

IOWA COMMISSION OF VETERANS AFFAIRS  
Wednesday, September 22, 2010 - 10:00 a.m.  
Ford Memorial Conference Room  
Iowa Veterans Home  
Marshalltown, Iowa

PRESENT: Darlene McMartin, Chairperson, Iowa Commission of Veterans Affairs  
Don Delamore, Member, Iowa Commission of Veterans Affairs  
Becky Dirks Haugsted, Member, Commission of Veterans Affairs  
Todd Jacobus, Member, Iowa Commission of Veterans Affairs  
Steve Mulcahy, Member, Iowa Commission of Veterans Affairs  
Bill Wallace, Member, Iowa Commission of Veterans Affairs  
Rosetta Waychus, Member, Iowa Commission of Veterans Affairs

ABSENT: Francis McAllister, Member, Iowa Commission of Veterans Affairs  
Mickey Williams, Member, Iowa Commission of Veterans Affairs

STAFF: Patrick Palmersheim, Executive Director, Iowa Department of Veterans Affairs  
David G. Worley, Commandant, Iowa Veterans Home  
Nancy Morford, Admin. Assist., Commandant's Office, Iowa Veterans Home  
Greg Wright, Budget Analyst, Iowa Veterans Home  
Missy Miller, Iowa Department of Veterans Affairs  
Diana Steiner, Budget Analyst, Iowa Veterans Home

GUESTS: Samantha Schaff, Decatur County Veterans Affairs  
Mike Kuhn, Marion County Veterans Affairs  
Elizabeth Ledvina, Tama County Veterans Affairs  
Bret McLain, Story County Veterans Affairs  
Ed McGivern, The American Legion  
Dave Davis, VA Regional Office  
John Derner, Adjutant, The American Legion  
Kathy Barton, Iowa National Guard  
Deb Monson, Winneshiek County Veterans Affairs  
Jon Rosmann, State Public Policy Group  
Bob Krause, Veterans National Recovery Center Prop.  
Larry Larson, Veterans of Foreign Wars  
Dennis Myers, Veterans of Foreign Wars  
Dave Thornburg, Disabled American Veterans  
Jason Chapman, Iowa Legislature  
Heather Homewood, Allamakee County Veterans Affairs  
Dave Bolton, Disabled American Veterans  
Laurel Phipps, Veterans of Foreign Wars  
Bob Peters, Veterans of Foreign Wars  
Glenn Larson, Winneshiek County Veterans Affairs  
Jennifer Furler, State Public Policy Group  
James Marren, National Recovery Center Prop.

cc: Joni Klaassen, Governor's Office  
Dennis Tibben, Policy Advisor, Governor's Office  
Barbara Galloway, Assistant Attorney, Attorney General's Office  
Shashi Goel, Department of Management  
Sue Lerdal, Legislative Fiscal Bureau  
Jenny Lawrence, Auditor's Office  
Jessica Holmes, DAS  
Steve Ainger, DAS  
David Worley, Commandant, IVH  
Nancy Morford, Administrative Assistant, IVH  
John Derner, Adjutant, The American Legion  
David Davis, Director, VA Regional Office  
Elizabeth Ledvina, President, IACCVA  
Jerry Meek, Commander, Military Order of the Purple Heart  
Tom Ashworth, Senate Republican Caucus Staff  
Jason Chapman, House Republican Caucus Staff  
Jon Schneider, President, Paralyzed Veterans of America  
Reggie Richardson, President, The Retired Officers Association  
Larry Jatho, Adjutant, Disabled American Veterans  
Barry Sharp, Director, VAMC, Iowa City  
Don Cooper, Director, VA Central Iowa Healthcare System, Des Moines  
Ron Healy, Iowa UAW Veterans Committee

Senator Daryl Beall, Chair, Senate VA Committee  
Senator James Seymour, RM, Senate VA Committee  
Representative Ray Zirkelbach, Chair, House VA Committee  
Representative Matt Windschilt, RM, House VA Committee

David Hunter, Commander, Marine Corps League  
Julie Simon, Senate Democratic Caucus Staff  
Zeke Furlong, House Democratic Research Staff

