

Minutes of Veterans Affairs Commission
February 22, 2024

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

Robin Housley
Mike Male
Shelly Howsare
Bill VanWaes

Absent Chair Bell, active duty training

Minutes of the December 13, 2023 meeting were read. Commissioner Housley made the motion to accept, Commissioner Male. Approved by all present.

January and February reports were reviewed. The January meeting was cancelled due to weather. Reports were approved.

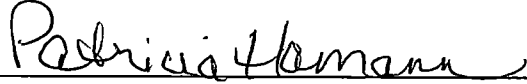
Old business: The Administrator updated the Commission on the budget. There are a lot of changes that were made to the current year and FY24/25 proposed budget. The Administrator went over the current year changes that a budget amendment will be done on, which is mainly to provide a more accurate picture of funding. The Administrator then shared the changes to the FY24/25 budget. No step increases were given, a 1% raise, changes to insurance and other line items were discussed. These changes are necessary due to a funding shortfall in the county.

New business: NACVSO Delegate information was shared with the Commission. It was a beneficial trip and the opportunity to meet the Secretary and Under Secretaries of VA to discuss issues in small town Iowa regarding benefits is well worth the trip. While there we met with our state representatives and one of our senators.

The Administrator shared with the Commission where our legislation is sitting right now in the state. There are a few bills out there with our code changes, one amendment asks for an additional \$3,000 for education purposes only. At this point, it should be on the Senate floor next week for a vote. Then it will go to the House for a vote if passed.

Allocation expenses for this fiscal year and next year were discussed. Depending on how the code changes we will either have to make sure \$3,000 is spent on education out of the \$10,000 we currently get, or we will be given an additional \$3,000. That will change how those funds can be used. The proposed expenditure shows the hours of 3 per week are already taken out of the FY24/25 allocation funds.

Next Commissioner meeting will be held on March 13, 2023 at 4:30 p.m. Motion made by Commissioner VanWaes, seconded by Commissioner Howsare. Motion carried to adjourn at 5:25 p.m.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Patricia Hamann", written over a horizontal line.

Patricia Hamann, Administrator