

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

11 February 2026

Minutes

On 11 February 2026, at 1501 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:

Minute approval rescheduled to March 11th meeting

Unfinished Business:

1. Outreach Discussion

Joshua Price & Ray Maxey spoke on the Coffee & camaraderie's set back due to extreme cold weather however showed hope for the next with many RSVP's and warmer weather. The Office looks forward to continuing said events. The event will be on the 3rd Tuesday of every month going forward until further notice. Marta brought to topic of the Korean dinner discussion tabled pending further. Jerry requested information on disposable coasters requesting them to be quoted and brought further to the Commission. The topic of outreach shall remain unfinished business going forward.

New Business:

1. January 2026 Activity Report:

Commissioners reviewed the report. Staff noted that 111 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. January 2026 Expenses and Allocation Report:

Commissioners reviewed the report.

3. Veterans widow burial assistance

Commissioners were informed of an assistance approval was not requested due to current guidelines just informed.

4. America's 250th Celebration

Joshua Price & Ray Maxey spoke on the topic bringing it to the Commissioners' attention that the world fair will be in Iowa at the state fairgrounds.

5. Iowa National Guard

Joshua Price brought to the Commissioners that 250 troops were brought home, the Office will attend the yellow ribbon ceremony date TBD.

6. Director salary annual percentage increase

Kat recommended a 6% raise, posed a motion all were in favor Jerry Nelson will draft a letter to the BOS letter is due by noon Friday the 13th, 2026

Public Input: None

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

Confirmed next meeting: Wednesday, 11 March 2026, 1500 hrs., Jasper County Office Building.

/s/ Joshua M. Price, Secretary