



MONTHLY REPORT

MARCH 2024

PREPARED BY

Christa Hammers
Superintendent

MEETING AGENDA

3-27-2024

- I. Call to Order & Salute to the Colors
- II. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag
- III. Chaplin's Prayer
- IV. Roll Call of Officers
- V. Reading & Approval of Meeting Minutes
- VI. Public Comment
 - a. Leah Erikson (Coldwell Banker) Q & A
- VII. Superintendent's Report
 - a. Office Activity
- VIII. Old Business
- IX. New Business
 - a. Election of Officers
- X. For the Good of the Commission
- XI. Closing Prayer
- XII. Adjournment

Meeting MINUTES

2-28-2024

Call to Order & Salute to the Colors

Vice President Dennis Znaniecki called the meeting to order at 5:00pm and lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Delegates & Alternates Present

Tom Troutman - VFW - Mendota / Lance Sires - AmLeg - Marseilles / Greg Stock - AmLeg - Marseilles / Thomas Shea - AmLeg - Ottawa / Roscoe Mazur - Am Leg - Marseilles / Phil Harth - AmVets - Mendota / Gray Graffis - AmVets - Ottawa / Paul Seimbab - Marine CorLeg - Post 078 / Elton Murphy - VFW - LaSalle / John Duback - AmVetes - Ottawa / Mike Mallie - Marine CorLeg - Post 078

Officers Present

President – Harold Olsen - EXCUSED
Vice President – Dennis Znaniecki
Guard – Bill Paterson
Chaplin – Andy Ruggerio

Employees Present

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

Meeting MINUTES

Approval of Meeting minutes as presented:

Motion by Andy Ruggerio and seconded by Elton Murphy. Motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment

NONE

Superintendent's Report

Christa told the commission that the annual reports are now up on the website- along with that is the Superintendents Eval and Letter to the Governor for FY23.

Christa also discussed that annual renewal for post delegates and alternates have been mailed out and need to be returned no later than March 1, 2024. Please make sure OMA is completed for all new del/alternates. If help is needed- please stop by our office.

Christa then told the commission that Lissa and her went to the Peoria winter meetings. Lissa was again elected as the Secretary for our State Association Board.

Christa and Lissa met with a realtor to discuss surrounding properties and get a better idea on what was out there and if it made sense to purchase land for future building. We will keep the Board up to date with findings.

Christa then told the Commission that there is a new healthcare law that passed- opening the doors for VAHC for all Veterans exposed to TERA. This is a big deal.

Christa then went over the annual report and the overall numbers- so far in 2024 we have over \$1.3Million in benefits paid out to our Veterans/Families!

Superintendent's report was motioned for approval by Lance Sires and seconded by Roscoe Mazur. Motion passed unanimously.

Old Business- NONE.

Meeting MINUTES

New Business

NONE

For the Good of the Commission

Christa informed the Commission that they have sweatshirts designed if anyone would like to order. Please let us know.

Christa then stressed that all Delegate/Alternate papers MUST be turned in no later than March 1, 2024. Please get them turned in. It effects our numbers for full board status.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was made by Bill Patterson and seconded by Roscoe Mazur.

Motion passed unanimously at 5:25pm.

MARCH**Office Activity:**

The office is still reviewing some properties at this time- we are working with a realtor and trying to make sure it all works out before presenting everything to the VAC Board.

Our office will be closed March 29 in observation of Good Friday.

On April 2, the majority of the office staff is going to be hearing from a MST survivor and author- Colonel Lisa Carrington Firmin USAF (retired). We look forward to learning more about this "not very discussed" topic and how to treat our Veterans when they come in our office who have suffered from it.

Christa has updated the website to include TERA information and the new healthcare bill. Also some more information for the Veterans/Families suffering from hardships. There are resources available that may offer more than our office can. If anyone knows of any additional resources to add- please let her know.

On April 13, the office will be again participating in the Shaw Media Home show. This will be at the Westclox Event Center from 10-3.

If you have yet to come in to do your property tax exemption paperwork- please make the appointment to do so. We are still booking a few weeks out- give yourself plenty of time to get those into your county assessors office.

