

Minutes of Veterans Affairs Commission
February 8, 2023

The meeting called to order at 4:30 p.m. in the small meeting room. Members present were:

Bill VanWaes
Robin Housley
Mike Male
Greg Bell
Stephen Wheeler

Minutes of the January 11, 2023 meeting were read. Commissioner Male made the motion to accept, Commissioner Wheeler seconded. Approved by all present.

February reports were reviewed. Reports were approved.

Old business: The Administrator discussed revisions to the Chapter 35 code that was distributed last month. The Senate has not brought a companion bill forward also. We are hoping that these changes make it through to the Governor this year.

New business: The Administrator discussed the VAMC quarterly meeting that was attended. The VA in Iowa City now has a resource center to help Veterans get signed up for MyHealthE Vet so they can communicate directly with their care team, order prescriptions and schedule/reschedule their appointments. They are also in need of volunteers for drivers or to work at the VA hospital. The Women's Health Clinic is making changes to their staff also.

The Administrator shared information regarding the Compact Act which is for mental health crisis. This is part of the VA outreach to prevent Veteran Suicide. This opens it up for Veterans to receive care at any emergency room.

News Releases: The Administrator shared the last quarter overview of VA disability and pension numbers. This is the report put out by the regional office. There was a \$51,806 per month increase from October to December. This is a huge jump in monthly income coming to Cedar County's Veterans.

Next Commissioner meeting will be held on March 8, 2023 at 4:30 p.m. Motion made by Commissioner Housley, seconded by Commissioner VanWaes. Motion carried to adjourn at 5:00 p.m.

Patricia Hamann, Administrator