**NOTE: THESE MINUTES ARE "UNAPPROVED" UNTIL ACCEPTED BY THE COMMISSION AT THE NEXT MEETING**

**APPROVED:** Darlene McM Martin **DATE:** 1-5-10  
**Darlene McMartin, Chairperson, Iowa Commission of Veterans Affairs**

- Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 10:02 a.m. by Darlene McMartin, Chairperson, Iowa Commission of Veterans Affairs.
- Pledge of Allegiance/  
Moment of Silence: All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance. Chairperson McMartin requested a moment of silence for our departed veterans, POW's, those missing in action (MIAs) and those on active duty at this time.
- Roll Call: Roll call of Commission members was completed by the Meeting Secretary. A quorum was present.
- Welcome/Intro. of  
Guests: Chairperson McMartin welcomed everyone in attendance. A round table of introductions was held.
- Approval of Minutes: Corrections/additions/deletions to the minutes of the 7/7/10 meeting were called for. On page 5, third paragraph, fourth line, change, "could we also like to the license plate fund" to "could we also use the license plate fund..." Commissioner Delamore moved to approve the 7/7/10 minutes with the noted changes. Second by Commissioner Mulcahy. There was no further discussion. Roll call vote taken: Commissioner Delamore: yes; Commissioner Dirks Haugsted: yes; Commissioner Jacobus: yes; Commissioner Mulcahy: yes; Commissioner Wallace: yes; Commissioner Waychus: yes; Chairperson McMartin: yes. Motion carried. Minutes of 7/7/10 meeting approved.
- Corrections/additions/deletions to the minutes of the 8/4/10 meeting were called for. Commissioner Mulcahy moved to approve the 8/4/10 minutes as distributed. Second by Commissioner Waychus. There was no further discussion. Roll call vote taken: Commissioner Delamore: yes; Commissioner Dirks Haugsted: yes; Commissioner Jacobus: yes; Commissioner Mulcahy: yes; Commissioner Wallace: yes; Commissioner Waychus: yes; Chairperson McMartin: yes. Motion carried. Minutes of 8/4/10 meeting approved.
- Corrections/additions/deletions to the minutes of the 9/1/10 meeting were called for. Commissioner Mulcahy moved to approve the 9/1/10 minutes as distributed. Second by Commissioner Waychus. There was no further discussion. Roll call vote taken: Commissioner Delamore: yes; Commissioner Dirks Haugsted: yes; Commissioner Jacobus: yes; Commissioner Mulcahy: yes; Commissioner Wallace: yes; Commissioner Waychus: yes; Chairperson McMartin: yes. Motion carried. Minutes of 9/1/10 meeting approved.
- VA Regional Office: Dave Davis gave an update from the VA Regional Office.

So far this year, we have completed 7,722 Compensation Claims. Looks like we will go over 8,000 this year. Our claims inventory has increased, we are at about 4,052. Our fiscal year goal was 3,790. We have more veterans filing claims; we have better outreach today than we ever had. We have more presumptions and we have more conditions that we are accepting claims for. We should be concentrating on timeliness. Veterans should not have to wait a long time to get their claims taken care of. We are doing a better job there as well. We are at about 164 average days to complete, but our average days a claim is pending is at about 107 days. The reason days to complete are so much higher is that number includes many other complicated claims, outlying claims that have many issues that take longer to develop.

He's very proud of what they are doing with homeless veterans and homeless veterans' claims at the Regional Office. A procedure was set up several months ago to actually case manage those veterans, to get out there and visit them when we know of them, get them to complete their claims and stay on top of it. Right now we are under 100 days for actually completing the claim. Currently, while we completed about 60 claims this year for homeless veterans, we have three that are still pending and the average days they have been pending is 16 days. Average days of completion should even be lower than it is in that particular class of claims.

We have almost 1,500 veterans in the program for vocational employment and rehab. So far this year 64 have already gone through the program and have received training or funds for independent living that allow them to adapt their homes so they can live more independently of other people. We have recognized about 640 claims under the additional three presumptives for Agent Orange. Five hundred claims we feel are ready to rate as soon as they can on these presumptives have been sent to specific program sites to be rated. These are cases that in the past, before these were recognized, were denied so they should be fast tracked and rated very quickly once they can.

