

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of January 27, 2016

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

Minutes of the November 18, 2016 meeting were presented. Being no additions or corrections to those minutes, Chairman Ebner stated that the minutes would stand approved as presented.

Old Business: Chairman Ebner told the delegates and alternates about his meeting with county board member Billard. He stated that everything went well and he felt she had a better understanding about the operations of the Veterans Assistance Commission office. He stated he had also noticed over the years that she has never been present at any of the veteran memorial services in Oglesby. He stated that on Memorial Day and Veterans Day those veterans present note which elected officials are present.

New Business: Superintendent Rue presented the Service Officers Report for January 2016. He noted that at the end of the first month of the 2016 fiscal year out office has brought n over \$253,000 for veterans and their families. A motion was made by Nick Nekrosius and seconded by George Mason that the Service Officers Report be accepted as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Lance Sires and seconded by William Luther that we adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Howard Gast , American Legion Post 549; Louis Troutman, Post 4079; Daniel Flanagan, American Legion Post 540; Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; Chuck Erb, VFW Post 5506; Lance Sires, American Legion Post 235; George Mason, American Legion Post 2470; Ray Gerkitz, American Legion Post 33; Alternate William Luther, VFW Post 2470 and Chairman Jim Ebner, American Legion Post 237

SERVICE OFFICERS REPORT FEBRUARY 2016

Vietnam, Mendota awarded 80% w/SMC and spouse for neuropathy upper and lower extremities and diabetes, (SMC on appeal) 1/14 – 12/16 \$55,398

Iraq, Ottawa awarded 10% for stress fracture 3/13 – 12/16 \$5588

WWII, Streator awarded Aid and Attendance 11/14 – 12/16 \$46,488

Vietnam widow, Marseilles awarded \$10,000 life insurance

WWII, Streator awarded Aid and Attendance 7/15 -12/16 \$29,556

Vietnam, Marseilles awarded 80% for neuropathy and diabetes w/smc 8/15 – 12/16 \$28,118

Vietnam widow, Oglesby awarded DIC \$1255 monthly, \$2000 federal burial benefits and \$1000 State of Illinois burial benefits 7/15 – 12/16 \$25,590

TOTAL VA BENEFITS FEBRUARY 2016 \$200,738

Social Security 0

TOTAL BENEFITS YEAR TO DATE \$453,814

**SERVICE OFFICERS REPORT
JANUARY 2016**

Streator awarded pension 6/15 – 12/16 \$507 monthly total \$9126

Streator awarded 60% for back injury with one dependent 6/14 – 12/16 total \$34,560

LaMoille, Vietnam awarded 100% for prostate cancer, diabetes and neuropathy with one dependent and SMC 8/14 – 12/16 total \$91,872

Streator, Vietnam awarded 60% for diabetes and CAD with one dependent 2/15 – 12/16 Total \$25,432

Seneca, Vietnam widow, awarded military pension \$1298 5/15 – 12/16, accidental death life insurance \$50000 and life insurance \$32,000 total \$91,086

TOTAL VA BENEFITS	\$253,076
Social Security	0
TOTAL BENEFITS YEAR TO DATE	\$253,076

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of February 24, 2016

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

Minutes of the January 27, 2016 meeting were presented. Being no additions or corrections to those minutes, Chairman Ebner stated that the minutes would stand approved as presented.

New Business: The Service Officers Report for the month of February 2016 was presented. Superintendent Rue noted that as of the end of February our veterans received \$453,814 in financial benefits from our office claims filed. A motion was made by Nick Nekrosius and seconded by Joe Navarro that the Service Officers Report be accepted as presented. Motion passed.

