Meeting Minutes
Jackson County Veterans Affairs Commissioner Meeting
4:00 p.m.
Wednesday, Sept. 9th, 2026
Community Room, Jackson County Courthouse
201 W Platt Street, Maquoketa, Iowa

Commissioners' Present: Chair John Pitlo, Secretary Dorothy Wisted, Greg Stalker, Stephen Norpel, Michelle Roling
Commissioners Absent: None
Staff Member Present: Administrator Ruth Eltrich
Guests:

The Zoom meeting was launched. The recording was started. Chair Pitlo called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Roll call was taken; commissioners present at roll call were John Pitlo, Dorothy Wisted, Stephen Norpel, Michelle Roling, Greg Stalker

Motion to approve the Meeting Minutes of August 12th, 2026:
Motion by Greg Stalker
Second by John Pitlo
All in favor aye: Norpel, Wisted, Pitlo, Stalker, Roling

Eltrich presented August budget report. Budget distributions included salaries, commissioners pay and mileage, and cell phone bill. Allocation check has not yet been received. Eltrich discussed the August budget report as 16.99% of the year gone. 13.08% of budget is used.

Eltrich presented the August activity log and discussed total number of claims, decisions, deferrals, and remands.

Eltrich presented the county award report for July. A total of 445 veterans and/or their eligible dependents received $932,387.00 in benefits.

Eltrich stated that there are 93 open claims in Jackson County, we filed 77, our percentage of claims filed is 82%.

Eltrich presented the August Interactions Report. August had a total of 318 total interactions. The secretary assisted with 43 phone calls and 30 walk-ins.

Eltrich presented discussion regarding a permanent Flag for the outside of the Penrose Annex Building. Commissioner Wisted volunteered to get quotes and present information at the next meeting. Agenda item was tabled for the next meeting for discussion and possible action.

Eltrich inquired about commissioners' updates. Commissioners discussed upcoming events.

Eltrich discussed office updates. District 2 team meetings will be virtual. Iowa Dept. of Veterans Affairs is not doing a fall school, only spring.

Motion to adjourn: John Pitlo
Second by Greg Stalker
All aye: Norpel, Roling, Stalker, Pitlo, Wisted

The meeting adjourned at 4:29 p.m.

Commissioner

Commissioner

Commissioner

Commissioner

Commissioner

Administrator