C. County Board members. Although when asked how the information was given to the newspaper one knew.

The County Board asked if all of the voters when observing and qualified County Board member Jim Caputo wanted to know the names of the officers. It was stated that the officers names was confidential and the information would not be given. The only people that could see the names were the Chairman of the County Board and the Chairman of the Committee. The newspaper had reported this information. The Board made a ruling that no names would be handled.

Mr. Rue stated that he does contact Public Aid and that in discussions for some of the officers.

Mr. Hallett stated that he recalled Mr. Rue's name, he knew that name, committee has program.

Mr. Rue: Mr. Hallett said that I should mention the committee had asked me to go ahead and check the laws and the violation of the County Board. The last question, I checked the laws and that is all that is.

I suggested that we iron this out between us as opposed to a writ of mandamus, and going to court. He considered that a threat? So I wrote the letter and I took it to Mr. Lanuti, the County Board Attorney. There are four statues that they are violating. Mr. Lanuti stated that he would write to the Attorney General, State of Illinois for an opinion. He also agreed that it would be best not to fight it out in court. I am also opposed to fighting this out in court. Mr. Lanuti then sends a letter dated March 5, 1985, to my office. He states that due to the meeting on March 13, 1985, with the V.A.C. Committee officers and the County Board he does not see the need to ask the Attorney General's opinion since we could possibly iron it out here. Was the problems ironed out? I drafted the violations and asked the States Attorneys opinion. He stated that he would represent us because I am the Superintendent of the department, and that he represents department heads of the county. I told him that should we have to go to court we would have to go to seek a private attorney, due to a conflict of interest; we are not a county department. He did agree. Did the board discuss the four violations that Mr. Hallet thought were a threat? Which were not a threat, the threat would have been had a writ of mandamus been served.

No, the County Board did not discuss the violations, they were not brought up at the meeting.

County Board member Chuck Klever stated that they would like to have the minutes of the last V.A.C. meeting.

Mr. Rue stated that he did not give a copy of the minutes of the last meeting to the County Board Committee due to the legal complications of the quotes. I decided not to give them a copy of it until it had been discussed here. To let you people here determine what you want to do.

It was stated that an edited copy would be given to the County Board.

Mr. Rue stated that an edited copy has been given to the Board of all the meetings except the Febuary meeting.

An edited copy of the Febuary and March meetings is to be given to the County Board.

It was suggested that one of the officers be at the next meeting with Mr. Rue. If an officer cannot make the meeting we will designate someone to go with him. We will be better represented with more than one person. So that this does not happen again we will have more than one person attending the meetings.

Mr. Rue asked if he misinterpreted the quotes.

No, they admitted to all of the quotes and we ironed them all out. We are sure that simular quotes will not be said in the future. They will be careful of what they say.

The County Board also stated that since we were new they understood that we were wanting to get things going good, and that Marty was a hustler.

The V.A.C. Committee stated that was why they had Mr. Rue as the Superintendent if he was not doing his job they did not want him.

Question: What happens when a line item runs out?

I suggested that we first discuss this out of session as opposed to a writ of mandamus, and then go to court. He considered that a threat. So I wrote the letter and I took it to Mr. Benetti, the County Board Attorney. There are four statutes that they are violating. Mr. Benetti stated that he would write to the Attorney General, State of Illinois for an opinion. He also stated that it would be best not to fight it out in court. I am also opposed to fighting this out in court. Mr. Benetti then sends a letter dated March 10, 1985, to my office. He states that he is opposed to the resolution on March 10, 1985, with the V.A.C. Committee officers and the County Board he does not see the need to ask the Attorney General for an opinion since we could possibly fight it out here. Was the problem brought out? I drafted the resolution and asked the State Attorney's opinion. He stated that he would represent us because I am the Superintendent of the Department, and that he represents Department heads of the County. I told him that should we have to go to court we would have to seek a private attorney, due to a conflict of interest, we are not a County Department. He agrees. Did the board discuss the four violations that Mr. Benetti thought were a threat? What were not a threat, the threat would have been had a writ of mandamus been served.

Did the County Board discuss the violations, they were not brought up at the meeting.

County Board member Chuck Weaver stated that they would like to have the minutes of the last V.A.C. meeting.

