



VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION OF ROCK ISLAND COUNTY

4000 46th Avenue, Rock Island, IL 61201

Phone: (309) 558-3546 or (309) 558-3547 Fax: (309) 558-3548

Todd Harlow - Superintendent

VAC OF ROCK ISLAND COUNTY

May 14, 2025 AT 7:00 PM

AGENDA

Meeting called to order -----PRES. GOODWIN

Salute and Pledge to the Flag -----PRES. GOODWIN

Prayer -----BRIAN HABEL

Moment of silence for those in harm's way -----BRIAN HABEL

Reading of the Preamble of the Constitution-----PRES. GOODWIN

Roll Call -----SEC. BROWN

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting -----SEC. BROWN

Reading of Monthly Reports -----PRES. GOODWIN

County Monies Budget Report -----KEVIN KILKENNY

Emergency Relief & Medical Equipment Fund -----KEVIN KILKENNY

Relief Report -----SUPT. HARLOW

Report of members on sick list ----- SUPT. HARLOW

AMERICAN LEGION

Rock Island Post No. 200
East Moline Post No. 227
Moline Post No. 246
Milan Post No. 569
Port Byron Post No. 421
Cordova Post No. 1033
Community Post No. 1166

VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA

Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 299
Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 669

Korean War Veterans Association, Chapter 168

MARINE CORPS LEAGUE

Lincoln Detachment

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

Willard L. Velle Jr. Post No. 2153
Ybarra-Gomez Post No. 8890

AMVETS

Silvis - E. Moline Post No. 145

New Superintendent (Bigford) effective start date – Harlow

- Per Todd Harlow, Brad's effective date will be 12 MAY 25.

VETPRO numbers – Silvis

- Averaged over 3 new veterans/ day on average in March per Parris.

Armed Forces Day Rock Island Arsenal (Parris/Jason)—Silvis

VEAC EVENT - 27-28 JUNE 2025 Black Hawk College—Bigford

- Over 400 veterans attended last time.
- Brad, Parris, Jason & Cory will be working

New Veteran Service Organizations elections? -- Bigford

Open Meetings Act & Freedom of Information Act online training (**if needed, schedule a date / time with Erlinda to use VAC office computer**)

OTHER BUSINESS

- Todd proposes a motion to add Brad to the checking account & CD fund on 12 MAY 25.
Motioned: Tom Courtney Second: Ed Klundt Outcome: Passed
- Korean War Vets local chapter is disbanding per Dennis Johnson.
- Name propositions for Tiny Homes: Lane Evans Landing
Motion: Meinke Second: Al Bradley Outcome: Passed

None at this time

ADJOURN

Motion: Ed Klundt Second: Terry Young

Approved By: Jerry Goodwin
Jerry Goodwin
President



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APRIL 2025
COUNTY MONIES BUDGET
PERFORMANCE REPORT
12/01/2024-11/30/2025

2025 VAC Annual Budget \$ **1,119,584.00**

Revenue

Property Taxes	\$	-
Investment Earnings	\$	<u>7,268.60</u>
	\$	<u>7,268.60</u>

Expense

Administrative Costs

	Approved Budget	YTD Received	YTD%
Salaries/Benefits	\$ 617,021.00	\$ 156,903.17	25%
Supplies	\$ 7,500.00	\$ 1,751.92	23%
Services	\$ 21,100.00	\$ 6,495.57	31%
Insurance	\$ 4,700.00	\$ 3,004.00	64%
Capital Projects	\$ 5,000.00	\$ -	0%
General Fund (Maximus)	\$ 23,763.00	\$ 23,763.00	100%
Dues & Memberships	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 450.00	45%
Office Rent	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 17,886.00	60%
Utilities	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 1,670.00	42%
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 243.68	5%
Total	\$ 719,084.00	\$ 212,167.34	30%

Veteran's Relief

	Approved Budget	YTD Received	YTD%
Food	\$ 35,000.00	\$ 8,001.95	23%
Utilities	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 5,935.56	49%
Rentals	\$ 90,000.00	\$ 36,107.45	40%
Personal Hygiene	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 6,151.90	41%
Professional Services (Burials)	\$ 5,000.00	\$ -	0%
Total	\$ 157,000.00	\$ 56,196.86	36%

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MONTHLY COUNTY RELIEF REPORT –APRIL 2025

