



Winnebago County Veterans Affairs Commissioners Board Meeting

Monday, November 24, 2025 – 10:00 am
Winnebago Co Health Department Board Room

1. Call to Order, Roll Call, Pledge

Present: Commissioners Dave Peterson, Steve Bosma, Troy Thompson and Veteran Service Officer (VSO) Mary Lou Kleveland

2. Review and Approval of Previous Monthly Meeting Minutes

The October monthly meeting minutes were reviewed. Thompson motioned, seconded by Peterson to approve the October minutes. All in favor. October minutes are approved.

3. Veteran Services Officer Report

- a. Monthly VA numbers: VSO shared the statistics for October 2025 for Winnebago County. VSO noted that October had been an extremely busy month in all areas, just as September had been.
- b. County Outreach Efforts – On Veterans Day, VSO attended the free breakfast for veterans at Hy-Vee as well as the Winnebago Industries program and luncheon for their employees who are veterans. Both events were well attended. VSO had a table at both events and had the opportunity to share information and speak to many veterans about benefits. Both were very valuable events, and VSO hopes to attend both events next year. VSO also attended the Home Base Iowa Dedication in Leland. All of the cities in Winnebago County are now Home Base Iowa communities.
- c. Review Monthly Expenditure Report for Approval - The Commissioners and VSO reviewed the expenditures for October 2025. Bosma motioned and Peterson seconded to approve the expenditures for October. All in favor. The October expenditure report was approved and the Commissioners signed off on the report.

4. Old Business

- a. Operation Green Light – VSO reported that she had gone to KIOW and AJ Taylor had interviewed VSO regarding Operation Green Light. VSO stated that the conversation was very valuable and VSO had been able to share much information about Operation Green Light as well as her office and benefits for veterans. VSO shared that AJ Taylor had written an article about the conversation and that article had been picked up by Iowa Radio so there was even more exposure provided. Morning Conversations only cost \$50 and have been beneficial.

5. New Business

- a. Discussion of Proposed VA Budget for FY 26-27 – VSO and Commissioners reviewed the budget for the current fiscal year line by line and then determined what changes needed to be made on each line item for the FY 26 -27 proposed budget. VSO and Commissioners completed the proposed budget to present to the Board of Supervisors in January. Commissioners recommended a 3% pay raise for VSO for FY 26-27.
- b. New & Emerging Information – VSO reported that she will be gone intermittently in January and possibly the beginning of February for the birth of her granddaughter. VSO advised that she will

post a sign on the door and will change the office voicemail message and email message regarding VSO's absence.

- c. Financial Assistance Requests – VSO reported that she had approved emergency assistance for propane for a veteran. Cost will be approximately \$300.
- d. Next Meeting Date: December 22, 2025, at 10:00 am at the Winnebago County Courthouse

Adjournment – Thompson motioned; Bosma seconded. All in favor. Meeting adjourned.

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