Mr. Benetti stated that he did not give a copy of the minutes of the last meeting to the County Board Committee due to legal complications of the quotes. I decided not to give them a copy of it until it had been discussed here. Let you people here determine what you want to do.

It was stated that an edited copy would be given to the County Board.

Mr. Benetti stated that an edited copy has been given to the Board of all the meetings except the February meeting.

An edited copy of the February and March meetings is to be given to the County Board.

It was suggested that one of the officers be at the next meeting with Mr. Benetti. If an officer cannot make the meeting we will designate someone to go with him. We will be better represented with more than one person. So that this does not happen again we will have more than one person attending the meetings.

Mr. Benetti asked if he maintained the quotes.

No, they submitted to all of the quotes and we printed them all out. We are sure that similar quotes will not be said in the future. They will be printed of what they say.

The County Board also stated that since we were new they understood that we were starting out and that they were a problem.

The V.A.C. Committee stated that was why they had it. They are the Superintendent that was not doing his job they did not want him.

Question: What happens when a term runs out?

Mr. Rue stated that there is an impress fund that the committee should be aware of. The county does have an impress fund in three departments. It is a checking account, extra monies that come back in goes into that fund and the department disburses it. That is the way that this office should have been set up in the first place. I have requested that we go to a grant program. I have brought that subject up twice with them. They said that as a Township Supervisor, Public Aid Assistance, or any other public agencies that gives out funds makes a grant out to that individual for the amount that they are entitled to through the guidelines. That individual uses that money to do what they want. If the individual blows the money and shows that he is not mature enough to use those funds, then you govern how it will be paid out by the voucher system. You don't discriminate against the veterans. Public Aid and the Township Supervisor does it by the grant system. A hypothetical case, if you were an indigent vet and came into the office you would be entitled to \$149 by Public Aid standards per month for a single person. Your income is zero, public aid gave you \$79 a month food stamps, I call public aid and check it out. Technically you are eligible by law \$149 from the V.A.C. A township supervisor would give the client assistance up to \$149. He would issue a check for that amount. You would then take that grant and if you wanted to pay the money towards the rent or the utilities which ever you preferred to pay. The decision is yours to make. We should go to the grant system.

Question: What do we tell the veterans if the emergency relief fund runs out?

There will be fight the whole first year, next year we will have a little better idea of how to build the budget. We will have something to work by.

A work report for February was then discussed. Calls received and calls made was next. A copy of the telephone bills will be given to show the calls made. We do get a lot of referrals from other offices.

Dave Harvey asked if he was not to send clients over to the V.A.C. office from Job Service. Referring to the quote.

Mr Rue stated that these are all federally or state funded agencies. If those programs were eliminated the indigent would not have anywhere to go. If you could do away with them you would not have to worry about feeding them because they would not have anywhere else to go to be taken care of. That is why I told them that there is an attitude problem in dealing with these people.

The next page in the program is of partial cases that have been worked on since the office started. There has been 32 that we have had numerous dealings with. When dealing with the bureauocracy we might have to write to them several times to make the contact. We were told that at the beginning that if we serviced 100 cases in a year it would warrant the need for the office. What they are concerned about now is that we are going to run out of money, due to too many cases coming in already. In six months we will already be done with the 100 cases.

Dave Harvey stated the the federal extension expires at the end of this month. After 26 weeks of unemployment compensation there will doubtfully be another extension. There will be many more veterans applying for V.A.C. benefits.

He also explained the situation at Thatchers in Streator. Newspapers say that unemployment is down to 7%, but in LaSalle County unemployment is 14%, and going the wrong way.

Question: If the figures say that unemployment is 5% or 10% is that only the unemployment cases that are being drawn from? What about the people that their unemployment has expired?

Mr. Harvey: There is a certain percentage that the department allows for if they maintain contact with Job Service. I have people that have been coming to see me for two or three years. They have to keep in touch. I am trying; I call on employers, I try to sell programs. We don't have any employers in the area that are doing any hiring. When they tell you that there are jobs, ask them what jobs? Burger King at #3.35 for 12 hours a week, no one is hiring full-time help.

Mr. Rue asked what to do about the violations that were submitted to the States Attorney of the Bogardus Act? What do we do about the letter we drafted to Mr. Lanuti, February 25, 1985? That was the stimulus that created the meeting tonight with the County Board and the V.A.C. officers.

