

Madison County Administration Bldg. Phone: 618.296.4554 157 North Main Street, Suite 115 Edwardsville, Illinois 62025-1963

Fox: 618.692.8958 Web: co.madison.il.us/mcvac 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Office Hours: Monday-Friday

# **RESOLUTION 22-2**

## SALARY ADJUSTMENTS

WHEREAS, the VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION of Madison County (VACMC) is an independent unit of local government under the Illinois Constitution, IL CONST Art. VII, Section 1, and the Illinois Public Aid Code, 305 ILCS 5/12-21.5; and

WHEREAS, the Governor of the State of Illinois signed into law on May 6, 2022 Public Act 102-0732, which was unanimously passed by both chambers of the Illinois General Assembly; and

WHEREAS, this Act clarified the relationship between Veterans Assistance Commissions and County Board regarding funding; and

WHEREAS, this Act further clarified that Veterans Assistance Commissions determine the number of Veterans Assistance Commission employees; and

WHEREAS, this Act further clarifies employees of the Veterans Assistance Commissions are not employees of the County and nothing in the Act should be construed as same; and

WHEREAS, this Act further clarifies that the VACMC may establish operational relationships with the County that live up to the Military Veterans Assistance Act and the mission of the VACMC; and

WHEREAS, the current veterans' population of the County of Madison is approximately 40,000 total veterans of which 21,500 veterans registered with benefits from the Federal Department of Veterans' Affairs and approximately 18,500 veterans not registered or receiving benefits from the Federal Department of Veterans' Affairs per the Federal Veterans' Health Administration; and

WHEREAS, the VACMC is the central service office for veterans and represents 5 Federally Chartered Veterans' Service Organizations across 28 post sites in the County of Madison; and

WHEREAS, the VACMC has increased the number of services provided from 11 Federal and State benefits and 4 social service programs in Fiscal Year 2018 to 52 Federal Benefits and 18 social service programs in Fiscal Year 2021; and

WHEREAS, the VACMC has seen compensation and pension claims submissions to the Federal Department of Veterans' Affairs increase from 547 in Fiscal Year 2018 to 895 in Fiscal Year 2021; and

WHEREAS, the VACMC has increased the economic impact as a direct result of compensation and pension claims filed with the Federal Department of Veterans' Affairs in Fiscal Year 2018 from \$992,130.00 to \$1,549,590.00 in Fiscal Year 2021; and

WHEREAS, the VACMC has increased Financial Assistance to bridge the gaps in basic needs of veterans, their families, and the families of deceased veterans from \$66,000.00 in Fiscal Year 2018 to \$96,000.00 in Fiscal Year 2021; and

WHEREAS, the VACMC has provided financial assistance along with auxiliary benefits and services to 85 veterans with total household members numbering 163 since Fiscal Year 2018; and 89% or 76 of those veterans, their families, and families of deceased veterans have successfully transitioned from local Financial Assistance to stabilized income streams via Federal Department of Veterans' Affairs, Social Security Administration, and gainful employment; and if but not for the VACMC, 163 residents of the County of Madison would have been at high risk of homelessness, and lacking basic human needs and services; and

#### **RESOLUTION 22-2 Cont'd**

WHEREAS, the VACMC currently is experiencing a six (6) week delay in the scheduling of appointments to provide needed vices and assistance to eligible veterans, their families, and the families of deceased veterans; *and*, the VACMC is required by law , provide all of the programs under Article VII and Article IX of the Illinois Public Aid Code, 305 ILCS 5/1.1 et. seq.; *and* 

WHEREAS, the VACMC is required by law to comply with 38 CFR § 14.629 in the completion of, and maintaining of VA Accreditation through the Federal Department of Veterans' Affairs Office of General Counsel for all staff engaged in the discussion, preparation, and filing of VA benefits and services annually.; and

WHEREAS, compliance with 38 CFR § 14.629 is enforceable in the State of Illinois by the Office of Attorney General, Military and Veterans' Rights Bureau through the Consumer Fraud and Deceptive Business Practices Act, 815 ILCS 505.; and

WHEREAS, this requires the VACMC to adhere to a regulatory burden of the federal regulation set forth by 38 CFR § 14.629 and Illinois State Act 815 ILCS 505; and

WHEREAS, the FY2023 Vertical and Horizontal Staffing Plan unanimously approved on 6 July, 2022 by the Executive Board of Directors of the VACMC has been determined to be just and necessary to provide needed services to veterans, their families, and the families of deceased veterans and to ensure proper compliance with federal and state statutes; *and* 

WHEREAS, WHEREAS, the Executive Board of Directors of the VACMC has determined this new growth plan will take several Fiscal Years to be fully recognized; and will begin with the implementation of new management positions to include an Assistant Superintendent, and a Benefits and Services Manager to better facilitate and carry out the spirit of the both federal and state statutes;; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Board of Directors of the VACMC have unanimously approved the timed and planned out implementation of this new Vertical and Horizontal Growth Plan on 6 July, 2022 In order to ensure compliance to the needed level of training, understanding, and scope of work as set forth by Federal and State statutes; *and* 

WHEREAS, the VACMC will foster an environment that more closely aligns to the governing statute of the Military Veterans' Assistance Act, 330 ILCS 45; and the policies and procedures where and when applicable according to the County Code 55 ILCS 5; where the VACMC intends to become more autonomous and independent as a local unit of government as defined by 305 ILCS 5 Section 2-14; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Board of Directors of the VACMC directs the Superintendent of the VACMC to undertake appropriate actions to decrease the delay in services, increase service delivery while simultaneously maintaining the high levels of professional conduct, compassion, training and knowledge, skills, and abilities of VACMC employees in all endeavors and to ensure the highest levels of benefits and services as well as customer satisfaction; and