We have trained people on how to develop cases, going back to the veterans, going to their medical providers to get all of the information that we actually need to get their claims ready for them. We have about 1,600 claims that are actually ready to rate at any given time. Recently this summer we promoted four more raters; last month we promoted another eight raters. They are all going to centralized training during the month of October so they can start rating cases. We expect that we are going to get closer to about 1,000 ratings a month that we can do coupled with continued brokering to our brokering center in Meskogy that we will be able to have these claims rated to bring that number down.

Jack Hackett, our VRE Officer in Voc Rehab and Employment Officer in Des Moines, retired as of October 1 after 35 years of dedicated service.

Chairperson McMartin stated she has a concern with the MES Solutions when you contract for C & P examinations. She explained her concerns. Mr. Davis will have to check into it.

A question was asked how long it will take for the raters to be qualified to rate? Mr. Davis responded the VA requires us to send these employees to a centralized training so everybody gets the same training. We are first and second nationwide among Regional Offices for the quality of work we do.

Mr. Davis has met Secretary Shinseki and he is concerned with the entire appeals process.

Commissioner Mulcahy asked about only accredited VSO service reps being allowed on the 10<sup>th</sup> floor of the Federal Building. Discussion continued. Mr. Davis will ask Washington D.C. to make sure all other states are complying with this decision.

Lunch details were taken care of at this time.

Introductions were held for those who came in after the meeting started.

IDVA Update:

Patrick reported the Fall School is planned for October 19, 20 and 21. We are trying to finalize all of the instructors and the agenda. We will see within the next week or 10 days if we have to have another meeting or not.

We are working on Administrative Rules for the Injured Veteran Grant program. The original set of Rules said they had to be hospitalized 30 days but did not have a time limit. We can't have applications five years down the road saying they were hospitalized 30 days. We are going to address that and either look at 180 days or within a year.

We are awaiting word from Washington D.C. for the date Staff Sgt. Salvator Guínta will be presented his Medal of Honor award. He will be the first living recipient of the Medal of Honor from the State of Iowa since the Vietnam period. We are anticipating it is going to be at the White House but we are not sure of that yet.

Cemetery update:

Patrick passed around interment numbers for the last two years. This year has really increased. July, August and September are not included in the spreadsheet, but as of today, they have 648 burials. It has definitely increased over the last two months. Last Saturday, we dedicated DAV's monument in the cemetery. There are now four different service

organizations' monuments on the memorial walk. There are still three more organizations that are doing drawings. We also continue to get applications for those in memory of markers.

Our triennial inspection by the National Cemetery Administration was held on August 31. We will be inspected once every three years. This is one year earlier than when we thought we would be inspected because we have only been open two years. Patrick explained the inspection process and how it went.

In response to a question, Patrick explained the process of how groups can propose a veterans memorial for the cemetery. Marine Corps League, Submariners and the Ex-POWs each have one pending.

Budget: Patrick passed out the Veterans Affairs budget packet and reviewed the appropriation requests for the Commission, cemetery, IDVA and all other programs and funds under the Department.

Commissioner Jacobus announced that on Saturday at the Iowa State/UNI football game, the Iowa Lottery will present a check to him on behalf of the Commission for \$6 million.

In response to a question, Patrick indicated he will be filling Kent's position.

After short discussion, Patrick stated any money left in the County Grants fund will be placed in a training budget for national training.

In response to a question from the audience, the commissioner training is in April for the Spring School and continuing education units are in the fall. Lengthy discussion continued.

SPPG Contract: Mr. Rosmann thanked the Commission for this opportunity to be working on these issues. Since 2007 we have been working on veterans issues and it is fantastic to have this opportunity to actually implement the work of the various task forces.

Jennifer Furler and Jon Rosmann introduced themselves. Jennifer explained they work for an organization called State Public Policy Group (SPPG). They are a consulting firm and often contract with state government and non-profit organizations to help them achieve a variety of goals. It has been a pleasure for them to work with the Department and Commission members and a variety of other stakeholders who volunteered their time over the last couple of years to

develop recommendations related to improving veterans benefits. They will review mental health recommendations that have recently come out from their task force. This came from 2007 legislation on the study of veterans benefits and identifying the inefficiencies for Iowa veterans and what they would need. The Department of Veterans Affairs put out an RFP and they responded. SPPG received that contract and facilitated the task force and released a report. There was a lot of interest in addressing mental health issues. So the Commission contracted with SPPG to continue that work and convened a different type of group to develop some recommendations specifically related to mental health.