Chairman Ebner asked Superintendent Rue what his future plans were as VAC superintendent? Superintendent Rue stated that he intended to retire at the end of this fiscal year, which would be November 11, 2016. Chairman Ebner then asked what the Commission should do pertaining to advancing the program for troubled veterans who have been arrested for drugs and must go to court on those charges. A lengthy discussion ensued pertaining to advancing that program prior to the election of a new superintendent. In conclusion a motion was made by Chuck Erb and seconded by Larry Graham that the veteran's court program be tabled until a new superintendent has been elected. Delegate Joe Navarro requested a hands vote of the delegates present on said motion. All delegates voted in favor except one who voted no. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Joe Navarro and seconded by Ray Gerkitz that we adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Tom Troutman, VFW Post 4079; Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; Larry Graham, DAV Chapter 86; Chuck Erb, VFW Post 5506; Lance Sires, American Legion Post 235; Joe Navarro, Marine Corp League; Howard Gast, American Legion Post 549; Ray Gerkitz, American Legion Post 33; Alternate Jim Nanouski, American Legion Post 33; and Chairman Jim Ebner, American Legion Post 237

SERVICE OFFICERS REPORT

March 2016

Vietnam, Ottawa awarded 80% from 60% for leg injury a \$524 difference, 5/14 – 12/16 \$16,244

Vietnam, Marseilles, awarded 100% with SMC and dependent for prostate cancer 1/14 – 12/16 \$85,644

Vietnam, Mendota, added dependent to 100% with the effective date of 8/06. Backpay and adjusted compensation to 12/16 total \$18,592

Vietnam widow, Sandwich awarded DIC 7/1/15 – 12/16 with federal burial benefits \$2000 total \$24,572

Vietnam widow, Marseilles awarded DIC 7/1/16 – 12/16 with federal burial benefits \$2000 and state of Illinois burial benefits \$1000; and veterans last compensation check \$3253.67 total \$28,825.67

WWII, Streator awarded Aid and Attendance 6/15 – 12/16 \$1788 monthly, total \$32,184

TOTAL VA BENEFITS March 2016 \$206,061.67

VA BENEFITS YEAR TO DATE \$659,875.67

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes from March 23, 2016

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

Minutes of the February 24, 2016 meeting was presented. Being no additions or corrections to those minutes, Chairman Ebner stated that the minutes would stand approved as presented.

New Business: Superintendent Rue presented the March 2016 Service Officers Report. He noted that after three months into our fiscal year, our area veterans and their dependents received monetary VA benefits of \$659,875. All questions pertaining to the Service Officers Report were answered. Motion was made by Nick Nekrosius and seconded by Lance Sires that the Service Officers Report be accepted as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Delegates stated that Hines VA Hospital is willing to put on a Veterans Health Fair if your post requests one. Contact Laurie Luscri at 708-202-8387 ext. 21228 if you are interested.

A motion was made by Larry Graham and seconded by Ray Gerkitz that we adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; Bill Phillips, VFW Post 4079; Larry Graham, DAV Chapter 6; Chuck Erb, VFW Post 5506; Ray Gerkitz, American Legion Post 33; Lance Sires, American Legion Post 235; Douglas Grieve, American Legion Post 260; Andrew Wagner, American Legion Post 540 Alternates Jim Nanouski, American Legion Post 33; Daniel Flanagan, American Legion Post 540; Chairman Jim Ebner, American Legion Post 237; Roger Schueler, American Legion Post 33 Sr. Commander

Service Officers Report

APRIL 2016

Oglesby, Gulf awarded 40% for PTSD with SMC and dependents 2/15 – 12/16 Total \$17,365

Vietnam, LaSalle awarded 60% for lung cancer 8/15 – 12/16 TOTAL 18,003

Vietnam, Earlville awarded 80% for diabetes and neuropathy with SMC and dependent 6/15 – 12/16 TOTAL 32,106.60

Oglesby, WWII widow awarded Aid and Attendance 8/15 – 12/16 \$1149 month TOTAL \$19,533

TOTAL VA BENEFITS FOR APRIL \$87,007.60

Total VA Benefits year to date \$746,883.27

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of April 27, 2016

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

Minutes of the March 23, 2016 VAC meeting were reviewed by the delegates and alternates present. With no additions or corrections to the minutes, Chairman Ebner stated that the minutes would stand approved as presented.