VOUCHERS	ISSUED 2025	ISSUED 2024	PAID 2025
RENTALS	\$9,811.00	\$7,956.00	\$8,391.00
UTILITIES	\$1,351.00	\$1,057.34	\$1050.00
FOOD	\$1,774.00	\$2,395.00	\$1,472.00
PERSONAL ITEMS	\$1,790.00	\$1,282.00	\$1,581.51
TOTAL ASSISTANCE	\$14,725.00	\$12,690.34	\$12,494.51
NUMBER OF VETERANS ASSISTED	121	99	
NON – FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE	19	49	
VA APPOINTMENTS	136	141	
VETERANS DISABILITY PERCENTAGE LETTER REQUEST.	21	N/A	
TOTAL ASSISTANCE	297	289	

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FINANCIAL REPORTS OF VAC FUNDS

APRIL 1 – 30, 2025

EMERGENCY RELIEF FUND

BEGINNING BALANCE	-----	\$941.42
<i>CHECKS ISSUED:</i>	-----	\$000.00
<i>DEPOSIT:</i>	-----	\$000.00
ENDING BALANCE	-----	\$941.42

MEDICAL EQUIPMENT FUND

BEGINNING BALANCE	-----	\$538.44
<i>CHECKS ISSUED:</i>	-----	\$000.00
<i>DEPOSIT:</i>	-----	\$000.00
ENDING BALANCE	-----	\$538.44

CD ACCOUNT (IHMVCU)

BALANCE AS OF March 31, 2025	-----	\$3,516.95
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VAC FUNDS TOTAL	-----	\$4,996.81
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DEATH SUMMARY REPORT

APRIL 2025

SUMMARY OF DEATHS

WWII – **0**

KOREAN – **7**

VIETNAM – **20**

GULF WAR – **1**

PEACETIME – **4**

Number of Rock Island County Veterans buried during **APRIL 2025** at the Rock Island Arsenal National Cemetery: **29**

Number of Veterans buried during **APRIL 2025** at the Rock Island Arsenal National Cemetery
(*Including local veterans, Scott County and other states*) **42**

Number of Veterans buried since **January 2025** at the Rock Island Arsenal National Cemetery
(*Including local veterans, Scott County and other states*): **139**

Todd Harlow, Supt.

Jack Brown, Sec.

Jerry Goodwin, Pres.

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OLD BUSINESS

Tiny Vet Homes RI donation payment 17 APR 2025/groundbreaking 25 APR 25 2pm—Bigford

Milan American Legion 14 APR 2025 Brad and Todd meeting with board -- Bigford

Anthony Clifford last day working at RICOVAC 09 MAY 2025 – Harlow

Todd Harlow Retirement update – Harlow

New Superintendent (Bigford) effective start date – Harlow

VETPRO numbers – Silvis

Armed Forces Day Rock Island Arsenal (Parris/Jason)—Silvis

VEAC EVENT - 27-28 JUNE 2025 Black Hawk College—Bigford

New Veteran Service Organizations elections? -- Bigford

NEW BUSINESS

In Honor of Todd Harlow Retirement – Pizza provided by the VAC – Bigford

VSO Basic Benefits course completion -- Willits

New VSO'S hired and training introduction: Cory Hawk and Gage Adams – Bigford

Anonymously Grateful – HAWK

Tiny Vet Homes RI attendance – Harlow

Rock Island Employee fair at QCCA expo Center -- Harlow

VETPRO numbers – Silvis

Armed Forces Day Rock Island Arsenal (Parris/Jason)—Silvis

NACVSO National Conference (14-18 JUL 2025) attendance from RICOVAC -- Silvis

New Assistant Superintendent -- Bigford

VEAC EVENT - 27-28 JUNE 2025 Black Hawk College—Bigford

Open Meetings Act & Freedom of Information Act online training (**if needed, schedule a date / time with Erlinda to use VAC office computer**)