The County Boards statement tonight was that if they had a landlord that was being paid \$97, why should we pay \$115? They stated that the maximum that they would pay is \$115.

Mr. Rue asked if the board gave authorization to drive to a meeting in Bloomington on the 29 and 30 of March.

Start the mileage here at Ottawa, that is the only thing that you have to do. They agreed to you either staying there or coming back if you wanted to.

Mr Rue then asked about the grant system.

The time to go to the grant system will be when we put out next years budget. We are locked into this bidget this year whether we want to or not. Keep all of the vouchers submitted this year so that we will have some guidelines to follow next year.

Mr. Rue stated that he has been paying some of the things out of his pocket they then reimburse me. I will eat the loss if the County Board does not want to pay it.

Streator Legion Post took care of an indigent veteran that was not eligible for our program. The office is getting him assistance elsewhere through the Township Supervisor.

Ralph Adlers Post in Marseilles took care of another veteran this month. We brought this up with the County Board.

Larry Andersons Post was taking into consideration assisting there.

It was explained that our area posts where helping with the veterans.

Amvets are feeding a family in Peru. I have talked to the caseworker in the WIN Program to see if there can be some changes made in the programs. If you miss those meetings they cut you off whether you are eligible or not it makes no difference.

He also explained the situation of the school in Stratton. He said that employment is down to 75% but in the County unemployment is 10% and going the wrong way.

Question: If the figures say that unemployment is 10% or 12% is that only the unemployment cases that are being dealt with? What about the people that their unemployment has expired?

Mr. Harvey: There is a certain percentage that the department allows for in their contact with Job Service. I have people that have been coming to see me for two or three years. They have to keep in touch. I am trying to call on employers. I have to get a response. He don't have any employers in the area that are doing any hiring. They tell you that there are jobs, ask them what jobs? Burger King at 12.35 for 12 hours a week, no one is hiring full-time help.

Mr. Rue asked that to do about the violations that were referred to the State Attorney of the Bonobus Act? What do we do about the factories that are in the County? There is a committee that was set up the meeting tonight with the County Board and the A.C. Officers.

The County Board's statement tonight is that if they had a building that was being paid 10% they should pay 31%. They said that the maximum that they would pay is 31%.

Mr. Rue asked if the board have a resolution to have a meeting in Stratton on the 20 and 21 of March.

Start the Wilsons here at Ottawa, that is the only thing that you have to do. They asked if you could stay there or come back if you want to.

Mr. Rue then asked about the grant system.

The time to go to the grant system will be about a year or two years out. We are looking into this budget this year whether we can do it or not. Most of the vouchers submitted this year so that we will have some guidelines to follow next year.

Mr. Rue stated that he has been paying some of the things out of his pocket. They then reimburse me. I will get the rest of the County Board does not want to pay it.

Stratton Region Post took care of an individual volunteer that was not eligible for our program. The office is getting the assistance elsewhere through the Township Supervisor.

Alph Adams Post in Marseilles took care of another volunteer this month. We brought this up with the County Board.

Larry Anderson Post was taking into consideration assisting them.

It was explained that our area posts were helping with the veterans.

Annets are feeding a family in Peru. I have talked to the crossworker in the Will Program to see if there can be some changes made in the program. If you miss those meetings they cut you off whether you are still there or not. It makes no difference.

Iowa City would not admit a veteran and they could not get ahold of Mr. Rue. Do you think that they would let you have a beeper? It could tone into the V.A.C. office. His secretary could then get ahold of him.

How many miles can a beeper travel?

A 50 mile radius.

Mr. Rue stated that the office has a residential phone with one number. I sometimes have to wait two or three days to get a call from Chicago, because they cannot get through due to the line being busy. I had requested two numbers with three extensions so that if an emergency call came in, she could connect me with that call. The County Board would not allow it.

There is a 667 number out of Utica that goes through a switchboard to your beeper, it doesn't come through the office. If only the commission had the number we would be the only ones that could get ahold of you. We would beep Marty and he would call the number where he is needed.

There is not enough money left in the line item for a beeper at the present time. We could figure it into next years line item.

