

# DeKalb County Veterans Assistance Commission Meeting Minutes

February 9, 2015

## Community Outreach Building

Meeting started at 7:00 with Board President Jim Cox presiding and Stephen Walz leading us in the pledge of allegiance.

Board members: President Jim Cox, Vice-President Don Anderson, Secretary Steven Kreitzer and Treasurer John Davis were present.

Employees: Superintendent Tammy Anderson, Steven Kreitzer, Linda Drake, Luz Maria Gilkey, Renee McGuan, and Jill Peacock were present

Guest: Jim Luebke from the DeKalb County Board came and just wanted to see what we were doing for the veterans of DeKalb County.

### **Meeting Minutes:**

Mike Boorsma made the motion that the January minutes should be approved and it was seconded by Stefan Skopek. Motion passed unanimously.

### **Treasurers Report:**

John Davis stated that the balance was \$4,131.30 and that 6 of the 16 veterans' organizations had paid their dues. Those organizations are Sandwich VFW, Sycamore VFW, Sandwich American Legion, Waterman American Legion, DeKalb American Legion, and DeKalb County VietNow. Mike Boorsma asked about the \$700 that was part of the treasurers report last month again as he would rather that the money be used to buy toys or things the veterans need rather than a check. Tammy Anderson explained that it was not the county's money it was individuals who wanted to give the money to veterans in the county. The checks written by John Davis were merely a pass through so that there was a paper trail. There are individuals who want to give gifts as well and every veteran is interviewed before they are able to receive the gifts to make sure they are in need. Mike Boorsma moved to accept the Treasurers Report and George Murphy seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

### **Public Comment:**

George Murphy asked about the Choice Card and If you could use it on vacation if more than 40 miles from a VA facility. Steven Kreitzer explained that the Veterans Choice Card eligibility is based off their home address. So if the Veteran goes on vacation to a location that is more than 40 miles away from a VA facility they still will not be eligible for the program unless they change the address with the VA (probably only feasible for snow birds). In this regards if a veteran is on vacation and in need of emergency services they will need to call the triage number for their VA Healthcare facility to go about the claim in the normal fashion. The Veterans Choice Card program also does not cover any emergency services at any time and is only for regular Dr. visits. Tammy Anderson also explained that if their appointment is more than 30 days out they could possibly use the card to get a sooner appointment with a local provider.

### **For the Good of the Commission**

Stefan Skopek stated that the Sandwich VFW is having a corned beef and cabbage dinner on March 7, 2015 from 4:30 pm to 7:00pm. He also brought up that they were proud of their Patriots Pen winner for winning state as well and their Voice of Democracy winner came in 2<sup>nd</sup> in district.

George Murphy asked if there was an update on if the Hines VA Mobil Medical Unit was able to come out to Sandwich on a Saturday. Luz Gilkey stated that it would have to be at an event where there would be a large crowd in order to get them to come.

**Superintendent's Report:**

Tammy Anderson reported that last month, the Commission helped 24 veterans and their families with shelter. There were 21 veterans transported in 15 trips to VA Hospitals. The Commission helped veterans collect \$16,019.94 in monthly benefits and \$50,769.16 in retroactive benefits. Tammy also explained that January is different than other months because of the close out of the year. She explained that there were 3 pay periods in January so that is why the salaries and benefits are so high. Donald Anderson asked why there was such a significant drop in our shelter assistance and Tammy explained that she started to explain that if they were defrauding the government that the office would prosecute. That lost the majority and the office changed its policies to only help veterans as defined by the VA. The monthly bills totaled \$40,213.12 and Jim Cox asked if there was a motion to pay the bills. Mike Boorsma made the motion to accept the superintendent's report and pay the bills and Stefan Skopek seconded. A roll call vote was taken and passed unanimously.

**Committee Reports:**

None

**Old Business:**

Doll House Funds – there was a little discussion on what programs to donate the funds to and how much but nothing was decided other than to have the board come up with a viable option to discuss next month.

**New Business:**

Renee McGuan and Jill Peacock each made a presentation as to why they were excited about their new job as secretaries for the office as well as their connections to veterans.