Lissa is still looking for additional expo vendors. If you are interested- please get your paperwork into her.

FEBRUARY Office Activity			
Office Visits	117	Intent to File	19
Phone	655	Intital Claims	30
Outstation	16	Appeals	17
Mendota	6	VA Healthcare	2
Streator	7	Pension/DIC	5
Marseilles	3	Other	102

OFFICE OTHER ACTIVITIES- FEB			
PTSD GROUP	28	WALK-INS:	70
FLUTES	9	APPT MADE	33
VHA	4	QUESTIONS	37
SENIOR RESOURCE	10		
TOTAL:			121

Our Office
EVENTS

FEBRUARY Claims Summary				
Total Percentage	Month Submitted	Through	2024 Amount	Monthly Amount
100%	7/24/2023	Dec-24	\$ 21,512.54	\$ 3,870.59
60%	1/14/2024	Dec-24	\$ 16,342.56	\$ 1,361.88
80%	1/2/2024	Dec-24	\$ 3,344.76	\$ 278.73
DIC	4/22/2023	Dec-24	\$ 33,517.68	\$ 1,612.75
BURIAL	4/22/2023	Dec-24	\$ 1,770.00	\$ -
10%	8/30/2023	Dec-24	\$ 2,894.98	\$ 171.23
10%	11/30/2023	Dec-24	\$ 2,397.22	\$ 171.23
100% P&T	12/4/2023	Dec-24	\$ 19,447.22	\$ 3,737.85
80%	6/21/2023	Dec-24	\$ 40,094.44	\$ 1,995.01
90%	6/22/2023	Dec-24	\$ 34,127.49	\$ 2,428.91
80%	8/10/2022	Dec-24	\$ 51,606.84	\$ 2,161.01
30%	7/19/2023	Dec-24	\$ 10,896.69	\$ 524.31
70%	7/27/2023	Dec-24	\$ 30,680.16	\$ 1,716.28
80%	5/3/2023	Dec-24	\$ 34,106.66	\$ 2,188.01
10%	6/29/2023	Dec-24	\$ 4,540.90	\$ 171.23
100% P&T	12/4/2023	Dec-24	\$ 69,384.08	\$ 3,621.95
80% IU	9/23/2023	Dec-24	\$ 113,613.40	\$ 3,621.95
70%	8/10/2022	Dec-24	\$ 50,040.07	\$ 1,861.28
dependent	5/6/2023	Dec-24	\$ 20,494.44	\$ 1,619.62
60%	8/21/2023	Dec-24	\$ 20,452.50	\$ 1,361.88
70%	5/31/2023	Dec-24	\$ 25,264.62	\$ 1,861.28
MOD	MOD	Dec-24	\$ 3,952.51	\$ -
70%	1/6/2020	Dec-24	\$ 93,942.26	\$ 1,716.28
100% P&T	9/8/2023	Dec-24	\$ 53,460.32	\$ 3,737.85
70%	5/10/2023	Dec-24	\$ 23,282.84	\$ 1,663.06
10%	8/10/2023	Dec-24	\$ 3,066.21	\$ 171.23
10%	7/11/2023	Dec-24	\$ 3,232.13	\$ 171.23
dependent	5/18/2023	Dec-24	\$ 20,324.56	\$ 1,577.88
80%	8/10/2023	Dec-24	\$ 28,633.08	\$ 2,320.75
DIC	11/1/2023	Dec-24	\$ 27,372.94	\$ 1,955.21
40%	12/27/2022	Dec-24	\$ 17,202.92	\$ 755.28
80%	2/6/2023	Dec-24	\$ 28,378.50	\$ 2,161.01
100% P&T	10/16/2023	Dec-24	\$ 50,791.58	\$ 3,737.85
80% IU	12/13/2023	Dec-24	\$ 46,597.04	\$ 3,737.85
		Total	\$1,006,766.14	\$60,042.46
		Year to Date Total	\$2,388,829.20	\$146,228.61

The VAC is happy to report that we are keeping on trend with an increase to benefits paid out to our Veterans and Families! Totalling more than \$2.3 million by the end of February 2024. This is \$900,000 more than where we were FY23. We hope to continue this upward trend and bring in more events/programs for our clients this year.