Next meeting will be held April 10, 1985, at the Old Courthouse, Ottawa. The south door will be opened from 7:00 p.m. until 7:40 p.m.

low City would not admit a veteran and they could not get hold of the...
Do you think that they would let you have a badge? It could be made...
the V.A.C. office. His secretary could then get hold of him.

How many miles can a badge travel?

A 50-mile radius.

Mr. Rue stated that the office has a residential phone with one number.
I sometimes have to wait two or three days to get a call from Chicago.
Because they cannot get through due to the line being busy. I had never
requested two numbers with three extensions so that if an emergency call
came in, she could connect me with that call. The County Board would
not allow it.

There is a 687 number out of which that goes through a switchboard to
your badge, it doesn't come through the office. If only the commission
had the number we would be the only ones that could get hold of you.
We would keep that and he would call the number where he is needed.

There is not enough money left in the line item for a badge at the present
time. We could figure it into next years time.

Next meeting will be held April 10, 1985, at the Old Courthouse, Ottawa.
The south door will be opened from 7:00 p.m. until 7:40 p.m.

LINE ITEM BALANCES AS OF APRIL 8, 1985

<u>LINE ITEM</u>	<u>ACCOUNT #</u>	<u>BALANCE</u>
Emergency relief	806.001	\$47,983.80
Health & Life insurance	810.001	1,380.00
Telephone	511.001	981.32
Travel & Transportation	554.001	920.64
Unemployment Insurance	810.002	746.30
Conferences & Seminars	550.001	500.00
Office Equipment	601.001	171.83
Books & Periodicals	601.002	80.00

Assistance Given in March 1985

40. 3/15/85 Contacted Mental Health for appointment, called Public Aid, and Township Supervisor
38. 3/14/85 Contacted Public Aid and Osco Drugs for medication. Assisted with rent and medication.
47. 3/14/85 Could not assist due to income level.
48. 3/13/85 Picked up DD 214 at Records Office and delivered them to Social Security office in Peru.
20. 3/13/85 Contacted Amvets Chicago and Dept. of Veterans Affairs.
49. 3/15/85 Contacted Amvets Service Officer and the Dept. of Veterans Affairs.
35. 4/2/85 Contacted Social Security and Amvets Service Officer, sent letter to V.F.W. Service Officer.
66. 4/2/85 Contacted Job Service, advised him to contact Burns Security. Could not assist with rent due to the fact that he did not have his DD 214. Advised him to contact Public Aid.
43. 3/21/85 Assisted with personnel essentials
43. 2/24/85 Assisted with March rent and utilities.
23. 3/20/85 Assisted with April rent and utilities.
28. 4/9/85 Assisted with March rent and utilities.
64. 4/4/85 Assisted with April rent and utilities.
40. 3/28/85 Assisted with April rent and utilities. Contacted Tri-County to get the gas turned back on. Contacted Public Aid and Mental Health.
39. 3/24/85 Assisted with April rent and utilities.
50. 3/26/85 Contacted Job Service. Could not assist with rent due to the dates of service. Advised him to contact J.T.P.A. and Dislocated Workers Center at I.V.C.C.
51. 3/27/85 Advised her of the standards of qualifying for assistance.
52. 3/27/85 Contacted Dept. of Veterans Affairs.
53. 3/26/85 Did not qualify for assistance due to income level. Advised him to ask his doctor to stipulate that his problems were caused from his service connected injury. I then could reopen his case to upgrade his disability rating.
34. 3/26/85 Contacted Amvets Service Officer, sent copies of medical files to their office.