OTHER BUSINESS

None at this time

ADJOURN

APRIL 2025 VETPRO DATA

Added New Person Created Actions Created Forms

90

165

295

Submissions

190

Uploaded Files

264

Entered Decisions Entered Interactions

30

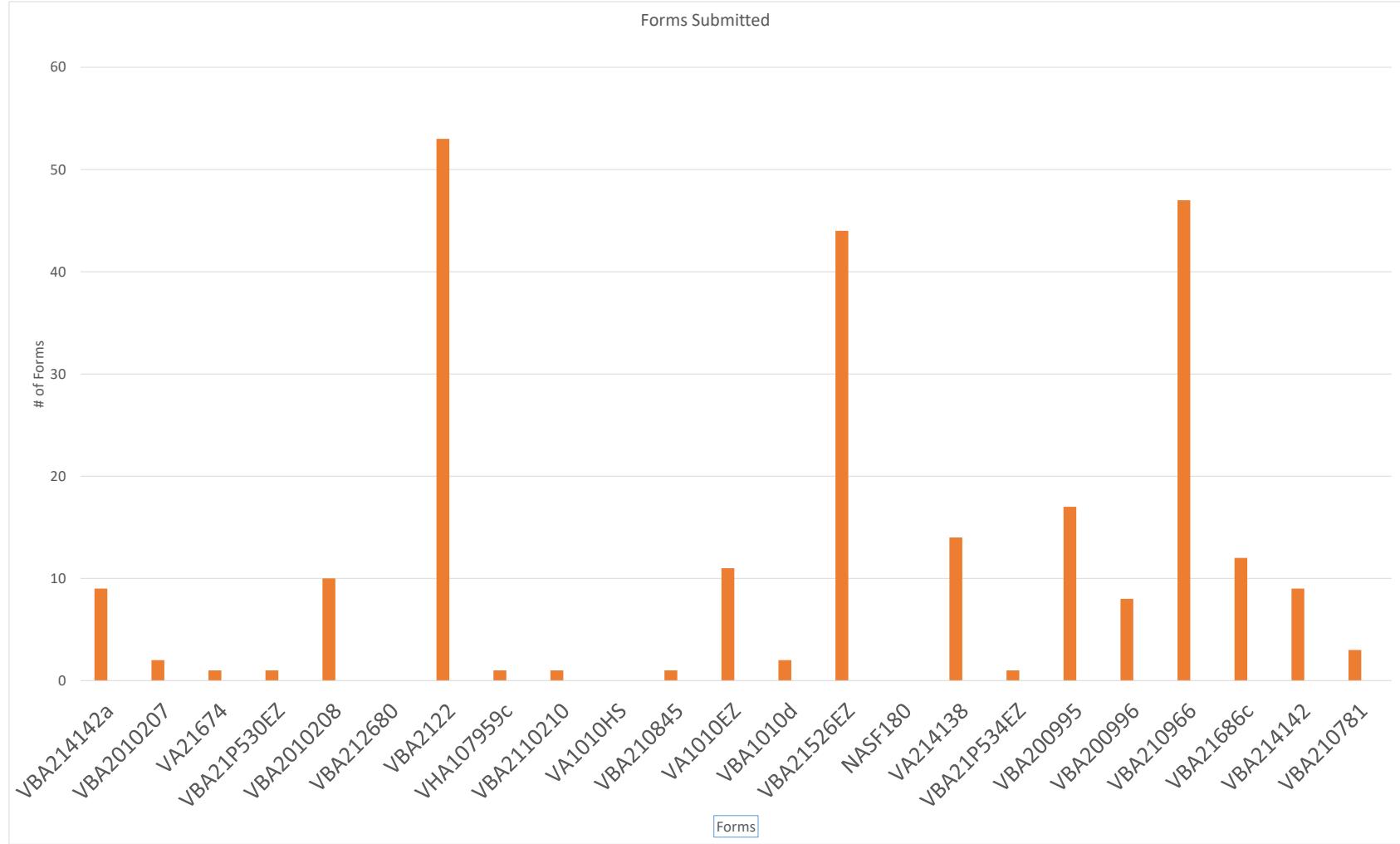
355

Monthly Award Amount Retroactive Award Amount

\$42,750.54

\$213,430.56

Forms Submitted



VETERANS OBITUARY REPORT - APRIL 2025

NAME	FROM	DIED	BURIED
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WWII

KOREAN WAR VETERANS

BRISTOL JOHN E	MOLINE IL	4/3/2025	CELEBRATE OF MOLINE	4/8/2025	RIA NATIONAL CEMETERY
KAISER KENNETH	TAYLOR RIDGE IL	4/3/2025	HOME	4/9/2025	EDGINGTON CEMETERY
TEEL DALE L	MILAN IL	4/9/2025	PARK VISTA RETIREMENT LIVING	NOT KNOWN	PRIVATE
CASE CULLEN	MOLINE IL	4/15/2025	OVERLOOK VILLAGE MOLINE	NOT KNOWN	MOLINE MEMORIAL PARK
WHITESIDE DALE R	MOLINE IL	4/14/2025	ALLURE OF THE QUAD CITIES MOLINE	NOT KNOWN	NOT KNOWN
BACHMAN IRENE JOYCE (TOWNSEND)	SILVIS IL	4/16/2025	MARIGOLD NURSING HOME	PRIVATE	RIA NATIONAL CEMETERY
BINGHAM TERRY RICHARDS	MOLINE IL	4/28/2025	HOME	5/5/2025	RIA NATIONAL CEMETERY

