



COMMISSION OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

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

JoAnne Downes
Chad Gerdes
Ines Beltre

Formal Meeting Minutes
December 17, 2024

Meeting Called to order at 17:00 by Blanchard

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

Unless noted, all actions were taken unanimously

1. Motion by Downes, second by Gerdes to approve the November minutes
2. Motion by Gerdes, second by Beltre to approve the November vouchers
3. Commission was briefed on number of candidates and Beltre informed Commission of the hiring process
4. Dependency Indemnity Compensation was explained along with eligibility and specific circumstances that can affect the decision and starting payment date
5. Coates initiated a conversation regarding a possible name change from Veterans Affairs to Veterans Services. Veterans have been confusing the Federal Veterans Affairs with Johnson County Veterans Affairs which are two different entities. Confusion and inefficiency ensues from this assumption on both ends. Coates will contact other counties who have done this to see how it has worked for them and gather more information internally and externally to report back to the Commission for further discussion
6. A Telework Agreement was signed for the Director after discussion of circumstances and benefits
7. District 1 Meeting will be held at the Scott County Courthouse on January 30th. Outreach for the month of November was discussed.
8. Blanchard adjourned the meeting at 17:35

Recorded by Mandy Coates

These minutes will be presented to the Secretary for approval during our January 2025 meeting.

Date:

Secretary or Alternate