Assistance given in March 1982

- 40. 311482 Contacted Health Center for appointment, called Public Aid and Township Supervisor
- 39. 311482 Contacted Public Aid and Green House for medical assistance with rent and medication.
- 47. 311482 Could not assist due to income level.
- 48. 311482 Picked up DD 214 at Reynolds Office and delivered them to Social Security office in April.
- 30. 311482 Contacted Ayles Clinic and Dept. of Veterans Affairs.
- 49. 311482 Contacted Ayles Clinic Officer and the Dept. of Veterans Affairs.
- 35. 311482 Contacted Dept. of Security and Veterans Services Officer, sent letter to V.A. Service Officer.
- 34. 311482 Contacted Job Service, advised him to contact Public Aid. Could not assist with rent due to the fact that he did not have DD 214. Advised him to contact Public Aid.
- 43. 311482 Assisted with social assistance.
- 42. 311482 Assisted with social rent and utilities.
- 38. 311482 Assisted with rent and utilities.
- 37. 311482 Assisted with rent and utilities.
- 36. 311482 Assisted with rent and utilities.
- 46. 311482 Assisted with rent and utilities. Contacted The Housing to get the gas turned back on. Contacted Public Aid and Medical Health.
- 33. 311482 Assisted with April rent and utilities.
- 32. 311482 Contacted Job Service. DD 214 sent to Job Service for copies of service. Advised him to contact J.T.A. and Dislocated Work Center of I.V.C.
- 31. 311482 Advised her of standards of qualification for assistance.
- 30. 311482 Contacted Dept. of Veterans Affairs.
- 29. 311482 Did not qualify for assistance due to income level. Advised him to contact Job Service. Advised him to contact Public Aid. Advised him to contact Job Service. Advised him to contact Public Aid. Advised him to contact Job Service. Advised him to contact Public Aid.
- 28. 311482 Contacted Ayles Clinic, sent copies of medical records to their office.

MARCH 1985

CALLS, LETTERS SENT, and SUPPLIES USED

Calls Made (Long-distance)

3/13 V.A. Regional Office
3/13 Amvets Service Officer
3/15 Veterans Unemployment Rights
3/13 V.F.W. Service Officer
3/14 V.F.W. Service Officer
3/19 Peoria V.A. Hospital
3/18 Governors Office
3/22 Military Personnel Records Center, St. Louis, Mo.
2/27 Mt. Vernon, IL
3/1 Mt. Vernon, IL
3/1 Peoria, IL

Call into office

Clients

Amvets Service Officer
V.F.W. Service Officer
Peoria V.A. Hospital
Governors Office
Military Records Center
Illinois Valley Community Hospital

Letters sent to:

Amvets Service Officer	4 letters
V.F.W. Service Officer	1 letter
Social Security office	1 letters
Governors Office	2 letters
I.V.C.C. Dislocated Workers	2 letters
Chief of Job Training Division	1 letter
Dept. of Commerce	
and Community Affairs	1 letter
Morris Township Supervisor	1 letter

Supplies Used

850 copies made
29 stamps @ 22¢

MARCH 1965

CALLS, LETTERS SENT, and SUPPLIES USED

By Calls Made (Long-Distance)

3410 V.A. Regional Office
 3413 Amvets Service Officer
 3415 Veterans Unemployment Rights
 3417 V.F.W. Service Officer
 3418 V.F.W. Service Officer
 3419 Peoria VA Hospital
 3420 Governors Office
 3422 Military Personnel Records Center, St. Louis, Mo.
 3427 Mr. Vernon, IL
 341 Mr. Vernon, IL
 341 Peoria, IL

Call into office

3410 V.A. Regional Office
 3413 Amvets Service Officer
 3415 Veterans Unemployment Rights
 3417 V.F.W. Service Officer
 3418 V.F.W. Service Officer
 3419 Peoria VA Hospital
 3420 Governors Office
 3422 Military Personnel Records Center
 3427 Mr. Vernon, IL
 341 Mr. Vernon, IL
 341 Peoria, IL

Letters sent to:

4 letters Amvets Service Officer
 1 letter V.F.W. Service Officer
 1 letter Social Security Office
 2 letters Governors Office
 2 letters I.V.O. Detached Workers
 1 letter Chief of Job Training Division
 Dept. of Commerce
 1 letter and Community Affairs
 1 letter Model Township Supervisor

Supplies Used

850 copies made
 20 stamps @ .25 ea

Work report for March 1985

March 1 Start at 6:00 a.m. Home at 7:00 p.m.
2 Off
3 Off
4 Start at 6:00 a.m. Home at 7:00 p.m.
5 Start at 5:00 a.m. Home at 5:00 p.m.
6 Start at 6:00 a.m. Home at 8:00 p.m.
7 Start at 6:00 a.m. 40 & 8 Ottawa 6:30 p.m. Home at 10:30 p.m.
8 Start at 6:00 a.m. 2:00 p.m. V.A.C. County Home at 7:00 p.m.