VIETNAM WAR VETERANS

YORK CHARLES	HIILSDALE IL	3/22/2025	NOT KNOWN	4/22/2025	RIA NATIONAL CEMETERY
BIXBY JOHN R	MILAN IL	2/9/2021	HOME	4/25/2025	RIA NATIONAL CEMETERY
LANGE JOHN "JACK"	MILAN IL	4/3/2025	MOLINE	4/18/2025	RIA NATIONAL CEMETERY
HAYS NEIL A	ROCK ISLAND IL	4/2/2025	LANTERN PARK SPECIALTY CARE IA	4/8/2025	ROCK ISLAND MEM PRK CEMETERY
WOODWARD JR GLENN W	MOLINE IL	4/24/2025	UP TRINITY ROCK ISLAND	4/29/2025	RIA NATIONAL CEMETERY
OTHMER LEO R	DAVENPORT IA	12/5/2024	MERCY ONE-GENESIS MED CNTR	4/24/2025	RIA NATIONAL CEMETERY
MARTI GARY DUANE	TAYLOR RIDGE IL	4/5/2025	HOME	4/12/2025	GREENVIEW MEMORIAL GARDENS
DAVIS RAYMOND A	EAST MOLINE IL	4/8/2025	CLARISSA COOK HOSPICE	4/15/2025	RIA NATIONAL CEMETERY
CASTOR DAVID C	SILVIS IL	4/2/2025	CLARISSA COOK HOSPICE	PRIVATE	RIA NATIONAL CEMETERY
HOHL GLENN A	MILAN IL	4/8/2025	UNITY POINT HOSP RI	4/18/2025	RIA NATIONAL CEMETERY
McCANCE BERNARD M	COAL VALLEY IL	4/10/2025	UNITY POINT HOSP RI	4/19/2025	GREENVIEW MEMORIAL GARDENS
TESENDORF MICHAEL E	PORT BYRON IL	3/30/2025	HOME	4/3/2025	RIA NATIONAL CEMETERY
WITTER ROGER D	DAVENPORT IA	4/2/2025	PALMER HILLS BETTENDORF IA	4/8/2025	HOLY FAMILY CEMETERY DAVENPORT
WEBER ROBERT FRANK	MOLINE IL	4/14/2025	HOME	4/25/2025	RIA NATIONAL CEMETERY
BROWN ALAN W	MOLINE IL	4/18/2025	SILVIS CENTER, SILVIS IL	PRIVATE	RIA NATIONAL CEMETERY
FERGUSON DARYL J	SILVIS IL	4/15/2025	MERCY ONE-GENESIS MED CNTR	PRIVATE	RIA NATIONAL CEMETERY
GARZA ROY A	ROCK ISLAND IL	4/27/2025	HOME	5/1/2025	RIA NATIONAL CEMETERY
SAMUELSON LARRY D	MILAN IL	4/22/2025	ALLURE OF THE QUAD CITIES MOLINE	4/28/2025	RIA NATIONAL CEMETERY
BOCCAROSSA JACK J	ROCK ISLAND IL	4/24/2025	GENERATIONS IN ROCK ISLAND	5/31/2025	NOT KNOWN
PALOS WILLIAM	COAL VALLEY IL	4/21/2025	ALLURE OF THE QUAD CITIES MOLINE	NOT KNOWN	NOT KNOWN

GULF WAR

GOODMILLER BRANDON JAMES LAKWOOD CO 3/25/2025 HOME 4/11/2025 RIA NATIONAL CEMETERY

PEACETIME

CURRY MARTY ARTHUR	DIXON IA	4/11/2025	HOME	4/21/2025	RIA NATIONAL CEMETERY
McGILL JR CHARLES L	NOT KNOWN	2/22/2025	CLARISSA COOK HOSPICE HOUSE	4/22/2025	RIA NATIONAL CEMETERY
TEAGER GREGORY ALLEN	MOLINE IL	3/29/2025	HOME	4/7/2025	RIA NATIONAL CEMETERY
LUX HARRY WALTER	DAVENPORT IA	3/10/2025	NOT KNOWN	4/29/2025	RIA NATIONAL CEMETERY

