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

**MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY EXECUTIVE BOARD
OF
THE VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION OF MADISON COUNTY, INC.**

Pursuant to call and notice to all executive board officers and directors of the Veterans Assistance Commission of Madison County, Inc. (VACMC), the monthly meeting of officers and directors was held as follows:

Date: February 01, 2023 Time: 6:30 p.m.
Place: Suite 115, Administration Bldg. 157 N. Main St., Edwardsville, Illinois
Chairman of the meeting: President, Ronnie Hicks
Secretary of the meeting: Kate Broadhurst

The Chairman called the meeting to order and directed all in attendance to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance. The Chairman then called for a chaplain to give an opening prayer. At the conclusion of the opening prayer, the Chairman requested the Secretary to call the roll of seated executive board officers and directors. The Secretary reported that there were 10 officers and directors present. A copy of the roll call results is appended to these Minutes. In accordance with Art. VI, §2 of the Bylaws, there being six (6) or more officers and directors attending, the Chairman declared a quorum present and that the meeting was lawfully and properly convened and competent to proceed to the transaction of further business.

The Chairman announced that the proposed minutes of the January 04, 2023 meeting, having been distributed and read, called for a motion to approve and file them for future reference. Thereupon, on motion made by Ron Swaim, seconded by Larry Miesenheimer, and carried by at least a majority of the officers and directors entitled to vote, the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLVED, that the proposed minutes of the January 04, 2023 monthly meeting as proposed, are hereby fully approved, ratified and affirmed as the board's official record of the proceedings at that meeting. The Secretary is directed to provide a final copy of the same with all approved changes to be filed in the corporate records for future reference.

The Chairman then called for presentation of the February 2023 Financial Report by the Superintendent and stated that a copy thereof had been distributed to each of the officers and directors prior to the meeting. After the Superintendent's presentation, the Chairman called for a motion to approve and file the report for future reference. Thereupon, on motion made by Ken Morales, seconded by Mike Harbison, and carried by at least a majority of the officers and directors entitled to vote, the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLVED, that the report of the Superintendent on the February 2023 Financial Report and the acts of the Superintendent as described in that report are hereby fully approved, ratified and affirmed.

The Chairman then called for the Superintendent to provide any other information or activity which he deemed to be of interest to the Commission. He reported the following:

- A. A reminder was given that the Annual Delegate / Alternate Certification Forms are due by March 1, 2023 (330 ILCS 45/9(a)(1).
- B. Superintendent Lavite advised that Madison County Government has given notice it will be implementing a new Preliminary Budget Process software program for FY2024.
- C. Superintendent Lavite is considering how best to assist Veterans who are interested in joining Veterans' Service Organizations (VSOs) and increasing VSO memberships.
- D. Superintendent Brad Lavite spoke about the development and purchase of an Interim and/or Emergency Veterans' Financial Assistance application.

The Chairman then called for a vote to be taken advising and affirming assisting Veterans interested in joining VSOs. Thereupon, on motion made by Kate Broadhurst, seconded by Mike Harbison, and carried by at least a majority of the officers and directors entitled to vote, the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLVED, that it is in the best interest of the VAC to support efforts to work on increasing membership within and across VSO's is hereby fully approved, ratified and affirmed.

The Chairman then called for a vote to be taken advising and affirming the development and consideration of purchasing an Interim and/or Emergency Veterans' Financial Assistance application to better manage financial assistance. Some discussion ensued surrounding the EMK Consulting LLC application quote; specially related to the applications Annual Renewal (Hosting, Domain Name, SSL Certificate). Superintendent Lavite took note and advised the executive board that he would look into the question/s and bring more information regarding contract pricing before the commission. Thereupon, on motion made by Mike Harbison, seconded by Mark Nelson, and carried by at least a majority of the officers and directors entitled to vote, the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLVED, that it is in the best interest of the VAC to move forward with the development of an Interim and/or Emergency Veterans' Financial Assistance application to better manage financial assistance is hereby fully approved, ratified and affirmed subject to commission approval.

Chairman then called for any unfinished or old business that needed to be addressed and called for any officer or director to be recognized if they had any unfinished or old business they wished the executive board to address.

Earl Watts was recognized and distributed the recently passed and yet to be signed Military Veterans Assistance Act Trailer Bill and asked that the executive board get together to review it. Motion was made by Earl Watts for the board to get together and review the act if signed by the Governor to review for compliance. Some discussion ensued surrounding the motion and what the purpose of the review by the executive board would be. Thereupon, on the motion made by Earl Watts, seconded by Mark Nelson, the motion died as the majority of the officers and directors entitled to vote abstained.

Kate Broadhurst was recognized and inquired about obtaining the Veterans Benefits Summary Letter for the Illinois Property Tax Exemption. Information was shared concerning VA.gov and

printing off the letter online and/or calling the Veterans Benefits Administration directly. No additional officers or directors requested to be recognized.

The Chairman then called for any member of the public who wished to address the executive board under the Open Meetings Act to be recognized. The Chair recognized John Kraft who spoke for approximately 8 minutes. The Chair recognized Kirk Allen who spoke for approximately 2 minutes. The Chair recognized Bradley Yount who spoke for approximately 2 minutes. No other member of the public requested to be recognized.

There being no further business to come before the executive board at this regular executive board meeting, the meeting was adjourned at 8:03 p.m. upon motion made by Ron Swain, seconded by Ken Morales and duly carried by voice vote.

Kate Broadhurst, Secretary