

# VAB Agenda – October 10, 2024

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- I. Call to Order, Pledge, Invocation, Roll Call
- II. Approval of September 10, 2024 minutes (action)
- III. Committee Reports (info and action)
- IV. WDVA Presentation and Discussion (info)
- V. August 2024 Contractor and Fund Reports (info)
- VI. Veterans Assistance Center Updates (info)
- VII. Preliminary 2025 Budget Discussion (info)
- VIII. Old Business (info)
- IX. New Business (info)
- X. Open Forum (info)
- XI. Adjourn



# Agenda Item I. Call to Order/Pledge/Invocation/Roll Call

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# Agenda Item II. Approval of September 12<sup>th</sup> minutes

## Clark County Veterans Advisory Board Meeting Minutes An advisory board to the Clark County Council September 12, 2024

Chair: **Bob Nichols** Vice Chair: **Megan Anderson** Secretary: **Bruce Maas**

Meeting called to order.

Roll Call: [Bold script indicates presence at meeting; italics indicates excused]

POST	PRIMARY	ALTERNATE
40 et 8	<i>Bob Brennan</i>	<i>Steve Slegers</i>
American Legion #14	<b>Gene Couture</b>	
American Legion #44	<i>Darren Wertz</i>	<i>Charles Ingalls</i>
American Legion #168	<b>Bob Nichols</b>	
American Legion #176	<b>Michael Gibson</b>	<b>Jonathan Frederick</b>
American Veterans #6	<i>John Lovejoy</i>	<i>Vanise Pratt</i>
DAV Chapter #4	<b>Bruce Maas</b>	<i>Tom Cousino</i>
Korean War Assoc. #321		<b>Ron Brandon</b>
Marine Corps League #826	<i>Steve Slegers</i>	<i>Dana Difford</i>
VFW #4278	<i>Shannon Roberts</i>	
VFW #7824	<b>Greg Gilbertson</b>	
Vietnam Vets #512	<b>Greg Whitson</b>	<i>Nick Herber</i>
Members at Large	<i>Kelly Jones</i>	
	<b>Bryan McGillis</b>	
	<i>Tonya Wark</i>	
	<i>Tamara Ekam</i>	
	<b>Megan Anderson</b>	
	<i>Eli Gonzalez</i>	
	<b>Michael Langsdorf</b>	
	<i>Lloyd Bowman</i>	
	<b>Buck Marr</b>	

Clark County Representative: **Abby Molloy**

Guests: **Lori Pugh** (Clark County Veterans Assistance Center), **Judy Russel** (Clark County Veterans Assistance Center), **Cindy Tanner** (VA), **Morgan Valentine** (Council for the Homeless), **Sesany Fennie-Jones** (Council for the Homeless).

### Approval of August 8, 2024, meeting minutes

The minutes were approved following a motion by Ron Brandon that was seconded by Greg Gilbertson.

### Committee Reports

Appeals: None

Policies and Procedures: None

Nominations: None

### Compact Act Presentation, Cindy Tanner

- Compact Act = Financial benefit for Veterans in an acute suicidal state. 2020 legislation implemented in 2023.
- Cindy is Compact Act Coordinator - involves education, outreach, and advocacy for Veteran suicide prevention
- Requires that VA pay for all emergent suicide care for eligible Veterans (30 days inpatient, 90 days outpatient)
  - Includes emergency transport (including life flight) and some prescription medications
- Administrative (based on service time and discharge status) vs. clinical (based on clinical assessment) eligibility

## Clark County Veterans Advisory Board Meeting Minutes An advisory board to the Clark County Council September 12, 2024

- See slides for details and potential exceptions
- 3 ways to initiate care: call the Veterans Crisis Line, call 911, show up at a local VA or facility (anyone can call)
- Post discharge care coordination: options to collaborate with VA or other facilities, harm reduction, ongoing mental health services
- Eligibility question: priority 8 Veterans are eligible
- Have up to 180 days to report to VA for bill payment
- Data shows suicide rates, PTSD, anxiety, depression decreasing