ABBREVIATIONS

NUMBER OF VETERANS FROM WWII -----	0	TWP	TOWNSHIP
NUMBER OF VETERANS FROM KOREAN WAR -----	7	CEM	CEMETERY
NUMBER OF VETERANS FROM VIETNAM WAR -----	20	EM	EAST MOLINE
NUMBER OF VETERANS FROM PEACETIME -----	4	GDNS	GARDENS
NUMBER OF VETERANS FROM GULF WAR -----	1	MEM	MEMORIAL
TOTAL NUMBER OF VETERANS -----	32	MOL	MOLINE
		RI	ROCK ISLAND
		RIA	ROCK ISLAND ARSENAL
		UPT	UNITY-POINT

VAC OF ROCK ISLAND COUNTY
May 14, 2025 AT 7:19 PM
Unapproved Minutes

Meeting called to order -----PRES. GOODWIN 0719

Salute and Pledge to the Flag -----PRES. GOODWIN 0719

Prayer -----BRIAN HABEL 0719

Moment of silence for those in harm's way -----BRIAN HABEL 0720

Reading of the Preamble of the Constitution-----PRES. GOODWIN 0720

Roll Call -----SEC. BROWN 0721

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting -----SEC. BROWN 0724

Approve:

Motioned: Kilkenny Second: Habel Outcome: passes

Reading of Monthly Reports -----PRES. GOODWIN 0727

Approve:

Motioned: Kilkenny Second: Habel Outcome: passes

County Monies Budget Report -----KEVIN KILKENNY 0727

Approve:

Kilkenny Second: Habel Outcome: passes

Emergency Relief & Medical Equipment Fund -----KEVIN KILKENNY 0728

Approve:

Kilkenny Second: Habel Outcome: passes

Relief Report -----SUPT. HARLOW

Approve: All financial reports

Motioned: Ed Klunt Second: Dennis Johnson Outcome: Passes

Parris brings up the adjustments from the previous years budgets and how we are nearly at 50% of funds per the line items. Our focus is on the food that's only at 23% with acknowledgement that it should increase near the end of the year. If not, the funds will be placed into other areas. Brian Habel confirms that the funds are from our funds, not gift cards, and further described the services such as food, rent, personal hygiene provided to local veterans.

Report of members on sick list ----- SUPT. HARLOW 0731

Todd Harlow acknowledges that Jeff Meincke is sick. Brings up awareness on PTSD issues and the short life span of those who suffers it. Addressed the reduction of surviving members of the commission.

OLD BUSINESS

Tiny Vet Homes RI donation payment 17 APR 2025/groundbreaking 25 APR 25 2pm—Bigford 0733

Brad Bigford covered the positive press brought on by this project with Todd at the forefront. The final naming convention of the project was not yet confirmed but the VAC is likely to have a large impact on the naming convention. "Lane Evans" is a solid contender for the projects title, and Todd Harlow further thanks members in attendance. Todd further stressed the importance of subsidized homes for veterans. Jason Wilkins asked for elaboration on the application process, with Todd expressing the Springfield location's guidance on what they utilize for a similar project that is being done in other parts of the state. Brad Bigford expressed that the rock island housing authority oversees section 8 housing and that Mr. Chao works with the VA for VASH to subsidize housing for veterans. The completion timeline is expected sometime in the fall. The honor guard was thanked for their support of the event.

Milan American Legion 14 APR 2025 Brad and Todd meeting with board -- Bigford

Anthony Clifford last day working at RICOVAC 09 MAY 2025 – Harlow

Todd Harlow Retirement update – Harlow 0738

Todd was given a round of applause for his service, and Brad Bigford was also recognized for his new title of Super Intendent. Todd acknowledged his departure and highlighted the new VSO hires of Jason, Gage, and Cory as taking on responsibilities.