A packet was handed out entitled, "Veterans Mental Health Task Force Report Executive Summary." The Executive Summary is separated into two sections outlining the issues and the recommendations.

They did a lot of research and outreach, focus groups with veterans around the state and county service officers, service organizations. They looked around at other states. One of the recommendations from 2008 was to convene an advisory group to the Department and Commission to specifically look at the issues of mental health and devote the kind of time that an issue like that needs to thoroughly look at the issues and to figure out how to start addressing and enhancing services and support at the state level for veterans.

Jon and Jennifer reviewed the issues and recommendations and talked about each one. Now they are meeting with stakeholders to figure out who may want to partnership, what the interest is and specific recommendations from some of the organizations that might partner and figuring out what the next steps are for each of them. Some of them may have legislative components, some of them it is just a matter of taking the next step and getting a work plan to implement. Some of these are going to be more of a process, so they are working through each one. After meeting with organizations and individuals trying to figure out which recommendations are going to be applicable to each organization, they will have a better idea of what specifically needs to be done for a course of action for each of the nine recommendations.

Chairperson McMartin commented they are invited to bring an update to the next Commission Meeting in January.

Meeting Break: A meeting break was taken from 11:41 to 11:58 a.m.

IVH Update: Chairperson McMartin introduced David Worley as the new IVH Commandant.

David explained he began working at IVH on August 1. He is a veteran of the United States Army, former US Army Jump Master. He went in the Army nearly 30 years ago. His wife is currently serving in the United States Army and

she's been over in Iraq for about five weeks. He is honored to be part of the mission here. He truly feels like he's been training his whole life to do this job. This is an amazing facility. The Iowa Veterans Home is one of the finest facilities in the country. It is the third largest Veterans Home in the country. What we do here is pretty simple. We take care of our residents and those residents are made up of veterans and their spouses. David briefed those in attendance on his background.

David turned the meeting over to Diana Steiner, Budget Analyst.

Diana handed out the IVH budget packet. Diana reviewed IVH's past budget and next year's appropriation for IVH and the Canteen Fund.

The meeting was turned over to Greg Wright, Business Manager. Greg reviewed the Capitals and each of the five projects listed.

Commissioner Mulcahy made a motion to approve the IVH Appropriation Request, Canteen fund and Capital Projects Request. Second by Commissioner Jacobus. There was no further discussion. Roll call vote taken: Commissioner Delamore: yes; Commissioner Dirks Haugsted: yes; Commissioner Jacobus: yes; Commissioner Mulcahy: yes; Commissioner Wallace: yes; Commissioner Waychus: yes; Chairperson McMartin: yes. Motion carried.

Greg explained we have a cap on banking facilities for how much money we can have on deposit at any particular time. Right now we have \$4 million authorized. Just recently we hit \$3.8 million. Greg asked the Commission to revise the \$4 million to \$10 million. If we exceed any balance of the authorization in any of these banks, the Auditor's Office will cite us in an audit report. It is a control feature by the state.

Commissioner Mulcahy made a motion to approve a \$10 million cap on the banking facilities. Second by Commissioner Waychus. There was no further discussion. Roll call vote taken: Commissioner Delamore: yes; Commissioner Dirks Haugsted: yes; Commissioner Jacobus: yes; Commissioner Mulcahy: yes; Commissioner Wallace: yes; Commissioner Waychus: yes; Chairperson McMartin: yes. Motion carried.

Greg then reviewed IVH's construction grants that are being funded through the State Veterans Home Construction Grant Program in Washington D.C.



The meeting was turned back to David.

David explained the Fox and Ulery Buildings are part of Phase 1. Phase 2 will be the Fleming Building. Phase 3 will be Sheeler and Loftus and then Phase 4, long-term down the road, will be taking down Heinz Hall and putting up a new building. The Fox Building is 60 beds. There are four 15-bed households that are connected by a common area.

We are going to move Dack 4 residents to the Fox Pavilion, along with residents from other areas. When we move to the Ulery Building, we are going to move Loftus and Sheeler residents, which are two of our specialty care units, along with other residents. That will fill our 120 beds. That will happen a little later than a year from now.

