



Kossuth County Commission of Veterans Affairs

Daniel D. Green, Director

109 West State Street, Algona, Iowa 50511

*Commissioner President/Secretary: Carole Bernhard
Commissioner Vice Chairperson/Kevin Molsberry
Commissioner Troy Brandt
Commissioner Gary Forsythe
Commissioner Jim Hartshorn*

Subject: Minutes, Kossuth County Commission of Veterans Affairs Monthly Meeting January 8, 2026 at 4:45p.m.

Location: Conference Room #110, Court House Annex, 109 West State Street, Algona, IA 50511.

1. *Call to Order*
2. *Pledge of Allegiance and moment of silence for POW/MIA.*
3. *Roll Call. Present: All Absent: None*
4. *Guests: Mr. J. Hyink*
5. *Review and Approval of previous monthly meeting minutes.*
6. *Old Business:*
 - a. *METRICS:*

I. Number of Claims in System:

- i. Open Claims: 20*
- ii. Claims Ready for Decision: 1*
- iii. Claims Rating Decision Complete: 0*
- iv. Claims in Development: 16*
- v. Claim Response/Rework to VA: 4*
- vi. Healthcare Applications Pending: 1*
- vii. CHAMP VA Claims Pending: 2*
- viii. Congressional Submitted: 2*
- ix. Number of Claims inactive/suspended: 3*
- x. Number of Veteran Records: 1283 –Active records 1024*

II. Other Federal and State Programs:

- i. Number of Iowa Veteran Trust funds (IVTF) applications 2 Drafted/0 submitted/0 approved*
- ii. Number of Home Improvement Structured Alterations (HISA) Grants YTD: 0*
- iii. Number of Veterans in IA Veterans Home from Kossuth County YTD: 1*

- b. ACTIVITIES: Update – Commission reviewed Directors Activities for 2025 (Handout).*

- c. *BUDGET: Commission reviewed Monthly Expense Summary DEC2025 (Handout). Director Green is working on the quarterly report.*

- d. *VETPRO UPDATES: *VETPRO Reports are a work in Progress (Not 100% accurate due to limit report features) Director Green provided a snapshot of VetPro reports:*
 - i. *Interactions/Utilization Reports Summary: December 2025*
 - ii. *Forms created: New persons: 24, Created actions 19, Created forms 83, Submissions 21, Uploaded files 179, Entered decisions 22, Entered interactions 123*
 - iii. *Completed claims w/Decision DEC2025* Monthly award: \$0: Retro: \$0*
 - iv. *Completed claims w/Decision YTD* Monthly award: \$52,383.99 Retro: \$240,336.90*
 - v. *AD HOC Reports developed (Works in Progress). Numbers will be adjusted based upon transfers in and out of the county, deaths of veterans and new claims adjudicated and recorded in the program.*
 - (1) *SYSTEM SPOUSE DIC \$52,383.99 RETRO: \$256,390.80*
 - (2) *SYSTEM SPOUSE Survivor Pension \$10,454.00 RETRO: \$32,142.00*
 - (3) *SYSTEM VETERAN Compensation \$888,041.20 RETRO: \$3,160,580.00*
 - (4) *SYSTEM VETERAN Pension \$43,590.41 RETRO: \$125,144.80*
 - (5) *SYSTEM VETERAN Burials Service Connected:*
 - a. *Burial \$48,000.00*
 - b. *Transportation Reimbursement \$750.00*
 - (6) *SYSTEM VETERAN Burials Non-Service Connected:*
 - a. *Burial: \$14,859.00*
 - b. *Plot Allowance: \$16,943.00*
 - c. *Transportation Reimbursement: \$7,705.00*
 - (7) *SYSTEM VETERANS Rated IU: 16*
 - (8) *SYSTEM VETERANS Rated Total and Permanent 100%: 75*
 - (9) *SYSTEM ACCRUED BENEFITS/Month of death: \$8,229.25*

- e. *TRAINING: Director Green conducting New CVSO Training, Budget, Open Meetings, Reports and IACVS Website on 15 January 2026 and IACVS Single Subject Training VA Award, Code sheet, DBQs, VA Decisions on 28 January 2026. Upcoming trainings for Director Green: Spring IDVA 14-16 April 2026, National training 31 May-5 June 2026.*

- f. *OUTREACH:*
 - i. *Director Green does not have any outreach scheduled due to holidays and budget planning; however he is planning on updating PSAs with KLGa.*
 - ii. *Commissioners discussed several outreach opportunities they could lead. Potential outreach efforts include assisting Director Green in the creation of PSAs, looking for new outlets for PSA efforts (e.g. cable TV public info channel), booth at Founder's Day, and/or a booth at HyVee to get the word out on the March Mobile Medical Unit.*

- g. DUE OUTS: Director Green continues to await information from Mr. Morey on County Binders on an estimated cost for grave records scanning Book 4 and the Count Veterans War Binder. Director Green will follow up to ascertain when Mr. Morey intends to return.*
- h. INFORMATION/Handouts: Director Green provided the following: Department Metrics 2025. What Every Veteran Should know and the VA Stakeholder Reports were not yet available.*

7. New Business:

- a. Communication to/from the Commission:
 - i. Director Green explained to Mr. Hyink the various processes and reports he is responsible for reporting on to the commission. Commissioner Hartshorn, and Commissioner Brandt had questions regarding the transportation reimbursement. Director Green explained that this is not automatically received and required a separate request form (he created) to begin receiving this reimbursement.*
 - ii. Director Green explained that he and the President of the state association will be visiting the Humboldt Co Board of Supervisors at their request. The VSO for Humboldt Co is not being reappointed. Director Green is clear in understanding his role is to explain, as President of District 5 (State Association of VSOs), what a VSO is responsible for, the Iowa Code associated with the position and the qualifications that are necessary to do the job.**
- b. Director Green presented the tentative meeting schedule for 2026. Commissioner Brandt motioned and Commissioner Forsythe seconded approval of the schedule. Motion approved.*
- c. Director Green's 2025 annual evaluation was signed and officially presented.*
- d. (TABLED) Review of Department's COOP Plan – Operations in degraded mode or relocated.*
- e. Discussion/Decision of VA Commission Vacancy and position fill: Mr. Hyink, candidate for VA Commission vacancy, expressed continued interest in becoming a Kossuth Co VA Commissioner. Commission went into closed session to discuss. DECISION: Mr. Hyink is the VA Commission's recommendation for hire and Director Green will present this to the BOS at the next meeting.*
- f. Commission remarks: Commissioners asked for next month's agenda to include a section for Commissioner Outreach and that Part-time VSO Hire. During this Director Green spoke about conducting the analysis for this and Commissioner Brandt stated that he could assist with this.*

8. Commissioner Brandt motioned to adjourn, Commissioner Molsberry seconded and the Commission adjourned at 6:21pm.

Taylor

2/13/26

SIGNED:

DATE