### Council for the Homeless Presentation: Veteran-By-Name-List Core Improvement Team

- Veteran-By-Name-List = List of everyone in Clark County that identifies as a Veteran experiencing homelessness.
- Core improvement team = group of key stakeholders. Meet every 2 weeks to coordinate services for Veterans.
  - Clark County Veterans Assistance Center, Veterans Affairs, Transition Projects, Council for the Homeless, Partners In Careers, Vancouver Housing Authority, staff with lived experience as Veterans and of homelessness
- Goals: decrease number of Veterans falling into homelessness, increase amount of Veterans exiting homelessness into housing, improve data, focus on big picture, reach 100% on VBNL
  - Reach functional zero by March 31, 2025
- Actions: sharing knowledge, outreach, supporting troops through resources
- Contacts: Morgan Valentine ([mvalentine@councilforthehomeless.org](mailto:mvalentine@councilforthehomeless.org)), Sesany Fennie-Jones ([stennie-jones@councilforthehomeless.org](mailto:stennie-jones@councilforthehomeless.org))

### July 2024, Contractor & Fund reports

- CCVAC: 38 Veterans served in July, services totaling \$21,204.61. 28 male veterans, 10 female veterans, 0 widows, 0 other veterans. 11 denials, 0 subject to appeals. 595 visits to the center for essentials and food, 980 sack breakfasts/lunches provided and 39 food boxes provided. 3,238 total pounds of food, 937 volunteer hours, totaling \$37,742 in value.
- Free Clinic: 4 Veterans served in July. Services totaled \$3,872 in value; billed \$3,853.93
- VAF Fund: July revenue: \$8810.98; expenditures: \$93,165.17; fund balance: \$610,943.63.
- Request for CCVAC to submit budget request by August next year.

### Clark County Veterans Assistance Center Update

- Stand Down is coming up on September 27<sup>th</sup>. Have received donations from 2 organizations, hoping other organizations will donate and attend the Stand Down. Gala Video shown.

### Old Business

- N/A

### New Business

- Veteran's Advisory Board Handbook revision discussion. Discussion included definition of lobbying and VAB media communication expectations. Will be finished next meeting.

### Open Forum and Public Comment

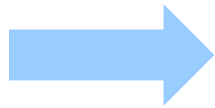
### Adjourn

Meeting adjourned. Next meeting October 10th, 2024.

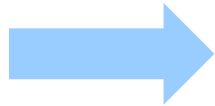


# Agenda Item III. Committee Reports

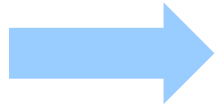
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**Appeals – Gene Couture**



**Policies and Procedures – Kelly Jones**



**Nominations – Bruce Maas**



# WDVA Presentation and Discussion

David Puente, WDVA Director



# Agenda Item V. August 2024 Contractor Reports

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- **CCVAC**

- 52 Veterans served in August, services totaling \$31,134.28
- 42 male Veterans, 9 female Veterans, 1 widow, and 0 others served
- 10 denials, 0 subject to appeal
- 682 visits to the center for essentials and food. 1,077 sack breakfasts and lunches and 40 food boxes provided. 3,632 total pounds of food provided.
- 868.5 volunteer hours, totaling \$34,983.18 in value

- **Free Clinic**

- 3 veterans served in August. Services totaled \$1,105 in value. Billed \$693.35.

- **Fund**

- August revenue: \$37,758.06; expenditures: \$56,095.97; fund balance: \$592,605.72



# Agenda Item V: CCVAC Stand Down Report

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- **Veterans served:**

- 232 total Veterans, 190 male Veterans, 42 female Veterans
- 81 renters. 89 homeowners, 47 homeless, 15 unknown

- **Providers:**

- 64 agencies, 143 total providers

- **Volunteers:**

- 106 total volunteers, 519 volunteer hours, \$20,905.32 in value

- **Services:**

- 481 meals served
- 3 tons clothing provided
- 128 boots provided
- 40 haircuts
- 42 massages



# Agenda Item VI. CCVAC updates

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**Honorably  
serving those  
who served  
honorably**





# Preliminary 2025 VAF Allocation Discussion



# 2025 Budget Proposals

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- Free Clinic
  - \$24,700 – same amount
- CCVAC
  - \$883,000 – 10% increase
  - Includes \$25,000 increase for Vet Services, rent increase, salary increases, part time CSO
- WDVA
  - \$134,520 – 2.5% decrease



# Agenda Items VII. – X.

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- **Old Business**
  - Handbook revision discussion
- **New Business**
- **Open Forum**
- **Adjourn**

***Next meeting: November 14, 2024***

