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Office Hours:
Monday- Friday
8:30 a.m.- 4:30 p.m.

NOVEMBER EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

NOVEMBER 02, 2022

1. Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance / Prayer / Roll Call of Executive Board Members

Annual notice of regular meetings of the Executive Board of the Veterans' Assistance Commission of Madison County, Inc., having been published in accordance with section 2.03 of the Open Meetings Act, and the notice and agenda of this meeting having been posted and published in accordance with section 2.02 of that Act, at 6:30 p.m., in Suite 115 of the County Administration Building, with the telephonic presence of President Hicks by Other Means, 1st Vice-President Earl Watts called the November 02, 2022 regular meeting of the Executive Board to order. The notice and agenda indicated that the meeting was to take place in the VAC at 157 North Main Street, Suite 115, Edwardsville, IL 62025. 1st Vice-President Watts directed all in attendance to stand and led attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance. 1st Vice-President Watts then called for a chaplain to lead the gathering in an opening prayer and Kate Broadhurst did so. 1st Vice-President Watts then advised that two (2) members, Ronnie Hicks and Mike Harbison, were present via Other Means and called for a vote. Motion was made by Ken Morales, seconded by Vern LeClaire to allow above mentioned members to attend via Other Means. By a unanimous roll-call vote 10-0, the motion carried. A copy of all meeting documents were provided to those attending via Other Means. 1st Vice-President Watts then directed the Secretary to call the roll of Executive Board Members to determine the presence of a quorum to do business.

Members Present: Earl Watts, Mark Nelson, Kate Broadhurst, Vernon LeClaire, Larry Meisenheimer, Ken Morales, Donald Scheyer, Ron Swaim

Members Present by Other Means: Ronnie Hicks, Mike Harbison

Members Excused: None

Members Unexcused: Wayne Able

VAC Office: Superintendent Brad Lavite

Guest: 13 as per sign-in

In accordance with Art. VI, §2 of the bylaws, there being six (6) or more Board Members attending, 1st Vice-President Watts declared a quorum was present. 1st Vice-President Watts then call for consideration of Minutes.

2. Minutes

- a. Motion was made by Donald Scheyer, seconded by Ron Swaim to approve the October 05, 2022 Executive Board Meeting Minutes as presented. By a unanimous roll-call vote 10-0, the motion carried. 1st Vice-President Watts then called for consideration of Reports.

3. Reports

- a. Superintendent Lavite presented the November 2022 Executive Board Report. Motion was made by Mark Nelson, seconded by Ken Morales to approve the report as presented. By a unanimous roll-call vote 10-0, the motion carried. The report(s) are to be filed for future reference. 1st Vice-President Watts then called for consideration of New Business.

4. New Business

- a. VAC Attorney Thomas Burkart provided a status of legal proceedings which included Illinois Department of Employment Security and Madison County State's Attorney surrounding the uncontested Unemployment Insurance Claim of VAC Terminated employees, Shannon Yount's complaint against the VAC to the Attorney General regarding Open Meeting Act Violations and the VAC's response to the Public Access Counselor and lastly the active Claim by Bradley Yount, represented by Leskera Law Firm, against the VAC arising from his Termination on August 29, 2022.
- b. After a brief discussion the Board decided to release of the August 25, 2022 Special Board Meeting Closed Session Recorded Audio. Motion was made by Ken Morales, seconded by Donald Scheyer to approve the release of the August 25, 2022 Special Board Meeting Closed Session Recorded Audio. By a unanimous roll-call vote 10-0, the motion carried.
- c. Motion was made by Kate Broadhurst, seconded by Ron Swaim to approve FY Annual Appreciation Dinner. By a unanimous roll-call vote 10-0, the motion carried.
- d. Superintendent Lavite advised the Board of the upcoming Winter IACVAC Board of Directors Meeting on February 03, 2022 in Peoria, IL.

1st Vice-President Watts then called for consideration of Unfinished Business.

5. Unfinished Business

- a. After reading, discussion and consideration the Board approved the August 03, 2022, August 10, 2022 and August 25, 2022 Deferred Executive Board of Directors Meeting Minutes with updates as follows.
 1. Motion was made by Mark Nelson, seconded by Larry Meisenheimer to approve the deferred August 03, 2022 Executive Board Meeting Minutes. By a unanimous roll-call vote 10-0, the motion carried.
 2. Motion was made by Ken Morales, seconded by Donald Scheyer to approve the deferred August 10, 2022 Executive Board Meeting Minutes. By a unanimous roll-call vote 10-0, the motion carried.
 3. Motion was made by Mark Nelson, seconded by Donald Scheyer to approve the deferred August 25, 2022 Executive Board Meeting Minutes. By a unanimous roll-call vote 10-0, the motion carried.
- b. Recognized by the Chair, VAC Attorney Thomas Burkart gave a brief presentation as to the Reconsideration of the July 06, 2022 Executive Board of Directors Meeting Minutes based on conflicting information.