New Business: The Service Officer's Report was presented to those present. All questions pertaining to the Service Officer's Report were answered. A motion was made by Nick Nekrosius and seconded by George Mason that the Service Officer's Report be accepted as presented. Motion passed.

Delegates and alternates discussed the transition of superintendent for the LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission. It was noted that a public announcement of the position should be submitted in September of 2016. Delegate Navarro stated that a committee should be formed among the delegates of the LaSalle County VAC to review the applications, interview the applicants and vote at the annual meeting in November for the superintendent. It is clear in our bylaws that it is the delegates of the LaSalle County VAC that hires the superintendent and it's then the superintendent that will interview and hire other employees for the LaSalle County VAC. Joe suggested that our office send a copy of our bylaws and petition to form a VAC to all delegates and alternates in LaSalle County. Motion was made by Joe Navarro and seconded by Lance Sires that a copy of our bylaws be sent to each delegate and alternate of our VAC asking them to visit and explain the operations of our office and encourage the other veteran posts in their town, who are not members of the Commission to petition for eligibility prior to the election. Motion passed.

Superintendent Rue was asked if needed, would Cindy be willing to enter into a contract for the purpose of training the individual who the superintendent will hire once elected as superintendent. He said he had no idea that would have to be worked out with the Commission and Cindy.

Motion was made by Bob Riley and seconded by Larry Graham that we adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Tom Troutman, VFW Post 4079; Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 246; Larry Graham, DAV Chapter 86; Douglas Grieve, American Legion Post 260; Howard Gast, American Legion Post 549; Chuck Erb, VFW Post 5506; George Mason, VFW Post 2470; Lance Sires, American Legion Post 235; Bob Riley, AMVETS Post 30; Joe Navarro, Marine Corp League; Alternate William Luther, VFW Post 2470 and Chairman Jim Ebner, American Legion Post 237

**SERVICE OFFICERS REPORT
MAY 2016**

Vietnam, Tonica awarded 20% for prostate cancer with special monthly compensation 5/15 – 12/16 Total \$7320

Vietnam, Ottawa awarded 60% P.T.S.D. with a dependent 10/15 – 12/16 Total \$18,496

Vietnam, West Liberty awarded 70% for coronary artery disease with a dependent 8/14 – 12/16 \$43,431

Vietnam, Somonauk awarded 100% for coronary artery disease with special monthly compensation and a dependent 12/15 – 12/16 \$41,237

TOTAL VA BENEFITS FOR MAY \$110,484

TOTAL BENEFIT YEAR TO DATE \$857,367

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of May 25, 2016

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

Minutes of the April 27, 2016 VAC meeting were presented to the delegates and alternates present. With no additions or corrections to those minutes, Chairman Ebner stated that the minutes would stand approved as presented.

New Business: Service Officers Report for May 2016 was presented to the delegates and alternates present. All questions pertaining to the Service Officers Report were answered. A motion was made by Nick Nekrosius and seconded by Bob Riley that the Service Officers Report be accepted as presented. Motion passed.

Jack Leininger, on June 3, 2016 contacted our office and wanted us to make sure that our May 25, 2016 minutes noted that anyone wanting to be on the LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission committee to select a superintendent for our VAC office should notify Jim Ebner by June 3, 2016 at 4:00 p.m. Hopefully, in July our superintendent selection committee will be put into place.

Chairman Ebner stated that he had a nice conversation with Cindy. He said she was willing to stay on working part-time for as long as it takes, but no more than 600 hours. He was very pleased with her willingness to help out with the transition. Superintendent Rue strongly feels that he extended servitude should be figured based on the hourly wage earned by the superintendent. She will be in essence acting in the full capacity of the superintendent, preparing a superintendent with their functions and duties as well as the incoming employee that the superintendent hires.

