POTTAWATTAMIE COUNTY
COMMISSION OF VETERAN AFFAIRS
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
Monday October 13, 2026 @ 3:00
MPR Room Pottawattamie County Veteran Service Office
MINUTES

- Pledge of Allegiance
- Roll Call - David Hazlewood, Secretary; Dr. Russell Buzalko, Member; Mick Guttau, Member; Steven Houston, Member; Andrew Dewey, Ex-Officio Member; Mick Madden, Ex-Officio Member. Peggy Becker, Administrator; Sam Pettit, Caseworker II; Jake Townsend, Caseworker I; Rebekah Adair, Outreach Coordinator. Absent: Holly Collins, Chairwoman; Kara Behrens, Caseworker I.
- Additions/Corrections - New Business: Veterans Day Parade
- BOS Updates - Brian Shea reported that a decision had been made by the Iowa Supreme Court in a prior county matter. The Conservation Department has new events coming up.
- Commissioner Updates - none
- Guest Speaker - Brandy Waller, New Visions: Transitional housing for local veterans.

OLD BUSINESS

- Approval of minutes September Regular Monthly Meeting 2026: Motion to approve made by Dr. Russell Buzalko, Member. Motion seconded by Steven Houston, Member. Aye 4, Nay 0. Motion carries
- Approval of Assistance given for September 2026: No assistance requested
- ***Routine Office Reports***
  - Budget 2026-2027: Should be 25% Currently @22% For Expenditures
    - ★ Received Allocation Check from IDVA
    - ★ Received Donation Check from Iowa Interstate Railroad
    - ★ Foundation Disbursement to be picked up on Wednesday 10/14/2026
  - Facilities Update
    - ❖ MPR Room: Routine Usage by VFW, County Departments and Community Agencies
  - Outreach Update:
    - ★ Website and Social Media Update - Rebekah Adair, Outreach Coordinator, reported that website usage has increased. Social media platforms continue to perform well.
    - ★ Ambassador of Peace Medal Update - Rebekah Adair, Outreach Coordinator, reported that speakers for the event had been scheduled and other counties will assist the office with paying for the decorations and food.
    - ★ Mobile Office Unit 6-month Update - Rebekah Adair, Outreach Coordinator, reported that the contact numbers for the mobile office exceed the numbers for the Avoca and Carter Lake locations in previous years.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- Relocation Allocation VS #17384 Review/Approval - Motion to approve made by Dr. Russel Buzalko, Member. Motion seconded by Steven Houston, Member. Aye 4, Nay 0. Motion carries.
- New Hire Update - Peggy Becker, Administrator, reported that the open part-time caseworker position has been put on hold temporarily.
- Climate Control for Mobile Unit Update - Peggy Becker, Administrator, reported that the office is still looking for bids on the project.
- Operation Green Light: November 4-November 11 - Peggy Becker, Administrator, reported that the proclamation will be read at the Board of Supervisors meeting on October 27, 2026. It has been put on the agenda and a member of the department staff will be present.

NEW BUSINESS

- Veterans Day Parade - David Hazlewood, Secretary, noted that there will be no float this year. Office Staff will walk in the parade.
- 3:30 New Visions Brandy Waller: Transitional Housing for Veterans

Public Comment (3 min limit)
ADJOURN OPEN SESSION
CLOSED SESSION AS ALLOWED PER CODE OF IOWA CHAPTER 21.5, 1(i) *Peggy Becker, Personal Matters*

NEXT MEETING: November 9, 2025