Total hours 1st week 73½

11 Start at 6:00 a.m. 6:30 p.m. Amvets Home at 9:00 p.m.
12 Start at 7:00 a.m. Home at 5:30 p.m.
13 Start at 6:00 a.m. V.A.C. Officers meeting Home at 10:30 p.m.
14 Start at 7:00 a.m. Home at 6:00 p.m.
15 Start at 8:00 a.m. Home at 5:00 p.m.
16 Start at 9:00 a.m. Finished at 1:00 p.m.

Total hours 2nd week 65½


18 Start at 7:00 a.m. Home at 6:00 p.m.
19 Start at 6:00 a.m. Home at 7:00 p.m.
20 Start at 7:00 a.m. Left Peru at 12:00 p.m. for Springfield Home at 1:00 a.m.
21 Start at 6:00 a.m. Home 5:30 p.m.
22 Start at 8:00 a.m. Home at 6:00 p.m.

Total hours 3rd week 63½

25 Start 6:00 a.m. Amvets 6:30 Home 10:00 p.m.
26 Start at 6:00 a.m. V.A.C. County 2:00 p.m. Home 6:30
27 Start at 7:00 a.m. Home at 5:30 p.m.
28 Start at 6:00 a.m. Home at 8:00 p.m.
29 Start at 6:00 a.m. Home at 7:00 p.m. V.A.C. Bloomington
30 Start at 6:00 a.m. Home at 4:00 p.m. Bloomington

Total hours 4th week 76

Submitted by


Martin J. Rue, Superintendent
V.A.C. of La Salle County

Work report for March 1981

March
 1 Start at 6:00 a.m. Home at 7:00 p.m.
 2 Off
 3 Off
 4 Start at 6:00 a.m. Home at 7:00 p.m.
 5 Start at 6:00 a.m. Home at 7:00 p.m.
 6 Start at 6:00 a.m. Home at 7:00 p.m.
 7 Start at 6:00 a.m. Home at 7:00 p.m.
 8 Start at 6:00 a.m. Home at 7:00 p.m.

Total hours 1st week 73 1/2

9 Start at 6:00 a.m. Home at 7:00 p.m.
 10 Start at 6:00 a.m. Home at 7:00 p.m.
 11 Start at 6:00 a.m. Home at 7:00 p.m.
 12 Start at 6:00 a.m. Home at 7:00 p.m.
 13 Start at 6:00 a.m. Home at 7:00 p.m.
 14 Start at 6:00 a.m. Home at 7:00 p.m.
 15 Start at 6:00 a.m. Home at 7:00 p.m.
 16 Start at 6:00 a.m. Home at 7:00 p.m.

Total hours 2nd week 73 1/2

17 Start at 6:00 a.m. Home at 7:00 p.m.
 18 Start at 6:00 a.m. Home at 7:00 p.m.
 19 Start at 6:00 a.m. Home at 7:00 p.m.
 20 Start at 6:00 a.m. Home at 7:00 p.m.
 21 Start at 6:00 a.m. Home at 7:00 p.m.
 22 Start at 6:00 a.m. Home at 7:00 p.m.

Total hours 3rd week 73 1/2

23 Start at 6:00 a.m. Home at 7:00 p.m.
 24 Start at 6:00 a.m. Home at 7:00 p.m.
 25 Start at 6:00 a.m. Home at 7:00 p.m.
 26 Start at 6:00 a.m. Home at 7:00 p.m.
 27 Start at 6:00 a.m. Home at 7:00 p.m.
 28 Start at 6:00 a.m. Home at 7:00 p.m.
 29 Start at 6:00 a.m. Home at 7:00 p.m.
 30 Start at 6:00 a.m. Home at 7:00 p.m.

Total hours 4th week 73 1/2

Submitted by *[Signature]*

Manoj S. Sengupta
 V.A.C. of La. State University

VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION MINUTES FROM 13 MARCH 1985

County

Meeting opened with proper ceremonies at 8:00 p.m. Chairman Robert Wachowiak presiding. After roll call and reading of the minutes by Adjutant Francis Perra, old business was discussed. The newspaper articles that the V.A.C. Committee had requested were handed out along with the quotes made by the County Board Committee.