Chairman Ebner handed out a list of the current LaSalle County veteran organizations currently on the LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission. Superintendent Rue asked that the delegates and alternates from those posts contact any other veteran organization who is not on the list offering them an opportunity to become a member of the LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission. The list is as follows:

Earlville – A.L. Post 549
Jonesville – Marine Corp League, Detachment 78
LaSalle - A.L. Post 426
LaSalle – VFW Post 466
LaSalle – C.W.V. Post 1229
Lostant – A.L. Post 173
Leland – A.L. Post 570
Marseilles – A.L. Post 235
Marseilles - VFW Post 5506
DAV Chapter 86

Mendota – A.L. Post 540
Mendota – VFW Post 4079
Oglesby – A.L. Post 237
Ottawa – A.L. Post 33
Ottawa – AMVETS Post 30
Ottawa – VFW Post 2470
Peru – A.L. Post 833
Peru – VFW Post 8232
Sheridan – A.L. Post
Sheridan – VFW Post 1492
Seneca – A.L. Post
Tonica – A. L. Post 260

A motion was made by George Mason and seconded by Lance Sires that we adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Larry Graham, DAV Chapter 86; Tom Troutman, VFW Post 4079; Nick Nekrosius; American Legion Post 426; Jack Leininger, VFW Post 5506; Bob Riley, Amvets Post 30; George Mason, VFW Post 2470; Lance Sires, American Legion Post 235; Howard Gast, American Legion Post 49; Joe Navarro, Marine Corp League; Alternate William Luther, VFW Post 2470 and Chairman Jim Ebner, American Legion Post 549

SERVICE OFFICERS REPORT
JUNE 2016

Gulf veterans, Earlville awarded 60% for PTSD and Tinnitus 4/15
– 12/16 Total \$22,260

Vietnam, Mendota awarded Pension 12/15 – 12/16 \$348
monthly Total \$4524

Vietnam widow, Marseilles awarded DIC 5/15 – 12/16 \$1255
monthly and \$2000 in federal burial benefits Total \$27,100

Vietnam widow, Oglesby awarded \$2000 in federal burial and
\$1000 in state burial benefits Total \$3000

Total VA Benefits June 2016 \$56,884
Total Benefits Year to Date \$914,251

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of July 27, 2016

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

Minutes of the May 24, 2016 meeting were reviewed by the delegates and alternates present. With no additions or corrections to those minutes, Chairman Ebner stated that the minutes would stand approved as presented.

Old Business: Chairman Ebner announced who he selected for the committee to look for a replacement of VAC Superintendent Rue. They are as follows: Jim Ebner, American Legion Post 237; Ray Gerkitz, American Legion Post 33; Chuck Erb, VFW Post 5506; Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; and Jack Leininger, VFW Post 5506.

New Business: The Service Officer's Report was presented to those present. There were no questions pertaining to the Service Officer's Report. A motion was made by Nick Nekrosius and seconded by Bob Riley to accept the Service Officer's Report as presented. Motion passed.

Bill Phillips informed members of an Award Ceremony to take place at Ottawa City hall at 4:30 pm Thursday. Awards to be giving to local veterans will be presented by State Senator Resin and Congressman Adam Kinzinger.

A discussion of responsibilities and requirements of the new superintendent was held. All present were given two superintendent job descriptions from Grundy County and McHenry County VAC offices to look over and return to Chairman Ebner with any additions, subtractions or any other thoughts.

Cindy will be asked to write a letter to all LaSalle County veterans' organizations to confirm their delegate and alternate and ask that it be returned to the VAC office within 60 days.

Chairman Ebner or a VAC representative will take the requested 2017 budget to the LaSalle County VAC Committee meeting on August 8, 2016 at the County Nursing Home.

