

Jasper County Commission of Veterans Affairs

315 West Third Street North, Suite 250, Newton, IA 50208

Phone 1-641-792-7993

Commissioners: Robert Suesakul , Marta Ford, Jerry Nelson, Kat Thompson, and Ed Spangenburg

12 November 2025

Minutes

On 12 November 2025, at 1500 hours, Commission Chairperson Jerry Nelson called the regularly scheduled meeting of the Jasper County Veterans Affairs Commission to order. The Commissioners in attendance were Robert Suesakul, Jerry Nelson, Kat Thompson, and Ed Spangenburg. Also in attendance were JCVA Director Ray Maxey, Shared Benefits Coordinator and County Veterans Service Officer Joshua Price, and guest: Director of HR Dennis Simon.

Approve Minutes:

Marta Ford made a motion and Kat Thompson seconded to approve the minutes of the regularly scheduled commission meeting held on October 8th, 2025. The motion passed unanimously.

Unfinished Business:

1. Outreach Discussion

Joshua Price & Ray Maxey brought Ideas for outreach to the Commission such as hosting a tent at the Jasper County Fair, State fair and the Newton Speedway when there are races being hosted to get new veterans engaged in filing claims. It was also proposed to place a banner outside the county office building advertising the office is there for holidays. Commissioners took these ideas into consideration and the discussion has been tabled.

New Business:

1. October 2025 Activity Report:

Commissioners reviewed the report. Staff noted that 79 veterans signed in on the PII sheet during their visits to our offices. PII sheet is on file in office due to sensitive nature.

2. October 2025 Expenses and Allocation Report:

Commissioners reviewed the report.

3. Commissioners training certs

Commissioners were given their certificates from the fall school training provided by the IDVA, a copy has been given to the HR Director for record keeping.

4. Meeting frequency

It was brought forward to the commissioners that given the short agenda we could consider reducing the meeting frequency. Jerry Nelson feels it is necessary to maintain the current frequency, for the time being.

The Commission decided unanimously to table the discussion until further information is presented.

5. Commissioner seat – open vacancy / Ed Spangenburg reappointment 3 years

Commissioner Ed was asked if he would be willing to fill the seat for another term, he agreed. Ray Maxey will speak to the Auditors office for as far as what needs to be done to assist this process and place the item on the BOS agenda.

Public Input: None

Marta Ford made a motion Kat Thompson seconded to adjourn the meeting at 1600 hours. The motion passed unanimously.

Confirm next meeting: Wednesday, 10 December 2025, 1500 hrs., Jasper County Office Building.

/s/ Joshua M. Price, Secretary