



# Veteran Assistance Commission of Will County

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16 February 2022

**\*SPECIAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING\***

5:00PM

**2400 Glenwood Ave Suite 110 Joliet, IL 60435**

- I. Call to Order: Koch
  - A. Pledge of Allegiance
  - B. Opening Prayer: Singler
- II. Roll Call of Attendees: Koch

VAC Commission		
Attendee Name	Title	Status
Jack Picciolo	President	A
Nicholas Barry	Vice President	A
Denise Williams	Secretary	A
Amanda Koch	Sgt-At-Arms	P
Jim Singler	Chaplain	P
Tom Mlynek	Member	P
Janet Blue	Member	A
Steve Benicke	Member	P
Vic Martinka	Past Chairman	P
John Kestle	Past Chairman	A
John York	Past Chairman	A
Wayne Horne	Past Chairman	P

- III. VACWC Vacant Position
  - A. McNichol advised a motion made at previous board meeting on 2/8/22 to approve new position for Executive Assistant and is ready to post.
    - Benicke asked what the responsibilities/duties are for new position.
    - McNichol reviewed job description
    - Mlynek asked if position controlled by County H.R.
    - Horne stated we (VACWC) don't fall under the County, asked why we had to go to County Board for approval.
    - McNichol answered for a budget amendment for the full-time salary line item.
 Motion to post job vacancy for Executive Assistant: Benicke, Martinka; All in favor.
- IV. DCEO 2022 Appropriation \$250,000
  - A. McNichol discussed Bays' estimate for addition of office space, waiting for final numbers. McNichol discussed VACWC website, will be streamlined and staff manageable.
    - Benicke asked what "staff manageable" meant

-McNichol stated “staff manageable” means staff can post minutes/agenda etc. to website.

V. IGA with County Executive Office

- A. McNichol discussed proposed IGA with County, asked board to review drafts. Stated over the years we have worked well with the county. The new executive also supports an IGA to solidify our working relationship between the two separate governmental departments.
- Horne discussed concern over the County not working with the VACWC and wants to maintain autonomy
  - McNichol stated she wants a short time limit on the IGA
  - Horne reiterated he wants to maintain autonomy for the VACWC, said County is ignorant to how the VACWC runs
  - McNichol stated the County is not ignorant, the MVAA is poorly written
  - McNichol discussed we need to treat Veterans as not just veterans, but also as members of the community too
  - Koch stated the board members should review the proposed amendments for the MVAA and she can present them to the County Legislative Committee
  - McNichol discussed revocation of BMO from the VACWC. Said issues were from lack of communication
  - Horne stated historically this is what the County does, the VACWC should have their own credit card.
  - McNichol discussed VACWC previously filing for own EIN, will follow up on status
  - Wise asked why VACWC does not want a tax levy
  - Koch stated VACWC does not want to be a line item, too much scrutiny
  - McNichol stated VACWC could do a levy now per case law
  - Wise stated the IGA needs to reflect how VACWC is run right now, not if HB5184 passes
  - Koch stated McNichol and Wise need to work on IGA
  - McNichol stated plan for future executive meeting on 2/22/22 to discuss IGA

VI. Illinois HB5184 Proposed Amendment to the Military Veterans Assistance Act, Public Aid Code, and Counties Code

- A. McNichol discussed if HB5184 is passed into law it will include public aid code policies/guidelines; EX: TANF
- Koch asked for clarification regarding the public aid code
  - McNichol discussed proposed tax levy

VII. For Good of the Commission/Public Comment

VIII. Motion to Adjourn: Horne, Martinka; All in favor.