Veteran Assistance Commission

of Will County

2400 Glenwood Ave. Ste 110 Joliet, IL 60432

Ph: (815)740-8389 Fax: (815)740-4329

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Oct. 11, 2022** | **Commission of the Whole**  **302 N. Chicago St., Joliet, IL** | **6:00PM** |

**EDITED AND REVISED ON 12/07/2022 BY ANNAMARIE DENEEN**

1. **Call to Order:**
2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
3. **Invocation**
4. **A. Roll Call of Executive Board**

**B. Roll Call of Members of the Veterans Assistance Commission**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **VAC Commission** | | |
| **Attendee Name** | **Title** | **Status** |
| Jack Picciolo | President | E |
| Vacant | Vice President |  |
| Denise Williams | Secretary | P |
| Amanda Koch | Sgt-At-Arms | P |
| Jim Singler | Chaplain | P |
| Tom Mlynek | Member | E |
| Janet Blue | Member | P |
| Steve Benicke | Member | P |
| Vic Martinka | Past Chairman | P |
| John York | Past Chairman | E |
| Wayne Horne | Past Chairman | P |
| **Delegates/Alternates** | **Posts** |  |
| No Delegate | AL 2000 Mokena | A |
| No Delegate | AL 1977 New Lenox | A |
| No Delegate | AL 1291 Crete | A |
| Janet Blue/David Batzek | AL 1200 Monee | Janet Blue  Executive Board Member |
| Thomas Horn/Gary Stieg | AL 1080 Joliet (1080) | A |
| John Kestel/Robert Angone | AL 935 Manhattan | Robert Angone |
| Joey Smith/Lisa Smith | AL 521 Steger | A |
| Robert Krueger/Rick Bolanowski | AL 392 Peotone | Robert Krueger |
| John Gavin/James Shaw | AL 241 Joliet Buffalo Soldiers | A |
| No Delegate | AL 191 Wilmington | A |
| Steven Benicke/Steven Daley | AL 52 Romeoville | Steve Benicke  Executive Board Member |
| Dale Fraher/James Chappell | AL 39 Braidwood | A |
| Mike Myers/Tom Jost | AL 18 Lockport | Tom Jost |
| William Sutton/Raj Pillai | AL 13 Plainfield | Raj Pillai |
| No Delegate | VFW 9545 New Lenox | A |
| No Delegate | VFW 8283 Steger | A |
| John Davin/Larry Shaver | VFW 5917 Bolingbrook | Larry Shaver |
| No Delegate | VFW 5819 Lemont | A |
| Keith Carberry/Ernest Errico | VFW 5788 Lockport | A |
| Jennifer Piehl/Wally Wink | VFW 5422 Wilmington | Jennifer Piehl |
| Kevin Pomykala | VFW 2199 Joliet (Stone City) | Kevin Pomykala |
| Amanda Koch/David Koch | VFW 1493 Frankfort | Amanda Koch  Executive Board Member |
| James Hogan/No alternate | VFW 725 Mokena | A |
| Lou Smith/Jim Clausen | VFW 367 Joliet (Cantigny) | Jim Clausen |
| Joseph Kelley | MOAA | Joseph Kelley |

Alternates/Delegates/Posts not called or recognized:

Joseph Kelley, Military Officers Association of America (added to roster)

Gary Stieg (recorded above in roll)

Call for motion to nominate Amanda Koch as President Pro Tempore in the absence of President Jack Picciolo

Motion for Amanda Koch to act as President Pro Tempore in the absence of President Jack Picciolo