New business: The earlier meeting with the County Board V.A.C. Committee which met prior to the V.A.C. Committee was discussed. The County Board would not allow a taperecorder or Martin Rue at the meeting. They stated that they wanted to discuss the problems that the Board was having with Mr. Rue. The reason being that they wanted us to know of the problem through them and not an interpreter. They also stated that they have proper procedures for paying all the bills throughout the county, and the V.A.C. Office is being treated the same as the other offices. They also stated that Marty Rue did resent the procedures.

The Chairman of the County V.A.C. stated that in an emergency he can issue an emergency voucher. All other vouchers will have to be taken before the entire committee.

The County Board then asked that Marty Rue know the boundaries of La Salle County, and as far as hiring more homework should be done. Case in question was the first secretary that was hired.

Mr. Rue stated that he checked out the person through proper channels. When she was initially interviewed she lived in La Salle County.

Dave Harvey stated that the problem came up after she was interviewed by Mr. Rue and he had the OK to hire her. She moved back in with her husband outside of Streator, in Livingston County. Dave said that it was no ones fault.

The V.A.C. Committee suggested to Mr. Rue that he start all of his trips from the Ottawa Courthouse. Any meetings that he is requested to attend they would pay mileage. As far as any other meetings he attends, he is a concerned vet and should attend anyway.

County Board member Jim Caputo wanted to know the names of the clients. It was stated that the clients names was confidential and the information would not be given. The only people that could see the names were the Chairman of the County Board and the Chairman of the V.A.C. Committee. The newspapers had requested this information. Mr. Lanuti made a ruling that no names would be divulged.

Mr. Hallet stated that he resented Mr. Rues threats. He knows that the commission has problems.

Mr. Rue: Mr. Hallet said that I threatened him? My commission had asked me to go ahead and draft the laws and the violations of the Bogardus Act at our last meeting. I drafted the laws and then spoke to Mr. Hallet.

Handwritten signature

VETERAN ASSISTANCE COMMISSION MINUTES FROM 13 MARCH 1968

Meeting opened with prayer conducted at 8:30 AM. Chairman Robert Washburn presiding. After roll call and reading of the minutes of Adjutant Francis Lewis, old business was discussed. The newspaper article that the V.A.C. Committee had suggested was handed out along with the quotes made by the County Board Committee.

New business. The earlier meeting with the County Board V.A.C. Committee which took place on the V.A.C. Committee was discussed. The County Board would have a representative of Martin Hill at the meeting. They stated that they wanted to discuss the problem that the Board was having with Mr. Hill. The reason being that they wanted us to know of the problem through them and not an interpreter. They also stated that they have procedures for paying off the bills through the County and the V.A.C. Office is being located in the same office. They also stated that Harry Hill was not at the meeting.

The Chairman of the County V.A.C. stated that in an emergency for an emergency vehicle. All other vehicles will have to be taken before the County Committee.

The County Board then asked that Harry Hill know the number of 2-1111 County and as far as hiring more homes should be done. As a result was the first secretary that was hired.

Mr. Hill stated that he checked out the reason through proper channels when she was initially interviewed and lived in La Salle County.

David Harvey stated that the problem came up after she was interviewed. Mr. Hill and he had the OK to live here. She moved back in with her husband outside of Sycamore in Livingston County. He said that he was at a 2-1111.

The V.A.C. Committee suggested to Mr. Hill that he start all of his bills from the County House. Any meeting that he is requested to attend they would pay mileage. As far as any other meetings he attends, he is concerned and should attend anyway.

County Board member Jim Caputo wanted to know the name of the office. It was stated that the office name was confidential. The information would only be given if the County Board and the Chairman of the V.A.C. Committee. The newspaper had requested this information. The Board needs a name that no one would be involved.

Mr. Hill stated that he received the laws through the laws and the Commission has passed.

Mr. Hill stated that he was not at the meeting. He said that he was at the meeting and that the laws and the regulations of the County Board at the meeting. He stated that the laws and the regulations of the County Board at the meeting.

I suggested that we iron this out between us as opposed to going to court. He considered that a threat? I wrote the letter and I took it to Mr. Lanuti, the County Board Attorney. There are four statues that are in question. Mr. Lanuti stated that he would write to the Attorney General State of Illinois for an opinion. He also agreed that it would be best not to fight it out in court. I am also opposed to fighting this out in court. Mr. Lanuti then sent me a letter dated March 5, 1985. He states that due to the meeting on March 13, 1985, with the County Board Committee and the officers of the V.A.C. Committee he does not see the need to ask the Attorney General's opinion since we could possibly iron it out there. Were the problems ironed out?

