

**IOWA DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**  
**Iowa Commission of Veterans Affairs Meeting**  
**Wednesday, April 2, 2025**  
**Beginning at 1:00 p.m.**  
**IVH - Whitehill Auditorium**  
**1301 Summit Street**  
**Marshalltown, IA 50158**

**By Phone:** Joella Perry  
Becky Dirk Haugsted  
Darlene McMartin  
Scott Miller  
Robert Suesakul  
Elizabeth Ledvina  
Dave Grimm  
Todd Jacobus  
George Mosby  
Reggie Richardson  
Dennis Jones

**Staff:** Missy Miller, Trust Fund Administrator – Conference Recording Secretary

**NOTE: These minutes are considered approved when dated and Chair signature**

**APPROVED:** Darlene McMartin **Date:** July 9, 2025  
**Darlene McMartin, Chair, Iowa Commission of Veterans Affairs**

**Call to Order:**

The purpose of the meeting is to approve Trust Fund applications.

**Discussion and Action of Veterans Trust Fund Applications**

After discussion of application #01337-2 from Sac County requesting \$976 for additional dental, Commissioner Suesekul made a motion to approve and was seconded by Commissioner Ledvina. Motion carried; approved unanimously.

After discussion of application #01626-3 from Black Hawk County requesting \$1,392 for additional dental, Commissioner Perry made a motion to approve and was seconded by Commissioner Grimm. Motion carried; approved unanimously.

After discussion of application #01715-5 from Black Hawk County requesting \$1,395.85 for additional vehicle repairs, Commissioner Ledvina made a motion to approve and was seconded by Commissioner Grimm. Motion carried; approved unanimously.

After discussion of application #02588 #5 from Dubuque County requesting \$854 for incurred dental debt, Commissioner Ledvina made a motion to deny and was seconded by Commissioner Perry. Motion carried; denied unanimously.

After discussion of application #02597 from Johnson County requesting \$3,923 for a one-time vehicle replacement, Commissioner Mosby made a motion to approve and was seconded by Commissioner Grimm. Motion carried; approved unanimously.

After discussion of application #02691 from Linn County requesting \$1,721.92 for additional vehicle repairs, Commissioner McMartin made a motion to approve and was seconded by Commissioner Dirk-Haugsted. Motion carried; approved unanimously.

Application #02721 from Black Hawk County requested \$10,000 for emergency housing repairs on March 11, 2025 on an emergency basis and was approved by Commissioners Paulline, Perry, and Richardson.

After discussion of application #02722 from Clinton County requesting \$6,291.04 for dental care, Commissioner Grimm made a motion to approve and was seconded by Commissioner Dennis Jones. Motion carried; approved unanimously.

After discussion of application #02723 from Black Hawk County requesting \$4,046 for dental care, Commissioner Grimm made a motion to defer; requesting a second estimate from a different dental office and was seconded by Commissioner Mosby. Motion carried; deferred unanimously.

After discussion of application #02724 from Fremont County requesting \$3,699 for a one-time vehicle replacement, Commissioner Dirk-Haugsted made a motion to defer; pending proof of how the veterans will be able to afford vehicle registration, vehicle insurance and proof of household income and was seconded by Commissioner Ledvina Jones. Motion carried; deferred unanimously.

After discussion of application #02725 from Clinton County requesting \$9,801 for dental care, Commissioner Perry made a motion to approve and was seconded by Commissioner Ledvina. Motion carried; approved unanimously.

After discussion of application #02726 from Scott County requesting \$6,200 for dental care, Commissioner Ledvina made a motion to approve and was seconded by Commissioner Mosby. Motion carried; approved unanimously.

After discussion of application #02727 from Linn County requesting \$969.80 for vehicle repairs, Commissioner Grimm made a motion to approve and was seconded by Commissioner Dirk-Haugsted. Motion carried; approved unanimously.

After discussion of application #02728 from Linn County requesting \$6,183.76 for dental care, Commissioner Grimm made a motion to approve pending, current savings account statements and was seconded by Commissioner Perry. Motion carried; approved pending unanimously.

