

Clark County Veterans Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

An advisory board to the Clark County Council

February 12, 2026

Chair: Bob Nichols

Vice Chair: Buck Marr

Secretary: Bruce Maas

Meeting called to order.

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

POST

40 et 8
American Legion #14
American Legion #44
American Legion #168
American Legion #176
American Veterans #6
DAV Chapter #4
Korean War Assoc. #321
Marine Corps League #826
VFW #4278
VFW #7824
Vietnam Vets #512
Members at Large

PRIMARY

Bob Brennan
Gene Couture
Jim Bowen
Bob Nichols
Michael Gibson
John Lovejoy
Bruce Maas
Patrick Locke
Steve Slegers
Thomas Brandt
Greg Gilbertson
Greg Whitson
Bryan McGillis
Tonya Wark
Michael Langsdorf
Lloyd Bowman
Buck Marr

ALTERNATE

Mark Lacey
Darren Wertz
Jonathan Frederick
Vanise Pratt
Roy Day
Earl Edwards
Deborah Proctor
Stewart Bauer
Nick Herber

Clark County Representative: Abby Molloy, Nooreen Ebrahim

Guests: Judy Russel and Sonja Wood (Clark County Veterans Assistance Center); Glen Yung (Clark County Council); Emily Zwetzig (Clark County Budget Office) Larry J. Smith (CMAC)

Approval of January 8, 2026 meeting minutes

The minutes were approved following a motion by Steve Sledgers that was seconded by Lloyd Bowman.

Committee Reports

Appeals: None.

Policies and Procedures: A committee meeting will be held before the March VAB meeting. Greg Gilbertson visited the CCVAC to better understand the work they do.

Nominations: None.

Budget Workgroup: The group would like to know how direct and indirect cost rates are determined and how money gets allocated to these costs, as well as more information about the different types of audits the county conducts on the VAF. Staff will direct these questions to the Auditor's Office.

Discussion with Councilor Glen Yung

Councilor Yung thanked the board for their military and advisory board service. He reviewed the levy that funds the Veteran Assistance Fund (VAF) and the council's role in determining the levy amount. The council can either approve a 1% increase, or a 0% increase to the VAF each year. An increase above 1% would need to be approved by voters. The board raised concerns about the decrease in the levy rate since the fund's inception. Councilor Yung will provide the guidance that states that the levy can be decreased from 1 1/8 cent per \$1,000.

Councilor Yung proposed, on behalf of himself and not the county council, that if the VAF could be separated from the

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General Fund, it may alleviate board member concerns. He also shared HB 2442 with the board, which includes legislation that would make the VAF a separate fund. The board requested clarification as to why the funds were combined when the RCW seems to imply the VAF be a separate fund.

Annual Board Member Training

Staff provided an overview of the rules and regulations that must be followed to be effective board member.

December 2025 Contractor & Fund Reports

- CCVAC: 46 Veterans served in December, with services totaling \$37,645.28. 33 male veterans, 8 female veterans, 1 widow, 0 other veterans. 14 denials, 0 subject to appeal. 566 visits to the center for essentials and food, 612 sack breakfasts and lunches and 81 food boxes provided. 7,588 total pounds of food. 614.5 volunteer hours, totaling \$24,752 in value.
- Free Clinic: 1 Veteran served in December. Services totaled \$121 in value; billed \$718.55.
- WDVA: 650 claims in the fourth quarter, with a 92% 'batting average' and \$480,240 in VA payments.
- VAF Fund December: Revenue: \$5,044.78; expenditures: \$141,337.16; fund balance: \$329,653.35, a \$136,292.38 decrease in the fund from the month prior.

Clark County Veterans Assistance Center Updates, Judy Russel

- The board was introduced to the new outreach coordinator for the CCVAC, Tammy.
- Charts outlining 2025 visits and expenditures from the CCVAC non-profit and the contracted VAF funds were shared with the board.
- The bingo fundraiser was successful and are anticipating expanding the event next year.

Old Business

Bruce Mass shared that county staff will continue researching the Hero bus passes provided through C-Tran. The numbers from the Point-in-Time count should be published soon.

New Business

A letter of intent was received from Larry J. Smith to become a Member at Large on the VAB. Larry J. Smith was appointed as a Member at Large following a motion by Steve Sledgers and seconded by Lloyd Bowman.

Abby Molloy shared that all VAF contracts are currently being monitored to ensure contract requirements are being met. Additionally, the work session that will be attended by Clark County Council, VAB, and CCVAC has been scheduled for April 29 at 9 a.m. at the Public Service Center Hearing Room on the 6th floor.

Open Forum and Public Comment

Larry J. Smith shared that the 104th Division will be deactivated this summer. He is working on having the division commemorated in partnership with the City of Vancouver and The Historic Trust.

***Motion to adjourn by Patrick Locke and seconded by Tonya Wark. Approved unanimously.
Next meeting: March 12, 2026.***