In response to a question regarding feeding Dack residents, David explained while the Dack dayrooms are under construction, staff (after taking a PNA class) are assisting residents with dining if they do not eat in the Dack or Malloy dining rooms. Some are eating their meals in their room or on the unit. This will continue until the construction on the dayrooms is completed.

David brought up the issue of employee smoking. A law passed that said no smoking on state property with the Iowa Veterans Home and casinos exempt. He read through the files. We were changing the rules and changing the policies. The Union filed a grievance. We made an agreement, but did not have a written agreement on any grievance so there is no official resolution to that particular grievance. No matter what decision we make, we are going to frustrate 66 percent of the people. I've been approached by almost everybody with an opinion on this. So if anybody has an opinion that makes everybody happy, I'm more than willing to listen. The current policy is that employees can smoke in the parking lot, in their vehicle, or standing outside their vehicle. That creates a problem because then people will take a lawn chair out and sit down and that frustrates some. Some people think we shouldn't smoke at all. Across the courtyard there is a little area outside the Dack LRC. No one has to walk by there so no one is going to have to deal with second hand smoke. It is a small area. It is accessible for every employee except for the Heinz Hall staff to get there relatively quickly. They won't be able to smoke outside their cars anymore. They only smoke on their official breaks and on their lunch times. I believe at one time it was suggested here that nobody should smoke on state property. They are looking to me as the Commandant to make a decision and I'm ready to make a decision and move forward. I'm asking for your support. If you have another resolution to make, whatever the Commission decides, that's what I have to follow through on.

Commissioner Mulcahy explained the Commission has voted twice that we not allow smoking by anyone but residents at IVH. Previous commandants said the Union wouldn't let them and I still have a problem with the Union running this

place. I think the Commission ought to set policy for this, we have set policy, that there's no smoking allowed by anyone but residents, and that includes guests and employees. That stands until someone makes a motion to change that. If the Union wants to file a grievance with this, let them file a grievance and let's go through the arbitration process and let's see where it goes. Because that's our policy. Now, if the Governor directs you to do something different, then that's what you need to do because he's your boss. But currently, as it stands, unless there's a motion made, the policy of this Commission is no smoking.

David replied that's not the policy we've been enforcing. IVH policy states staff can smoke in the cars and standing outside the cars. David explained he wants to move forward.

Commissioner Mulcahy made a motion that they reiterate the Commission's previous vote that no smoking be allowed by anyone on the Iowa Veterans Home property other than residents.

Commissioner Waychus made a motion for what the Commandant wants. It's been a difficult situation. He's the new Commandant, why don't we support him. I would make a motion to do that and move forward.

Chairperson McMartin stated we have a motion from Commissioner Mulcahy. She asked for a second to allow no smoking on the Iowa Veterans Home property.

David explained his job is to enforce the policies and procedures set forth by the Commission. Regardless of what has happened in the past, he will enforce the policies that are set forth by the Commission, whether he agrees with them or not.

David responded that the current statute says that the Iowa Veterans Home is exempt from the recently written law, that is all it says. It's very vague other than it says IVH is exempt. It doesn't say who it is exempt for. Discussion continued.

Chairperson McMartin called for a second on Commissioner Mulcahy's motion to enforce the no smoking for anyone other than residents in the facility. The motion died for a lack of a second. There is a motion from Commissioner Waychus to support a smoking area designated by the Commandant for the employees and the residents themselves.

Commissioner Dirks Haugsted asked David what percentage of employees he would be catering to if he designated an area? David replied it would probably be 45 to 50 percent.

Second by Commissioner Wallace. In response to a question, David replied IVH has procedures in place to give 30 days notice when major changes are made to a policy. A smoking cessation program is also provided.

Roll call vote taken: Commissioner Delamore: yes; Commissioner Dirks-Haugsted: yes; Commissioner Jacobus: no; Commissioner Mulcahy: no; Commissioner Wallace: yes; Commissioner Waychus: yes; Chairperson McMartin: no. Motion passed.

Chairperson McMartin asked if the Union can still grieve? David stated yes, they can still file a grievance. They have that right.