Application #02729 from Jefferson County requested \$5,000 for a one-time emergency vehicle replacement on March 28, 2025 on an emergency basis and was approved by Commissioners Dirk-Haugsted, Ledvina, and McMartin.

### **Next Conference Call**

The next conference call is scheduled for Thursday, May 1st beginning at 9:00 a.m.

**Adjournment:** Conference call adjourned at 1:30 p.m.



- referrals from the Iowa City Medical Center. Only three from out of state, one each from Minnesota, Illinois and Nebraska.
- b Increase in requested funds due to the DAV no longer being able to contribute due to their new rules
- 6 Charlie Brimeyer, VCAD
    - a. Explanation of new DAV national program funding and the effect on VCAD
    - b Turning away 11 Veterans this year already
  7. Darlene McMartin, Chair, ICVA
    - a. Explanation of the new format of the License Plate assistance fund and request for total estimated budget to calculate the allocation of the max 10% of total cost.
  8. Scott Miller, ICVA Commissioner, Paralyzed Veterans of America
    - a. Questions. How are the applications processed and how is it decided which applications are granted for participation in VCAD? Is there a qualifying level of disability that you have to have to participate as a Veteran?
  9. Kirt Sickels, VCAD
    - a. Answers. Initially, first come first serve Now they request that 25% be first time attendees. They take all disabilities, PTSD, MST, VA referrals, and physical disability.
  10. Motion to approve the 10% donation to VCAD was made by Elizabeth Ledvina. Second by Scott Miller. Roll call completed and all Commissioners were in favor. Donation to Veterans Casting Away Disabilities is approved in the amount of \$11,715 00
  - 11 Meeting adjourned at 9:39 am, Chair McMartin

Minutes approved by: *Darlene McMartin*  
Darlene McMartin, Chair, Iowa Commission of Veterans Affairs

Date: *July 9, 2025*



April 25, 2025

Public Meeting Minutes. License Plate Fund Request, Veterans Casting Away Disabilities

ICVA Commissioners in attendance: Todd Jacobus, Darlene McMartin, Joella Perry, Becky Dirks Haugsted, Dave Grimm, Scott Miller, Robert Suesakul, George Mosby, Elizabeth Ledvina, Dennis Jones

ICVA Commissioners not in attendance: Gregory Paulline and AMVETS (Vacant)

IDVA personnel in attendance: Gavin Sandvig, Nathan Wilson, Mike Olson, Melissa Miller, Karl Lettow and Kellie Meyer

Those appearing on behalf of Veterans Casting Away Disabilities: Kurt Sickels, Mindy Sickels, Charlie Brimeyer and Todd Coffelt

- 1 Meeting was opened on Google Teams by recording secretary, Kellie Meyer at 8:47 am
2. Roll Call
- 3 Introduction of meeting by the Iowa Commission of Veterans Affairs Chair, Darlene McMartin
  - a Meeting to discuss an application made for license plate funds to be allocated to Veterans Casting Away Disabilities
  - b A consolidated list of questions from the Commission for VCAD was sent out prior to the meeting in an effort to supplement areas of the application that were not addressed or that the Commission felt needed further clarification
- 4 Mindy Sickels, VCAD
  - a Form 990 explanation
    - i. 2023, VCAD was not required to do a full 990, but they do have balance sheets that they can provide
    - ii 2024. Still in progress, not due until May 14
  - b. 2024 contributions, program service revenue and fundraising event amounts were \$80,677.78
  - c Total expenses for event in 2024. \$80,002.71
  - d. Mindy to send detailed financial packet to Todd or Darlene
  - e 66% of all expenses are directly related to resort, food and banquet fees for Veterans and volunteers. 6-8% goes into supplies (gear, tackle, gas, etc). 8.5% goes into repair and maintenance of the boats and ADA van. Small percentage goes into office supplies, insurance and sales tax expenses
  - f. No funds are directed to board members or volunteers
- 5 Kirt Sickels, VCAD
  - a 2024 invitations went out to 45 Veterans. One from Illinois, two from Minnesota, the rest were Iowans. 2025, 48 invites have went out. The three additional were