

Meeting Minutes
Jackson County Veterans Affairs Commissioner Meeting

4:00 p.m.

Wednesday, May 13th, 2026

Community Room, Jackson County Courthouse
201 W Platt Street, Maquoketa, Iowa

Commissioners' Present: Chair John Pitlo, Secretary Stephen Norpel, Greg Stalker, Laura Eggers, Dorothy Wisted

Commissioners Absent: None

Staff Member Present: Administrator Ruth Eltrich

Guests: None

The Zoom meeting was launched. The recording was started. Chair Pitlo called the meeting to order at 3:59 p.m.

Roll call was taken; commissioners present at roll call were Chair John Pitlo, Secretary Stephen Norpel, Greg Stalker, Laura Eggers, and Dorothy Wisted

Motion to approve the Meeting Minutes from April 8th, 2026:

Motion by John Pitlo

Second by Stephen Norpel

All yea: Stalker, Eggers, Wisted, Pitlo, Norpel

Administrator Eltrich provided an update on the April budget. 83.29% of the year is gone. 69.54% of the budget is used. Discussion followed regarding expenses and items purchased, including salaries, mileage, and VA cell phone bill. The office also purchased outreach event items including a table and promotional items, as well as office supplies, Eltrich's registration and flight for Nationals in June, Elliot's ethics training online, and the movie cost for May event. Discussion followed regarding budget items and spending for restocking promo items in office. Also purchased was an updated book for claims to the VA. Discussion followed.

Eltrich provided the April Activity Log. A breakdown was provided of the specific forms that were filed by the Jackson County Veterans Affairs office.

The county award report for March was provided. A total of 436 veterans and/or their eligible dependents received \$892,360.00 in benefits. The office filed 70% of the claims open in Jackson County in March. Discussion followed on the increase in additional veterans receiving benefits in the last year.

Eltrich discussed the April Interactions Report. April had a total of 215 total interactions, secretarial calls 37, walk-ins 35.

Eltrich asked for discussion and possible action to approve the administrators' claim to be sent to the IDVA for reimbursement.

Motion to approve the claim for reimbursement be sent to the state: John Pitlo

Second by Eggers

All yea: Norpel, Eggers, Wisted, Pitlo, Stalker

Eltrich asked for commissioner updates. Commissioner Eggers stated that she will not reapply for another 3 years on the commission. Discussion was had regarding terms, applications to the commission, and the requirements for gender balance for a board or commission. Commissioner Eggers was thanked for her time on the commission.

There was discussion regarding the van. Eltrich stated she was informed that the van needed repairs, and there is a volunteer driver confirmed.

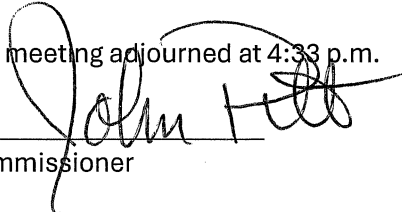
There was a discussion regarding past archived motions research done by secretary. Document will be emailed to all. Discussion about some kind of contribution for the VFW dinner, and further purchase for VA promotional hats and magnetic sign for car.

Motion to adjourn: John Pitlo

Second by Greg Stalker

All yea: Norpel, Eggers, Wisted, Stalker, Pitlo

The meeting adjourned at 4:33 p.m.



Commissioner



Commissioner



Commissioner

Commissioner



Commissioner



Administrator