FIRST: Blue

SECOND: Benicke

Roll Call Vote:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name** | **Title** | **Yes** | **No** |
| Denise Williams | Secretary | X |  |
| Amanda Koch | Sgt-at-Arms | X |  |
| Jim Singler | Chaplain | X |  |
| Janet Blue | Member | X |  |
| Steve Benicke | Member | X |  |
| Vic Martinka | Past Chairman | X |  |
| Wayne Horne | Past Chairman | X |  |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **POST** | **REPRESENTATIVE** | **YES** | **NO** |
| AL 2000 Mokena |  |  |  |
| AL 1977 New Lenox |  |  |  |
| AL 1291 Crete |  |  |  |
| AL 1200 Monee |  |  |  |
| AL 1080 Joliet | Gary Steig | X |  |
| AL 935 Manhattan | Robert Angone | X |  |
| AL 521 Steger |  |  |  |
| AL 392 Peotone | Robert Krueger | X |  |
| AL 241 Joliet |  |  |  |
| AL 191 Wilmington |  |  |  |
| AL 52 Romeoville |  |  |  |
| AL 5 Joliet |  |  |  |
| AL 39 Braidwood |  |  |  |
| AL 18 Lockport | Tom Jost | X |  |
| AL 13 Plainfield | Raj Pallai |  | x |
| VFW 9545 New Lenox |  |  |  |
| VFW 8283 Steger |  |  |  |
| VFW 5917 Bolingbrook | John Davin | X |  |
| VFW 5788 Lockport |  |  |  |
| VFW 5422 Wilmington | Jennifer Piehl | X |  |
| VFW 2199 Joliet | Kevin Pomykala |  |  |
| VFW 1493 Frankfort |  |  |  |
| VFW 725 Mokena |  |  |  |
| VFW 367 Joliet | Jim Clausen | X |  |
| MOAA | Joseph Kelley | X |  |

**YES: 15**  **NO: 1**

**PASS**

1. **Introduction of Guests and/or First Time Attendees:**
2. **Public Comment on All Matters Relevant to the WCVAC:**

John Kraft, Edgar County Watch Dogs

Raj Pallai, Alternate AL 13

Kirk Allen, Edgar County Watch Dogs

Kristi McNichol, Previous Superintendent

Mike Dean, VFW 5788

Larry Shaver, 5917 Bolingbrook

John Castanada, AL 13 Post Commander

John Davin, 5917 Bolingbrook

1. **Minutes of Previous Meeting(s):**
   * 1. 14 Jun 2022
        1. Discussion:
        2. Motion:
     2. 12 Jul 2022
        1. Discussion:
        2. Motion:
     3. 09 Aug 2022
        1. Discussion:
        2. Motion:
     4. Special Executive Meeting 29 Aug 2022
        1. Discussion:
        2. Motion:
     5. Special Executive Meeting 01 Sep 2022
        1. Discussion:
        2. Motion:
     6. Commission of the Whole 13 Sep 2022
        1. Discussion
        2. Motion
     7. Closed Session of 30 Mar 2022
        1. Discussion:
        2. Motion:

Motion to table all minutes until Biennial Election Meeting, Friday, October 14, 2022

FIRST: Blue

SECOND: Benicke

ROLE CALL VOTE:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name** | **Title** | **Yes** | **No** |
| Denise Williams | Secretary | X |  |
| Amanda Koch | Sgt-at-Arms | X |  |
| Jim Singler | Chaplain | X |  |
| Janet Blue | Member | X |  |
| Steve Benicke | Member | X |  |
| Vic Martinka | Past Chairman | X |  |
| Wayne Horne | Past Chairman | X |  |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **POST** | **REPRESENTATIVE** | **YES** | **NO** |
| AL 2000 Mokena |  |  |  |
| AL 1977 New Lenox |  |  |  |
| AL 1291 Crete |  |  |  |
| AL 1200 Monee |  |  |  |
| AL 1080 Joliet | Gary Steig | X |  |
| AL 935 Manhattan | Robert Angone | X |  |
| AL 521 Steger |  |  |  |
| AL 392 Peotone | Robert Krueger |  |  |
| AL 241 Joliet |  |  |  |
| AL 191 Wilmington |  |  |  |
| AL 52 Romeoville |  |  |  |
| AL 5 Joliet |  |  |  |
| AL 39 Braidwood |  |  |  |
| AL 18 Lockport | Tom Jost | X |  |
| AL 13 Plainfield | Raj Pallai | X |  |
| VFW 9545 New Lenox |  |  |  |
| VFW 8283 Steger |  |  |  |
| VFW 5917 Bolingbrook | John Davin | X |  |
| VFW 5788 Lockport |  |  |  |
| VFW 5422 Wilmington | Jennifer Piehl | X |  |
| VFW 2199 Joliet | Kevin Pomykala | X |  |
| VFW 1493 Frankfort |  |  |  |
| VFW 725 Mokena |  |  |  |
| VFW 367 Joliet | Jim Clausen | X |  |
| MOAA | Joseph Kelley | X |  |