**NOW BE IT RESOLVED** that for Fiscal Year 2023, the Executive Board of Directors of the VACMC approve and direct the funding of the following positions to more efficiently carry out the mission of the VACMC,

- Superintendent – Total Salary - \$153,665.00

**NOW BE IT RESOLVED** that the Executive Board of Directors of the VACMC direct the Superintendent to create and implement, timing and filling to be at the Superintendent's discretion, the following positions of,

- Assistant Superintendent Total Salary Not to Exceed \$94,853,33
- Benefits and Services Manager Total Salary Not to Exceed \$79,708.64
- Front/Back Office Manager Total Salary TBD
- Additional Veteran Service Officers and Support as needed to support the measured growth Total Salary TBD

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED VACMC Executive Board has approved this Resolution on August 03, 2022 during the regular scheduled meeting.

**TED** at Edwardsville, Illinois, this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of August, A.D., 2022.

Ronnie Hicks President

Ken Morales 1st Vice President

Earl Watts 2nd Vice President

3 Wayne Able

Treasurer - Position Slot TBD

Kate Broadhurst

Recording Secretary.

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Larry Meisenheimer Correspondent Secretary

Donald Schever

Corporate Registered Agent - Position Slot TBD

Mark Nelson

Mark Nelson Executive Board Director

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Executive Board Director

Dr. Mike Harbison Executive Board Director

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Vernon LeClaire Executive Board Director



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# **RESOLUTION 22-3**

## **FY2023 BUDGET RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, the VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION of Madison County (VACMC) is an independent unit of local government under the Illinois Constitution, IL CONST Art. VII, Section 1, and the Illinois Public Aid Code, 305 ILCS 5/12-21.5; and

WHEREAS, the Governor of the State of Illinois signed into law on May 6, 2022 Public Act 102-0732, which was unanimously passed by both chambers of the Illinois General Assembly; and

WHEREAS, this Act clarified the relationship between Veterans Assistance Commissions and County Board regarding funding; and

WHEREAS, the estimated equalized assessed valuation for Fiscal Year 2023 is approximately \$6,373,687,740; and

WHEREAS, this Act further clarified that Veterans Assistance Commissions determine the budget and the minimum required shall be .02% or \$1,274,737.55 of the equalized assessed valuation of all property of the County of Madison as per (305 ILCS 5/12-21.13) (from Ch. 23, par. 12-21.13) and if needed the levy not to exceed .03% or \$1,912,106.00 of the assessed value annually on all taxable property of the county as per (55 ILCS 5/5-2006) (from Ch. 34, par. 5-2006); *and* 

**WHEREAS**, the VACMC Executive Board of Directors has determined the VACMC Vertical and Horizontal Staffing Plan can be accomplished beginning in Fiscal Year 2023 at an amount not to exceed the .02% minimum, which equals approximately \$1,274,737.55 as per the attached Tax District Equalized Assessed Value Report, Madison County as Enclosure (1); *and* 

WHEREAS, the VACMC Executive Board along with the Superintendent has decided in order to keep the VACMC tax levy to what is needed such as to cover fiscal year expenses, expected staff growth and salary and any new goals and objectives yet to be identified. Furthermore, should the Superintendent need additional money throughout the fiscal year to cover expenses he is directed to transfer any needed funds unimpeded from the VACMC Special Revenue Fund; *and* 

WHEREAS, the VACMC Executive Board of Directors have determined the VACMC reserves the right to research, resource, and obtain a licensed accountant and other outside vendors where and when appropriate to carry out, with good spirit, the intent of the Military Veterans' Assistance Act (330 ILCS 45) in the processing of proper warrants of expenditures for the assistance of military veterans, their families, and the families of deceased veterans, but that depending on whether the VACMC will have unfettered access to its "reserve" or "surplus" funds (those not spent in past fiscal years) as held by the Madison County Treasurer according to Public Act 102-0732, it may not have to request that full amount; *and* 

WHEREAS, the VACMC has determined the minimum .02% or \$1,274,737.55 of the equalized assessed valuation to be just and necessary for Fiscal Year 2023 to provide needed services and assistance to veterans, their families and the families of deceased veterans; *and* 

## **RESOLUTION 22-3 Cont'd**

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** the VACMC Fiscal Year 2023 Budget shall be not more than the .02% or \$1,274,737.55, and maybe a lower amount, depending on the above mentioned unfettered access, as the Superintendent shall determine prior to submission of the VAC's funding request for Fiscal Year 2023; \$1,274,737.55; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** VACMC Executive Board has approved the FY2023 Proposed Budget and this Resolution on August 03, 2022 during the regular scheduled meeting.

DATED at Edwardsville, Illinois, this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of August, A.D., 2022.

Ronnie Hicks President

Ken Morales

1st Vice President

Earl Watts 2nd Vice President

Wayne Able Treasurer - Position Slot TBD

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Kate Broadhurst Recording Secretary

Larry Musenha

Larry Meisenheimer Correspondent Secretary

Donald Scheyer

Corporate Registered Agent - Position Slot TBD

Mark Neko

Mark Nelson Executive Board Director

Ron Swaim Executive Board Director

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