

**IOWA DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**

The Regular Quarterly Meeting of the Iowa Commission of Veterans Affairs Meeting  
January 3, 2018 beginning at 10:00 a.m.  
Iowa Gold Star Military Museum  
7105 – NW 70<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Johnston, IA 50313-1824

**Present:** Daniel J. Gannon, Chair  
Monica Brouse  
George Goebel  
Elizabeth Ledvina  
John Kost  
Gary Wattnem  
Mary Van Horn

**Absent:** Steve Hyde  
Kate Myers

**Staff:** Steve Lukan, Executive Director, IDVA  
Mari Mielke, IDVA – Recording Secretary

<b>Guests/ Presenters:</b>	Jason Kemp, Home Base Iowa Shaun Leek, IWD Brett McLain, Story County Director Dave Thornburg, DAV Jerry Moorehead, Marine Corps League Michael Mortensen, Polk County Scott Moline, American Legion Harold Christ, VVA Richard Bullock, American Legion Don Lane, ESGR Roger Elliott, VVA Post 490 Mick Praske, Dallas County Director	Wayne Marek, Vet Center Jerry Hanson, IACCVSO Jon Schneider, Iowa PVA Dave Allen, Senator Grassley's Office Brenda Safranski, Senator Ernest's Office John Derner, American Legion R. Bruce Beeston, VVA Margaret Seals, IA Nat'l Guard Nathan Hohnstein, IGOV Greg Paullin, VVA Post 776 PJ Pins, Marine Corps League
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**NOTE: THESE MINUTES ARE 'UNAPPROVED' UNTIL ACCEPTED BY THE COMMISSION AT THE NEXT MEETING.**

**APPROVED:**  \_\_\_\_\_  
Daniel J. Gannon, Chair, Iowa Commission of Veterans Affairs

**Date:** 4/4/2018

**Call to Order:**

Meeting Chairperson Gannon called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

**Pledge of Allegiance/Moment of Silence:**

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairperson Gannon and followed by a moment of silence.

**Roll Call:**

Chairperson Gannon took roll call and Commissioner Brouse was absent.

**Welcome/Introductions of Guests:**

Chairperson Gannon welcomed everyone in attendance and asked guests to introduce themselves.

### **Presentations:**

Margaret Seals with the Iowa National Guard updated the Commission on the Survivor Outreach events and reiterating the Guard's request for annually receiving funds from either the Commission's License Fee Funds or from the Veterans Trust Fund to fund these events.

### **Approval of Commission Minutes:**

Minutes from the October 4<sup>th</sup> quarterly meeting were approved unanimously. Minutes from the Trust Fund conference calls of October 5, November 2, and December 7<sup>th</sup> were all approved unanimously.

### **VA Regional Office Update**

Ryan Dickson gave an oral update on behalf of the new director who was unable to attend.

### **Des Moines VA Medical Center Update**

Gail Graham gave an oral update and a written report.

### **Iowa City VA Medical Center Update**

Director Judith Johnson-Mekota gave an oral update.

### **Sioux Falls VA Medical Center Update**

A written update/report was submitted by Director Shirley Redmond.

### **Veterans Home Update**

Commandant Timon Oujiri gave an oral update.

### **Camp Dodge Office Update**

New Executive Director Steve Lukan gave an oral update.

### **Old Business**

Discussion about 2018 Vets Day at the Capitol and the Legislative Initiatives. After the discussion Chairperson Gannon asked that a motion be presented that the Commission supports the 2018 Legislative Initiatives submitted before the members. Commissioner Wattnem made a motion to approve the Initiatives as submitted and was seconded by Commissioner Ledvina. Motion carried, approved unanimously.

### **New Business**

Discussion and review of the Commission's role and responsibilities.

### **Public Comment**

Discussion regarding Vets Day at the Capitol.

### **Next Commission meeting**

The next Commission meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 4 at the Iowa Veterans Home in Marshalltown.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 12:25 p.m.