



Veterans Assistance Commission of Will County

2400 Glenwood Ave. Ste 110 Joliet, IL 60435
Ph: (815)740-8389 Fax: (815)740-4329 Superintendent Jen Solum



March 14th, 2023

Commission Meeting
Marne American Legion Post 13
24741 Renwick Rd, Plainfield, IL 60544

6:00PM

I. CALL TO ORDER (6:00 PM)

- A. Pledge of Allegiance
- B. Opening Prayer

II. ROLL CALL ATTENDEES:

POST	DELEGATE/ALTERNATE	PRESENT	ABSENT	EXCUSED
AL 5 Harwood Joliet	D: Joseph Kelley A: Gary Califello	Del		
AL 13 Marne Plainfield	D: Lisa McGlasson A: Raj Pillai	Del/Alt		
AL 18 John Olson Lockport	D: Mike Meyers A: Frank DiGiovanni		X	
AL 52 Romeoville	D: Stephen Benicke A: Steven Daley	Del		
AL 191 Lester Smith Wilmington	D: Ken Watt A: Frank Mlyniec	Del		
AL 392 Peotone	D: Robert Krueger A: Rick Bolonowski	Del/Alt		
AL 935 Manhattan	D: Robert Angone A: Vacant	Del		
AL 1080 Joliet	D: Tony Arellano A: A: Ricky Whitley	Del/Alt		
AL 1200 Monee	D: Janet Blue A: David Batzek		X	
AL 1288 Bolingbrook	D: Larry Shaver A: Wayne Macejak	Alt		
VFW 367 Cantigny Joliet	D: Jim Clausen A: Lou Smith	Del		
VFW 725 William Martin Mokena	D: James Hogan A: Paul Cravens	Del/Alt		
VFW 2199 Stone City Joliet	D: Kevin Pomykala A: Ron Adamski		X	

VFW 5422 Malcolm J Mayo Wilmington	D: Wally Wink A: Jennifer Piehl		X	
VFW 5788 Lockport	D: Keith Carberry A: Karen Szykowski	Del/Alt		
VFW 5819 Lemont	D: Kenneth Griffin A: Vacant	Del		
VFW 5917 Bolingbrook	D: John Davin A: Gregory Palmer	Del		
VFW 9545 Harry E Anderson New Lenox	D: Clarke Christiansen A: Donald Ibarra	Del		
Quorum is met		14	4	

III. ELECTION PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

- A. Motion – Angone nominates Pillai
No opposition: approved by acclimation

IV. INTRODUCTION OF GUEST AND/OR FIRST TIME ATTENDEES

Dale Fontana
Paul Kraven Post 725
Ken Leardi
Tony Arellano
Frank Goliardo

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

VI. MINUTES PREVIOUS MEETING

- A. February 21, 2023 – Motion to approve to accept
a. Motion – Ken Griffin
Second – Benicke
Voice Vote – unanimous – Motion Carries

VII. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

- A. Award Log – Erik Papineau presents report
discussion by McGlasson, Papineau, Solum
B. Emergency Shelter - Joe Martin presents report
No discussion
C. Financial Assistance - Jen Solum presents report
a. Motion to Accept
Motion – Ken Griffin
Second – Benicke
Voice Vote – unanimous – motion passes

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Nominations and Elections
Motion – Christensen
Second – Watt

Discussion

Superceding Motion to postpone the elections until the bylaws are accepted by Commission Motion – Christensen - If we were electing now, we would be electing under the old bylaws which are not within the MVAA

Second – Hogan

Discussion

McGlasson, Christensen, pertaining to the plan for finalizing the Bylaw committee’s

Benicke, Solum regarding signature of President Pro Tempore

Christensen states intention is to motion to approve pres pro tempore until new election

Roll Call Vote: Superceding Motion– Unanimous – motion carries

Voice Vote: Original Motion (regarding initial motion to open nominations and elections)–

Unanimous – Motion fails: Elections will not be held

- B. Adopt Illinois Department of Central Management Services salary plan for VSOs. a. Discussion – Presented by Solum

b. Motion to Approve adopting pay scale for State Service Officers

Motion – Griffin

Second – Benicke

Discussion – McGlasson, Solum, Pillai, Watt

Roll call – unanimous – cotion carries

- C. VSO Application Review Committee

McGlasson Makes motion to allow VAC staff to use internal selection process to hire the new VSO

Second – Christensen

Discussion – benicke, Griffin solum, Mcglasson

Voice Vote – Unanimous – Motion carries

- D. Auditor’s Report Recoupment of Unspent Funds from Hey G! Consulting

Presents letter from Auditor and letter from States Attorney. States attorney will not represent VAC in Civil Lawsuit.

Motion to accept Auditor’s report

Motion: McGlasson

Second: Krueger

Discussion – Jen need to hire legal representation in accordance with county procurement procedures.

Griffin asks if we have tried to pursue the money without lawsuit. Solum confirms we have not

Christensen states a lawyer is still needed to draft request letter.

McGlasson discusses the need to move forward with persuing.

Voice Vote – unanimous – Motion carries

Benicke comments on need to have parlementarian.

IX. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Update By-Law Review Committee

Christensen reports that there has been no committee meetings. Plans to present a draft at the next meeting.

- B. Draft Investigation Report

- a. Motion to accept Draft investigation report from internal investigator rec
Motion – Griffin
Second – Krueger
Roll Call Vote – unanimous – Motion Passes

X. FOR THE GOOD OF THE COMMISSION

- A. Every Tuesday: VSO Wiza Outreach at Orland Park Vet Center
- B. Every Thursday: Together We Stand Peer Support Group at VACWC Office Joe Martin
- C. Second Monday: VSO Papineau Outreach Manhattan American Legion 935 Breakfast
- D. Every Third Thursday: VSO Papineau Outreach at Peotone American Legion 392 E. Every Thursday: VSO Wiza Outreach at Joliet CBOC
Changing from AL 1200
Papineau updates future events.
Solum - Pictures - we would like to get pictures of Delegates and alternates to display in office
Mcglasson – free tax returns to Vets

Griffin asks if we should authorize staff to write letter to ask for money back
Jeff states there is no need for a motion since
Davin confirms letter will be certified
Pillai states if anyone has questions, they can come ask Himself or

XI. MOTION TO ADJOURN

- Motion: Krueger
- Second – Clausen
Voice Vote – Unanimous – Motion Carries

**Next Meeting Will Be Held On
April 11th, 2023 6:00PM
VFW 367 Cantigny
826 Horseshoe Dr
Joliet, IL 60435**