0741 Jason Wilkins addresses the crowd on the week long NACVSO training that took place two weeks ago. Highlighted the material covered, exam required, and the follow on licensing submission, and finally finger prints and a PIV card. President asked about when we would be fully up and running, with Jason responding as July

New Superintendent (Bigford) effective start date – Harlow 0745

VETPRO numbers – Silvis

Armed Forces Day Rock Island Arsenal (Parris/Jason)—Silvis

VEAC EVENT - 27-28 JUNE 2025 Black Hawk College—Bigford

New Veteran Service Organizations elections? -- Bigford

NEW BUSINESS

In Honor of Todd Harlow Retirement – Pizza provided by the VAC – Bigford

VSO Basic Benefits course completion -- Willits

New VSO'S hired and training introduction: Cory Hawk and Gage Adams – Bigford 0745

Anonymously Grateful – HAWK 0746

NGO that supports Gold Star families. Two families lost members due to suicide following PTSD. They host events such as SEP 12th where they will host a banquet. Strong focus on mental health with veterans. 1st Saturday of every month host a brunch at corner stone church for veterans. The pastor is a veteran who introduced Cory to Paris. Cory was able to utilize his organization and contacts to service five clients within his first few weeks. 0800-1100 Cornerstone church in Eldridge. Mike Middelsten spoke at the last session that hosts free fruit, coffee, pizza and doughnuts.

Tiny Vet Homes RI attendance – Harlow 0749

Todd addresses the politicians Grey Johnson, COL Dan Swanson veterans board of rep house attended the event. Eric Sorenson. Military veterans support act, Todd took part in it, was grateful to thank those that supported the group to include both mayors of rock island, and John Chow who was instrumental to get this project off the ground, soliciting for funds for the project. Addressed the surprisingly large attendance for the event, and coverage of public officials. County board wasn't present, but was instrumental for the project. Follow on projects will include a community center. Al asked for blueprints of the layout, they were present at the event. Todd was asked to attend a rock island expo fair to represent the commission and see if there were any vets there that needed assistance. Spoke with the new mayor and asked him to come down and see what we do. Spoke of a lack of police officers who come to the VSO on fear of losing their jobs.

Rock Island Employee fair at QCCA expo Center – Harlow 0752

VETPRO numbers – Silvis 0755

Parris brought up the Friday going away locally for Todd.

90 New clients in April, nearly three new veterans a day for the month. 165 actions, created 295 forms, submitted 190, uploaded 260 files into VetPro, 30 decisions, and 355 interactions with veterans or family members. 16 people a day were interacted with. The number of new submissions shows that were being noticed as a good organization to get veterans their VA benefits. Covered the new meeting packet format for the following month. Will decrease creation demand, and streamline the flow of the meetings. Todd asked the body of the commission if the current format is useful and encouraged members to speak up if the information provided is useful. It was highlighted that 5/4 people are bad with math. SECC asked if the majority of those coming were elderly vets, and it was confirmed that it was all ages that show up. Jason brought up that the younger generation is poor at communication

amongst itself, but that this organization is gaining trust via word of mouth. Cory brought up that the next wave of OIF/OEF are just past the 20 year mark and we expect more to come. Consistently high levels of awards granted from last month. Brian Habel addressed that many veterans have bad experiences with VSO's and avoid the process. Gage shared his experiences with poor VSO's and the stress they cause those departing the service. Other offices such as Carla's were identified as overwhelmed and that degrades performance by Todd.

Armed Forces Day Rock Island Arsenal (Parris/Jason)—Silvis 0807
0800 Run begins armed forces day. VAC will be there with a table and fliers. Cory and Jason will be there participating by the old golf course club house at a blue tent until 1500. There will be rides, games, and some cannons firing, food vendors, and bands, and fireworks.

NACVSO National Conference (14-18 JUL 2025) attendance from RICOVAC – Silvis 0809 Louisville Kentucky, Parris will be attending to provide representation. Everyone will have the opportunity to attend in a rotational basis. Paris will return with further information to share with the organization.

New Assistant Superintendent – Bigford 0810

Asks for people to bring information on any changes to the budget. The county wants the budget to be input into the system in June. The intent is for the budget to be easily digestible by the Commissions members. Changes can be done on the spot on the following meeting held at Milan. Korean war group is disbanded as next week. Dennis Johnson was asked to become a delegate along with Andy Ortiz VFW 8890. Weapons and equipment will be turned in and the organization will close. Dennis expressed the age. The group requires 5 to exist, but only three members show up for meetings. There aren't enough to participate or pay the bills. Parris was highlighted as the new assistant superintendent.

VEAC EVENT - 27-28 JUNE 2025 Black Hawk College—Bigford
Open Meetings Act & Freedom of Information Act online training (**if needed, schedule a date / time with Erlinda to use VAC office computer**)

OTHER BUSINESS

None at this time

ADJOURN 0815

Approve:

Motioned: Dennis Johnson Second: Ed Klunt Outcome: Pass