



COMMISSION OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Mandy Coates, Director
Bill Blanchard, Chairperson
Larry Hingtgen, Secretary

JoAnne Downes
Chad Gerdes
Ines Beltre

Formal Meeting Minutes
November 19, 2024

Meeting Called to order at 17:00 by Blanchard

Present: Bill Blanchard, JoAnne Downes, Chad Gerdes, Ines Beltre via Teleconference, Mandy Coates, and guest, Jon Green.

Unless noted, all actions were taken unanimously

1. Motion by Downes, second by Gerdes to approve the October minutes
2. Motion by Gerdes, second by Hingtgen to approve the October vouchers
3. Two goals were presented and discussed for the Director's 6-month progress
4. Preliminary FY26 budget was presented and discussed. No decision package is included. Salary adjustments were made on Operating and Allocation expenses. Will be presented to the Board of Supervisors on December 9th
5. Information was provided by Coates regarding Non-VA urgent care and emergency room payment eligibility from the VA. Co-payments for services were discussed as well as the correct procedure of how to obtain these services
6. VA Dental Care eligibility was discussed, as it does not include all veterans enrolled in VA Healthcare, nor does it automatically authorize/reimburse outside treatment. Veterans Administration Dental Insurance Program (VDAP) information was provided. The Veteran can purchase a dental plan through Delta Dental or MedLife
7. Coates met with Home Base Iowa to establish relationship and possibly will be considering placing more signage and a ribbon cutting at a future date
8. Operation Green Light concluded. There is still a backlog with claims not showing up in the Veterans Benefit Management System for an extended amount of time, creating less efficiency on all levels of Veteran services. CVSO position was posted, and HR was reaching out to applicants who may have missed submitting their DD-214.
9. Blanchard adjourned the meeting at 17:37

Recorded by Mandy Coates

These minutes will be presented to the Secretary for approval during out December 2024 meeting.

12/17/2024

Date:

Signature on File

Secretary or Alternate

855 South Dubuque Street, Iowa City, Iowa 52240
Email: va@johnsoncountyiowa.gov

Phone: (319) 356-6049
Fax: (319) 688-5849