**YES: 16**  **NO:**

**PASS: Unanimous**

Motion to table minutes b, c, d, e, and f

FIRST: Williams

SECOND: Benicke

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Motion amended to use previous roll call vote

FIRST: Horne

SECOND: Pallai

Motion to have closed session meeting minutes of March 30, 2022, remain closed

FIRST: Williams

Motion Amended to Motion to Approve closed session minutes of March 30, 2022

FIRST: Williams

SECOND: Horne

Superseding Motion to table closed session meeting minutes of March 30, 2022

FIRST: Pallai

SECOND: Davin

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name** | **Title** | **Yes** | **No** |
| Denise Williams | Secretary |  | X |
| Amanda Koch | Sgt-at-Arms |  | X |
| Jim Singler | Chaplain |  | X |
| Janet Blue | Member | X |  |
| Steve Benicke | Member | X |  |
| Vic Martinka | Past Chairman | X |  |
| Wayne Horne | Past Chairman |  | x |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **POST** | **REPRESENTATIVE** | **YES** | **NO** |
| AL 2000 Mokena |  |  |  |
| AL 1977 New Lenox |  |  |  |
| AL 1291 Crete |  |  |  |
| AL 1200 Monee |  |  |  |
| AL 1080 Joliet | Gary Steig |  | X |
| AL 935 Manhattan | Robert Angone | X |  |
| AL 521 Steger |  |  |  |
| AL 392 Peotone | Robert Krueger | X |  |
| AL 241 Joliet |  |  |  |
| AL 191 Wilmington |  |  |  |
| AL 52 Romeoville |  |  |  |
| AL 5 Joliet |  |  |  |
| AL 39 Braidwood |  |  |  |
| AL 18 Lockport | Tom Jost | X |  |
| AL 13 Plainfield | Raj Pallai | X |  |
| VFW 9545 New Lenox |  |  |  |
| VFW 8283 Steger |  |  |  |
| VFW 5917 Bolingbrook | John Davin | X |  |
| VFW 5788 Lockport |  |  |  |
| VFW 5422 Wilmington | Jennifer Piehl | X |  |
| VFW 2199 Joliet | Kevin Pomykala | X |  |
| VFW 1493 Frankfort |  |  |  |
| VFW 725 Mokena |  |  |  |
| VFW 367 Joliet | Jim Clausen | X |  |
| MOAA | Joseph Kelley | X |  |

**YES: 12**  **NO: 5**

PASSED

1. **Old Business:**
2. **New Business:**

**A. Nominations of Officers:**

* + 1. President:
       1. Amanda Koch – Benicke/Horne; Accepted
       2. Joseph Kelley – Pillai/Angone; Accepted
    2. Vice President:
       1. Steve Benicke- Blue/Horne; Accepted
       2. John Davin- Pallai/Angone; Accepted
    3. Secretary:
       1. Denise Williams; Blue;

-Williams advised she is not eligible

2. None-Position OPEN, to be appointed

* + 1. Sgt-At-Arms:
       1. Janet Blue-Benicke/Williams; accepted
       2. Larry Shaver-Pallai; not current delegate/not eligible
    2. Chaplain:
       1. Jim Singler-Krueger/Clausen; not accepted
       2. Jim Clausen-Williams/Benicke; accepted
    3. Member at Large (2 year)-Open:
       1. Jennifer Peihl-Williams/Horne; accepted
    4. Member at Large (3 year)-Pending:

Clarified-This position would be to fulfill the remaining term of the current Board member if that member is elected to the position of Sgt-at-Arms.