David thanked them. If you have any questions, you can always contact him.

Chairperson McMartin explained IVH's liaison on the Commission is Commissioner Mulcahy.

Revised Rules  
for the Trust Fund:

Chairperson McMartin explained before Kent left, he gave an overview of the Trust Fund to bring Commissioners on board and we need to make sure that everybody is on board as to what the criteria is for Trust Fund applications. Discussion revolved around the Trust Fund guidelines, changes they would like to make to the application and what they would need for different requests.

Outreach: PSA Quick  
Books:

Commissioner Waychus explained the Federal Quick Book came out in January. She has been working with the Quick series publisher to incorporate the Veterans Benefits from the State of Iowa in the front and added all of the county service officers by county and their phone number. We are trying to keep it under 60 pages. To alter a book, it costs \$25,000 and order 5,000 books. Commissioner Waychus asked the Commission for \$30,000. At that time, the counties can order this book that we created, which is incorporating Iowa and the Federal Benefits together, with their own front cover. With the 5,000 books, I would like to ask if we can distribute some to every county so they can see them and give the rest to Pat for distribution.

Commissioner Waychus made a motion to request \$30,000 to purchase the Quick Book Series and get that formulated and distributed. Second by Commissioner Mulcahy. In response to a question, the cost is based on how many books you order. The standard books are \$6.25 a piece. Chairperson McMartin reiterated there is a motion for \$30,000 to go ahead and produce them out of the license plate fund. There was no further discussion. Roll call vote taken: Commissioner

Delamore: yes; Commissioner Dirks-Haugsted: yes; Commissioner Jacobus: yes; Commissioner Mulcahy: yes; Commissioner Wallace: yes; Commissioner Waychus: yes; Chairperson McMartin: yes. Motion carried.

PSA: Discussion revolved around public service announcements. Several avenues were suggested. Commissioners Waychus and Dirks Haugsted will work together on this.

A company advertised donating \$500 for every sunroom they sold by 8/31/10. No one knew if any money was donated or whether they sold any sunrooms. Concerns arose that permission was not granted to this company to use the Iowa Veterans Trust Fund logo.

New Business:  
VNRC: Commissioner Mulcahy introduced Bob Krause and James Marren. James passed around blue folders with their Prospectus for a Veterans National Recovery Center for the Homeless and PTSD Distressed (VNRC) at the Former VA facility in Knoxville, Iowa. Mr. Krause thanked Commissioner McMartin for inviting them.

The Veterans National Recovery Center (VNRC) offers an integrated services center that provides training, counseling, personal connectivity and environment to on-site residents in order to lift even the most discouraged homeless veteran off of the floor of life and place him or her in a sustainable home environment. Veterans across the country are welcome with a "bus ticket and a DD-214." Veterans from underserved areas (rural and suburban) and problem homeless veterans receive a priority. The VNRC provides valuable research and solutions to the problems of homelessness among veterans through actual work with a complete cross-section of homeless veterans, and provides outreach to the nation concerning research and solutions.

The Knoxville facility has a 900 – 1400 bed capacity with 39 buildings that are expansible and contractible for program needs. It is an ideal situation for a national homeless center for vets. It gives a very high level of visibility in the state if this becomes a reality. The VA pays a per diem of \$35 per day per veteran. He believes they could handle approximately 400 veterans.

They will be putting in some grant applications to fund this program. The VA has a dummy grant application so they will do a mock up on the grant application, then when the official RFP comes out in January, they will alter their dummy application to fit what they want at that time. There are three components, a capital component, an operations component (which is the two-year transitional program for homeless veterans) and the bus transportation program to get veterans back and forth to the various vet facilities. This is a residential recovery center.

Mr. Krause requested a letter of support to the VA at their upcoming public hearing (which may be in November), a letter of support to the Congressional delegation in anticipation of grant applications, appropriate staff support/assistance for grant preparation and ongoing monitoring by the Iowa Veterans Commission.

Chairperson McMartin thanked Mr. Krause for his presentation.

Legislative  
Resolutions:

The Commission reviewed resolutions from the Iowa Veterans Council and from the American Legion. Commissioner Mulcahy briefed members on an anti-epileptic drug switching resolution received recently. The Association will not have any resolutions until January.