A motion was made at 1800 hours by Joe Navarro, seconded by George Mason that the meeting be adjourned. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; George Mason, VFW Post 2470; Douglas Grieve, American Legion Post 260; Jack Leinginer, VFW Post 5506; Bob Riley, Amvets Post 30; Howard Gast, American Legion Post 549; Ray Gerkitz, American Legion Post 33; Joe Navarro, Marine Corp League; Lance Sires, American Legion Post 235; Alternates William Luther, VFW Post 2470; Bill Phillips, VFW Post 4079; Jim Nanowski, American Legion Post 33; Scott Buennemeyer, American Legion Post 235; Chuck Erb, VFW Post 5506; John Duback, American Legion Post 30; and Chairman Jim Ebner, American Legion Post 237

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of August 24, 2016

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

Minutes of the July 27, 2016 meeting were reviewed by the delegates and alternates present. With the correction of Alternate John Duback of the Amvets Post 30 instead of American Legion Post 30, the minutes would stand approved as presented.

OLD BUSINESS: Chairman Ebner requested that the letter sent to LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission Veterans Posts reconfirming your delegates and alternates to the LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission be returned to our office by October 1, 2016 in order to be eligible to vote on the election of the new VAC superintendent.

Chairman Ebner discussed the 2017 VAC budget requests that were submitted to the LaSalle County VAC Committee and the LaSalle County Finance Committee. All questions pertaining to the VAC Budget requests were answered.

NEW BUSINESS: The Service Officer's Report was presented to those present. Being there were no questions pertaining to the Service Officer's Report, a motion was made by George Mason and seconded by Nick Nekrosius to accept the Service Officer's Report as presented. Motion passed.

A discussion on the VAC Superintendent's Job Description was held. It was noted that a certified DD214 would be required as proof of honorable U.S. military service. A motion was made by Jerry Fuchs and seconded by Lance Sires to require a certified DD214 as proof of a veteran's honorable U.S. military service. Motion passed.

A release date for the VAC Superintendent Job listing on the LaSalle County webpage of September 1, 2016 and a closing date of September 30, 2016 were discussed. A motion was made by John Duback and seconded by Doug Grieves to have the VAC superintendent's job posted on the LaSalle County webpage from September 1, 2016 with a deadline of September 30, 2016. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Joe Navarro and seconded by Doug Grieves to amend the prior motion to include the Illinois Association of County Veterans Assistance Commissions to also be included in posting the LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission Superintendent's Job listing from September 1, 2016 to September 30, 2016. Motion passed.

It was announced by John Duback that the National Commander of Amvets and the State of Illinois Commander of Amvets will be at the Marseilles Memorial Wall on September 14, 2016.

It was also announced that American Legion Post 33 will be hosting a cookout at the State of Illinois Veterans Home on August 31, 2016.

A motion was made by George Mason and seconded by Joe Navarro that we adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates George Mason, VFW Post 2470; Larry Graham, DAV; Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; Tom Troutman, VFW Post 4079; Lance Sires, American Legion Post 235; Douglas Grieve, American Legion Post 260; Howard Gast, American Legion Post 549; Jerry Fuchs, American Legion Post 549; Ray Gerkitz, American Legion Post 33; Joe Navarro, Marine Corp League; Alternates Chuck Erb, VFW Post 5506; Mike Mallie, American Legion Post 237; John Duback, Amvets Post 30; Chairman Jim Ebner, American Legion Post 237; and Cindy Decker, Office Manager/VSO

SERVICE OFFICERS REPORT
SEPTEMBER 2016

Vietnam Streator, awarded 100% for lung cancer 6/16 -
12/16 total \$17,440

Widow Princeton, awarded \$2000 burial benefit, \$1000
State of Illinois burial benefit

Vietnam, Mendota awarded 30% for COPD with
dependent 5/15 -12/16 \$9115

Vietnam, Earlville awarded 90% from 80% for upper
neuropathy 5/16 – 12/16 \$1664.64

Vietnam widow, Streator awarded accrued benefits 9/16
\$4500

TOTAL VA BENEFITS SEPTEMBER 2016 \$35,719

TOTAL VA BENEFITS YEAR TO DATE \$1,055,601

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of September 28, 2016

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

Minutes of the August 24, 2016 meeting were reviewed by the delegates and alternates present. A correction of Jerry Fuchs American Legion Post being 570, instead of 549, minutes would stand approved as presented.