* + - 1. None
    1. Member at Large (4 year)-Open:
       1. James Castaneda-nominated by member of the audience/not valid
       2. James Castaneda-nominated by Williams/Clausen; accepted; Nominee clarified he is the Commander of Plainfield AL 13, not delegate or alternate; nomination declined/not accepted
       3. None

Discussion: President Pro Tem asked for any other nominations, none given.

1. **Other New Business:**
2. **Superintendents Report:** 
   1. **Award Log:** 4.65 million YTD for FY2022
   2. **Emergency Shelter Grant**: All ESG funds exhausted, using FEMA funds of $30K.
   3. **Financial Assistance Report:** 6 veterans being assisted
      1. Shelter: $350.00
      2. Gas: $62.30
      3. Electric: $182.00
      4. Personal Products: $150.00
      5. Food: $0.00

Motion to accept Superintendent’s report as presented.

FIRST: Blue

SECOND: Benicke

Discussion: Blue requested numbers of veterans receiving assistance under shelter, gas, electric, etc. be reported.

Roll call Vote:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name** | **Title** | **Yes** | **No** |
| Denise Williams | Secretary |  | X |
| Amanda Koch | Sgt-at-Arms | x |  |
| Jim Singler | Chaplain |  | X |
| Janet Blue | Member | X |  |
| Steve Benicke | Member | X |  |
| Vic Martinka | Past Chairman | X |  |
| Wayne Horne | Past Chairman |  | x |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **POST** | **REPRESENTATIVE** | **YES** | **NO** |
| AL 2000 Mokena |  |  |  |
| AL 1977 New Lenox |  |  |  |
| AL 1291 Crete |  |  |  |
| AL 1200 Monee |  |  |  |
| AL 1080 Joliet | Gary Steig | X |  |
| AL 935 Manhattan | Robert Angone | X |  |
| AL 521 Steger |  |  |  |
| AL 392 Peotone | Robert Krueger | X |  |
| AL 241 Joliet |  |  |  |
| AL 191 Wilmington |  |  |  |
| AL 52 Romeoville |  |  |  |
| AL 5 Joliet |  |  |  |
| AL 39 Braidwood |  |  |  |
| AL 18 Lockport | Tom Jost | X |  |
| AL 13 Plainfield | Raj Pallai | X |  |
| VFW 9545 New Lenox |  |  |  |
| VFW 8283 Steger |  |  |  |
| VFW 5917 Bolingbrook | John Davin | X |  |
| VFW 5788 Lockport |  |  |  |
| VFW 5422 Wilmington | Jennifer Piehl | X |  |
| VFW 2199 Joliet | Kevin Pomykala | X |  |
| VFW 1493 Frankfort |  |  |  |
| VFW 725 Mokena |  |  |  |
| VFW 367 Joliet | Jim Clausen | X |  |
| MOAA | Joseph Kelley | X |  |

**YES: 15**  **NO: 2**

1. **For Good of the Commission**
   * + 1. Davin read Bylaws re: elected officers must submit DD214 or other qualifying documents within 30 days.
       2. Koch reminded requirement of organization to have minimum 25% of membership resident in Will County.
2. **Executive Committee Closed Session to discuss the following subjects:**

a) **PERSONNEL:** The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific VAC employees (5 ILCS 5/120/2(c)(1)).

b) **PENDING or THREATENED LITIGATION:** A pending legal action against, affecting or on behalf of the VAC, VAC Board, or a similar legal action that is probable or imminent (5 ILCS 5/120/2(c)(11)).

1. No business to discuss.

1. **Adjournment:**

Motion to Adjourn:

FIRST: Horne

SECOND: Blue

**VAC Biennial Election Meeting**

**13 Oct 2022 3:00pm**

**Will County Executive Bldg.**

**302 N. Chicago St., Joliet IL**

**Attachments:**

**-**14 Jun 2022 Minutes

-12 Jul 2022 Minutes

-09 Aug 2022 Minutes

-29 Aug 2022 Special Executive Minutes

-01 Sep 2022 Special Executive Minutes

-13 Sep 2022 Minutes

-30 Mar 2022 Closed Session Minutes

-WCVAC Bylaws