

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

14 January 2026

Minutes

On 14 January 2026, 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 (Arrived at 15:07 hours) , Jerry Nelson 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:

Ed Spangenburg made a motion and Marta Ford seconded to approve the minutes of the regularly scheduled commission meeting held on 10 December 2025. The motion passed unanimously.

Unfinished Business:

1. Outreach Discussion

Joshua Price & Ray Maxey spoke on the Coffee & camaraderie's success and the Veterans' pleasure in the event & the Office looks forward to continuing said events. Joshua Price spoke on an opportunity for a Film at the Capital Cinema II this topic will be further developed and brought back forward at a future time. Jerry Nelson mentioned National guard Alumni day in August the date is unclear at this time however it was expressed that there is interest in the office attending. Veterans Day on the hill was brought up however the office closure was not warranted to attend the event is in the middle of the working day from 9am – 11am during peak time. The topic of outreach shall remain unfinished business going forward.

New Business:

1. December 2025 Activity Report:

Commissioners reviewed the report. Staff noted that 89 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. December 2025 Expenses and Allocation Report:

Commissioners reviewed the report.

3. Closed Meeting requested

Veteran Financial request for approval / Denial ability – property taxes. It was brought to the Commission to see if the office would be able to assist in paying a surviving spouse’s property taxes, however with unanimous denial it was deemed to be outside of the office’s scope to assist with directly paying property taxes. It was further decided to assist on other fronts.

Assistance for a Veteran who was sent from General assistance has a balance of 1200 given nature the board has decided to approve a one time assist over the max 1,000.00 to maintain residency.

4. Veterans belonging recovered from storage unit – mailing requested

Joshua Price was contacted by A-Z storage stating the had found a Veterans belongings. The office found the Veteran in the VA System & made contact. The Veteran was amazed it had been found and the office will be shipping the items to him it was requested by the board to use the Donation fund total cost 85.77.

5. 2nd QTR BOS Report

Commissioners reviewed the report. The report was approved unanimously and will be presented to the BOS

Public Input: None

Ed Spangenburg made a motion Robert Suesakul seconded to adjourn the meeting at 1600 hours. The motion passed unanimously.

Confirm next meeting: Wednesday, 14 January 2026, 1500 hrs., Jasper County Office Building.

/s/ Joshua M. Price, Secretary