**Adjourn**

Motion by Mike Boorsma to adjourn the meeting and seconded by George Murphy with no discussion

Meeting closed at 7:41 PM

Respectfully Submitted - Steven Kreitzer - Secretary



**DEKALB COUNTY VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION  
REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY 2015  
STATE OF THE BUDGET**



**VA COUNSELING**

	Quantity
Office	59
Outstation	17
Phone	76
VA Pension	9
VA Education	6
VA Healthcare	18
VA Compensation	26
VA Other	62

**VA AWARDANCE**

	Monthly	Retro	Total Amount
This Month	\$16,019.94	\$50,769.16	\$66,789.10
To Date	\$16,019.94	\$50,769.16	\$66,789.10



**EXPENDITURES**

Direct Assistance to Veteran (Itemized Below)	\$7,350.00
Vehicle Expenses (Itemized Below)	\$3,207.00
Salaries & Benefits	\$28,042.12
Training & Meetings	\$0.00
Office Expenses	\$0.00
Public Relations	\$1,614.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$40,213.12</b>

**DIRECT ASSISTANCE TO VETERAN**

	Number Assisted	Amount
Shelter	24	\$7,350.00
Other	0	\$0.00
Drivers Per Diem		\$0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>\$7,350.00</b>

**VEHICLE EXPENSES**

	Quantity	Amount
Trips	15	
Transported	21	
Miles	2789	
Fuel (gallon)	0.00	
Fuel Cost		\$0.00
Maintenance (Insurance Premiums)		\$3,207.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$3,207.00</b>

**SUMMARY**

	Percentage of Budget	Amount
<b>2015 BUDGET</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>\$505,300.00</b>
<b>PREVIOUS EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>EXPEDITURES</b>	<b>-8%</b>	<b>-\$40,213.12</b>
<b>BALANCE</b>	<b>92%</b>	<b>\$465,086.88</b>



**Restricted Fund Balance** **\$536,274.00**



**DeKalb County Veterans Assistance Commission**  
**Report for the month of January 2015**  
**Veterans Assistance / Transportation**



Towns	Shelter		Other		Transportation
	Amount	# of Vets	Amount	# of Vets	# of Vets
Cortland	\$ -	0	\$ -	0	0
DeKalb	\$ 4,600.00	15	\$ -	0	10
Fairdale	\$ -	0	\$ -	0	0
Genoa	\$ -	0	\$ -	0	3
Hinckley	\$ -	0	\$ -	0	2
Kingston	\$ -	0	\$ -	0	0
Kirckland	\$ -	0	\$ -	0	1
Malta	\$ -	0	\$ -	0	0
Sandwich	\$ -	0	\$ -	0	0
Shabbona	\$ 300.00	1	\$ -	0	0
Somonauk	\$ 600.00	2	\$ -	0	1
Sycamore	\$ 1,805.00	6	\$ -	0	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 7,305.00</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>21</b>



# DeKalb County Veterans Organizations

## Voting Monday February 9, 2015

		Superintendents Report				
<b>Veterans of Foreign Wars</b>						
Post #1486 Sandwich	D: Stefan Skopek	Y				
	A: Tod Latham					
Post# 2287 DeKalb	D: Travis Petrie					
	A: Michael J. Henning					
Post #5768 Sycamore	D: Stephen Walz	Y				
	A: Steve Kreitzer					
Post #8387 Genoa	D: Don Anderson	Y				
	A:					
<b>DeKalb County VietNow</b>						
	D: John Davis	Y				
	A:					
<b>American Legion</b>						
Post #66 DeKalb	D:Randy Smith	Y				
	A:Dan Gallagher					
Post #99 Sycamore	D:Tim Timmer	Y				
	A:Gene Ege					
Post #181 Sandwich	D: George Murphy	Y				
	A: Rick Felstead					
Post #337 Genoa	D: Rich Joslin	Y				
	A: Herb Holderman					
Post #598 Hinckley	D:					
	A:					
Post #654 Waterman	D. Robert Bend	Y				
	A: James Cox					
Post # 772 Somonauk	D:Roger Wiley					
	A:					
Post #1010 Kingston	D: Dan Gallagher					
	A:					
<b>40 et 8 Voiture 207</b>						
	D: Frank Beierlotzer					
	A: Robert Coulter	Y				
<b>Marine Corps League</b>						
Detachment #847 DeKalb County	D: Donald Jones					
	A: Joe Chavez					
<b>AmVets Post #90 DeKalb</b>						
	D:Steve Marberry					
	A:Mike Boorsma	Y				