Commissioner Mulcahy made a motion to support these resolutions as a commission. Second by Commissioner Waychus. There was no further discussion. Roll call vote taken: Commissioner Delamore: yes; Commissioner Dirks Haugsted: yes; Commissioner Jacobus: yes; Commissioner Mulcahy: yes; Commissioner Wallace: yes; Commissioner Waychus: yes; Chairperson McMartin: yes. Motion carried.

Public Comment:

Darlene thanked everyone for coming.

John Derner briefed those in attendance that the IRS changed their regulations back in 2006 and any non-church, non-profit is required to file at least an informational return with the IRS. If you did not file one over the past three years, you automatically lose your tax exempt status on October 15. The IRS just published a list on their website. He found 161 American Legion posts and 100 Auxiliary units are in danger of losing their tax exempt status. They have offered a one-time relief. You have until October 15 to get those documents in. Please pass that on to the other organizations.

Elizabeth Ledvina again asked Patrick to send a letter out to Supervisors telling people they don't have to come to the training. Lengthy discussion followed.

Events:

Commissioner Jacobus announced General Tommy Franks, retired Commander of the United States Central Command, will be at Camp Dodge at 8 a.m. on 9/30/10 to the Freedom Center, Building S70 at Camp Dodge. There will be an event on the drill floor and the public is welcome to attend.

Commissioner Jacobus also announced due to a lot of frustration about not having dates of events taking place, what was going on and when, he has started putting together a chronological list of veterans' events. If organizations want information on that list, send the information and point of contact to Commissioner Jacobus by e-mail. He will send out updated information every Thursday. Anyone who wants on the list, please let him know and he will add you to the distribution list.

Our next Commission Meeting is on January 5, and then we have our Veterans Day on the Hill January 19.

Chairperson McMartin asked everyone to get back to her in a couple of weeks and e-mail your thoughts on Bob Krause's program and vote on whether we want to support that or not.

Chairperson McMartin again reiterated the next meeting is January 5 at the Camp Dodge campus for our meeting at 10 a.m. at the museum. Legislative Day on the Hill is January 19. We still meet on a monthly basis for the Trust Fund, 8 a.m., first Wednesday of every month. Any of the Commission that is not on the subcommittee is eligible to listen in on those meetings if at all possible, or anyone else that wants to listen in on those meetings.

For the new commissioners, Commissioner Mulcahy explained what the commissioners do for Veterans Day on the Hill.

- Trust Fund Apps:  
000023: After discussion, Commissioner Mulcahy made a motion to pay. Second by Commissioner Waychus. Vote taken; motion approved unanimously. Application approved.
- 000357: After discussion, Commissioner Mulcahy made a motion to deny. Second by Commissioner Waychus. Vote taken; motion approved unanimously. Application denied.
- 000373: After discussion, Commissioner Waychus made a motion to defer for medical. Second by Commissioner Mulcahy. Vote taken; motion approved unanimously. Application approved to defer for medical.
- 000404: After discussion, Commissioner Waychus made a motion to defer for a professional statement that there is a safety hazard. Second by Commissioner Delamore. Vote taken; motion approved unanimously. Application deferred.
- 000407: After discussion, Commissioner Waychus made a motion to deny. Second by Commissioner Mulcahy. Vote taken; motion approved unanimously. Application denied.

Iowa Commission of Veterans Affairs  
Wednesday, September 22, 2010 - 10:00 a.m.  
Ford Memorial Conference Room

Darlene McMartin, Chairperson

Nancy Morford, Admin. Assist.  
Meeting Secretary

- 000409: After discussion, Commissioner Mulcahy made a motion to defer. Second by Commissioner Dirk Haugsted. Vote taken; motion approved unanimously. Application deferred.
- 000410: After discussion, Commissioner Waychus made a motion to deny. Second by Commissioner Mulcahy. Vote taken; motion approved unanimously. Application denied.
- Next Meeting: The next Iowa Commission of Veterans Affairs meeting will be held Wednesday, January 5, 2010, 10:00 a.m., Camp Dodge, Johnston, Iowa.
- ADJOURNMENT: With no other business to come before the group, the meeting adjourned at 2:47 p.m.

nlm  
comm mtg 11/5/10  
12/1-6/10