The conflicting information presentation consisted of four (4) pages and was projected on the conference room TV for all in attendance to view. The presentation showed the conflicting information between what was voted on and published in the July 06, 2022 Minutes.

The conflicting information consisted of what now Terminated VAC Office Manager Brad Yount transcribed in the Minutes versus what VAC Secretary Kate Broadhurst wrote in her handwritten notes and her recollection as to context of what she meant. Terminated Office Manager Brad Yount wrote in New Business Item 7 (c) that "Office Manager Brad Yount **will be** promoted to the newly created Assistant Superintendent position" and Secretary Broadhurst wrote in her notes that "Brad L announced that Brad Y be moved as assistant superintendent **soon**". The Reconsideration of the July 06, 2022 Executive Board of Directors Meeting Minutes was discussed and it was decided to not change the July 06, 2022 Minutes as they were approved and published, but rather supplement the Minutes based on recollection of the consensus of VAC Board as per below:

The below supplemental information is in regards to the July 06, 2022 Minutes and is the recollection of the consensus of VAC Board at the November 02, 2022 Board Meeting regarding Unfinished Business Item 7 (b) on the Agenda.

1. 2nd Vice President Mark Nelson stated that his recollection was the nothing was set in stone and that the wording "will be promoted" was too strong of wording and the word "recommended" was more accurate. He remembers the plan being presented.
2. Board Member Ron Swaim stated that his recollection was that it was all just a proposal and that it would be left up to Superintendent Lavite when to move forward and that nothing was set in stone.
3. Board Member Mike Harbison stated that his recollection was it all just a proposal and that nothing was set in stone.
4. Correspondent Secretary Larry Meisenheimer agreed with Board Member Mike Harbison's recollection.
5. Recording Secretary and President Hicks re-reviewed the meeting minutes and notes and their recollection was that the wording was inaccurate.
6. VAC Attorney Thomas Burkart asked Recording Secretary Kate Broadhurst about overlooking the word "will" as utilized. VAC Attorney Thomas Burkart asked Kate if a mistake had been made. Kate admitted that there was a definite overlook and she objected to the use of the word "will" and that she stands behind her recollection and notes.
7. Guest Bradley Yount made a statement that the version of the July minutes that he drafted and that were approved by the Board at its regular August meeting were available to and supposed to be reviewed by the Superintendent prior to presentation to the Board.

- c. Superintendent Lavite discussed the history of the VAC Monuments and Memorial / VSO Grants and various ones throughout the County that the VAC and Board has been involved with over the years. Motion was made by Kate Broadhurst, seconded by Vernon LeClaire to approve the VAC Monuments and Memorial / VSO Grant applications. By a unanimous roll-call vote 9-0-1, the motion carried (Mike Harbison fell off the call during this motion and his vote was recorded as Abstained).

6. Pre-adjournment Opportunity to Address the Board

- a. There being no other new business to be brought before the Board, 1st Vice-President Watts called for anyone in attendance who wished to be recognized to address the Board. No one in attendance signaled that they wished to address the Board.

7. Next FY 2022 Meeting Date and Time

- a. Annual Meeting Thursday, December 15, 2022, at 6:30 p.m.

8. Good of the Commission

- a. Attendees were encouraged to attend upcoming Veterans Day events and programs
- b. Board Member Larry Meisenheimer delivered a passionate appeal regarding recent rumors he heard that were levied against VAC President Ronnie Hicks, Vietnam Combat Veteran and long-standing active member of the Veteran Community. Larry talked about Ronnie's time in Vietnam as a helicopter pilot and voiced his disdain surrounding the disparaging remarks he heard being made against President Hicks.

9. Adjournment

Motion was made by Ken Morales and seconded by Ron Swaim to adjourn. By unanimous Aye/No Voice Vote, the motion carried to adjourn the meeting. A salute was made to the U.S. Flag. Meeting adjourned at 8:33 p.m.

Kate Broadhurst / Recording Secretary / November 02, 2022