OLD BUSINESS: There are five applications in our office as of September 28, 2016. Ray Gerkitz resigned from the selection committee for hiring the new superintendent. A motion was made by Jim Nanowski and seconded by Larry Graham to have John Duback added to the selection committee to replace Ray Gerkitz. Motion passed.

The Selection Committee will meet on Thursday, October 6, 2016 at 8:30 a.m. in our VAC office. Interviews of the applicants will be held at the Ottawa American Legion Post 33.

NEW BUSINESS: The Service Officer's Report was presented to those present. Being there were no questions pertaining to the Service Officer's Report, a motion was made by Nick Nekrosius and seconded by Bob Riley to accept the Service Officer's Report as presented. Motion passed.

Chairman Jim Ebner stated that the Peoria Vets Center meets at the LaSalle Veterans' Home on Tuesdays. This is a federal program for the treatment of mental health.

The 8th Annual 24 hour Honor Guard Vigil will be held in Ottawa, Illinois at the Washington Square War Memorial. The Opening Ceremony will be 4:40 PM Friday, November 4, 2016 through Closing Ceremony 5:00 PM Saturday, November 5, 2016. Anyone interested should contact Jim Nanowski at 815-434-4633 or John at 815-993-3956.

It was noted by Chairman Ebner that the VAC November meeting will be held on November 16, 2016, there will be no December 2016 meeting.

A motion was made by Bob Riley, seconded by George Mason to adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; Larry Graham, DAV Chapter 86; Tom Troutman, VFW Post 4079; Ray Gerkitz, American Legion Post 33; Lance Sires, American Legion Post 235; Robert Riley, AMVETS Post 30; George Mason, VFW Post 2470; Jerry Fuchs, American Legion Post 570; Joe Savich, VFW Post 4668; Howard Gast, American Legion Post 549; Jack Leininger, VFW Post 5506; and Alternates Charles Erb, VFW Post 5506; William Luther, VFW Post 2470; John Duback, AMVETS Post 30; Bill Phillips, VFW Post 4079; Jim Nanowski, American Legion Post 33; Chairman Jim Ebner, American Legion Post 237 and Cindy Decker, VSO

SERVICE OFFICERS REPORT
OCTOBER 2016

Vietnam, Streator awarded 100% 6/16 – 12/16 \$2906.83 monthly TOTAL
\$17,440.98

widow, Princeton awarded \$2000 federal burial benefit and \$1000 state burial
benefit TOTAL \$3000

Vietnam, Mendota awarded 30% for COPD with dependent 5/15 – 12/16 \$455.75
monthly TOTAL \$8,659

Vietnam, Earlville awarded 90% from 80% for upper neuropathy TOTAL \$1664.64

Iraq, Streator awarded 20% for lumbar strain and tinnitus 8/13 – 12/16 TOTAL
\$10,443.48

Vietnam, Mendota awarded 60% from 40% for Coronary Artery Disease 3/15 –
12/16 TOTAL \$13,156

TOTAL VA BENEFITS OCTOBER 2016 \$54,363.12

TOTAL VA BENEFITS YEAR TO DATE \$1,109,964.12

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of October 26, 2016

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

Minutes of the September 28, 2016 meeting were reviewed by the delegates and alternates present. Being no additions or corrections to those minutes, Chairman Ebner stated that the minutes would stand approved as presented.

Joe Navarro had several comments regarding the "Open Meetings Act". A discussion ensued regarding the "Open Meetings Act".