No, the County Board Committee did not discuss the violations. They were not brought up at the meeting.

Mr. Rue asked if he had misinterpreted the quotes?

No, they admitted to all of the quotes and we ironed them all out. We are sure that similar quotes will not be said in the future. They were said in the heat of an argument. They will be forgotten.

The County Board also stated that since we were new they understood that we were wanting to get things going good.

A work report for February was then discussed. Calls received and calls made were next. A copy of the telephone bill will be given to show the calls made. We do get a lot of referrals from other offices.

The next page in the program is of partial cases that have been worked on since the office started. There has been 32 that we have had numerous dealings with. When dealing with the bureauocracy we might have to write to them several times to make the contact. We were told in the beginning that if we serviced 100 cases in a year it would warrant the need for our office. What they are concerned about now is that we are going to run out of money, due to too many cases coming in already. In six months we will already be done with the 100 cases.

Dave Harvey stated that the federal extension expires at the end of this month. After 26 weeks of unemployment compensation it is doubtful that there will be another extension. There will be many veterans applying for V.A.C. benefits. He also explained the situation at Thatcher's in Streator. Newspapers say that unemployment is down to 7%, but in La Salle County unemployment is 14%, and going the wrong way.

Question: If the figures say that unemployment is 5% or 10% is that only the unemployment cases that are drawing compensation. What about the people that their unemployment has expired?

Mr. Harvey: There is a certain percentage that the department allows for if they maintain contact with Job Service. I have people that have been coming to see me for two or three years. They have to keep in touch. I am trying. I call on employers. I try to sell programs. We don't have any employers in the area that are doing any hiring. No one is hiring full-time help.

Mr. Rue asked if the board gave authorization to drive to a meeting in Bloomington on the 29 and 30 of March.

I requested that we first find out whether we are opposed to being to come
to consider that a benefit? I wrote the letter and I took it to Mr. Lantz,
the County Board Attorney. There are four statutes that are in question.
Mr. Lantz stated that he would write to the Attorney General, State of Illinois
for an opinion. He also agreed that it would be best not to fight it out in
court. I also opposed to fighting this out in court. Mr. Lantz then
sent me a letter dated March 7, 1968. He stated that during the meeting on
March 13, 1968, with the County Board Committee and the officers of the
V.A.C. Committee he discussed the matter to ask the Attorney General's
opinion since we could possibly fight it out there. He stated the program should
out.

of the County Board Committee did not discuss the situation. They were
not brought up at the meeting.

Mr. Lantz asked if he had misinterpreted the quotes?

He then admitted to all of the quotes and we ignored them off out. He
is sure that similar quotes will not be said in the future. They were
said in the heat of an argument. They will be forgotten.

The County Board was stated that since we were not understood that
we were waiting to get things going now.

A copy report of the factory was then discussed. This report and other
were next. A copy of the telephone bill will be given to show the calls
made. We do not get any of referrals from other officers.

The next page in the program is of partial cases that have been worked on
since the office started. There has been 37 that we have had numerous
cases with. When dealing with the County Board we would have to write
to them several times to make the contact. We were told in the beginning
that if we serviced 100 cases in a year it would warrant the need for our
office. What they are concerned about now is that we are doing it for out
of money, due to too many cases coming in already. In a month we will
already be done with the 100 cases.

Dave Harvey stated that the federal extension expires at the end of this month.
After 20 weeks of unemployment compensation it is doubtful that anyone will be
another extension. There will be many veterans applying for V.A.C. benefits.
He also explained the situation at Thatcher in St. Louis. Unemployment
is that unemployment is down to 7% but in St. Louis County unemployment
is 14% and down the road way.

Question: If the figures say that unemployment is 5% of 100 is that only
the unemployment cases that are during compensation. What about the
people that their unemployment has expired?

Mr. Harvey: There is a certain percentage that the department allows for
if they maintain contact with job service. I have seen this have been
coming to see me for three years. They have to keep in touch.
I am trying to call on employees. I try to call programs. We should have
any employees in the area that are doing any thing. We are talking
full-time help.

Mr. Lantz asked if the board have authorization to have a meeting in
Bloomington on the 29 and 30 of March.