OLD BUSINESS: Chairman Ebner stated that the Selection Committee for the hiring of the new VAC superintendent met at the LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission office on Thursday, October 6 to review the eight applicants. The Committee again met on Thursday, October 13 at the Ottawa American Legion to finalize the questions to be presented in the interview process. On October 20 and 21, 2016 at the Ottawa American Legion Post 33 four of the eight applicants were interviewed. Chairman Ebner thanked the Ottawa American Legion Post 33 for allowing the meeting and interviews to be held at their post home, the Selection Committee for all their time and energy during this process, and John Duback as the Facility Coordinator. The Committee reached a unanimous decision on the new superintendent. It was decided to offer the position to Kristina McNichol with a salary of \$80,000 based on her qualifications. A motion was made by John Duback and seconded by Chuck Erb to call for a ballot vote. Motion passed. Ballots were handed out to the delegates eligible to vote. The vote was to accept the hiring of Kristina McNickol as the new superintendent. Chairman Ebner made a call to Kristina offering her the position. Kristina declined the offer.

Chairman Ebner stated that the Selection Committee also considered Steven Kreitzer, who is currently the Assistant Superintendent of the DeKalb County Veterans Assistance Commission. A motion was made by John Duback and seconded by Chuck Erb to offer the position to Steven Kreitzer with a salary of \$65,000. Motion passed. A ballot vote was taken and accepted to offer the VAC superintendent position to Steven Kreitzer. Chairman Ebner made the call to Mr. Kreitzer and he accepted the position.

Future office space for the VAC office was discussed by Jack Leininger, who met with the LaSalle County Board Chairman Jerry Hicks on Wednesday, October 26.

Chairman Ebner reminded the delegates and alternates that the November VAC meeting would be held on November 16, 2016 due to Thanksgiving. They were also reminded that there would be the annual election of officers at that time.

NEW BUSINESS: The Service Officer's Report was presented to those present. Being no additions or corrections to the Service Officer's Report, a motion was made by Nick Nekrosius and seconded by George Mason to accept the Service Officer's Report as presented. Motion passed

There was a discussion by the delegates and alternates present regarding retirement gifts for Superintendent Rue and Office Manager/VSO Cindy Decker.

A motion was made by Lance Sires and seconded by Jerry Fuchs to adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Lawrence Graham, DAV Chapter 86; George Mason, VFW Post 2470; Douglas Grieve, American Legion Post 260; Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; Chuck Erb, VFW Post 5506; Tom Troutman, VFW Post 4079; Lance Sires, American Legion Post 235; Joe Savitch, VFW Post 4668; Howard Gast, American Legion Post 549 Joe Navarro, Marine Corp League; Jerry Fuchs, American Legion Post 570; Ray Gerkitz, American Legion Post 33; Alternates John Duback, Amvets Post 30; Jack Leininger, VFW Post 5506; Jim Nanowski, American Legion Post 33; Chairman Jim Ebner, American Legion Post 237 and Cindy Decker, Office Manager/VSO

Service Officer's Report November 2016

Vietnam Marseilles added spouse and child to 100% S/C compensation
6/6 – 12/16 \$1684.62

Vietnam, Marseilles awarded 20% for diabetes 6/16 – 12/16 \$1579

Vietnam, Leland awarded 80% from 30% for neuropathy upper and
lower extremities 6/16 – 12/16 \$10,582

Vietnam widow, Sheridan awarded \$300 in burial benefits and veterans
last VA compensation check of \$917.13 total \$1217.13

Vietnam, Marseilles awarded 100% June and July 2016 for
convalescence and 30% 8/16 – 12/16 for CAD and hearing loss
\$7852.41

Vietnam widow, Marseilles awarded \$10,000 Gratuitous ARH Life
Insurance

TOTAL VA BENEFITS NOVEMBER 2016 \$32,915.16

TOTAL VA BENEFITS YEAR TO DATE \$1,142,879.28