

Mills County Veterans Affairs

February 13th, 2026, Agenda

To: All MCVA Commissioners, Board of Supervisors Liaison, MCVA staff

Christina Hankins, CVSO/Caseworker

Lori Swisher, CVSO/Clerk

(Commissioners have staggered three-year terms)

Paul Hathaway, Commissioner 1974-2026

Jeanne Wilkins, Commissioner 2019-2025

Yolanda Hardesty, Commissioner 2019-2025

Jess Cook, Commissioner/Secretary 2019-2026

Jim Schoening, Commissioner/Chair 2017-2025

Richard Crouch, BOS Liaison 2003 - 2025

From: Elizabeth Richardson, CVSO/Administrator

February Regular Meeting 8:30 am

Location: 403 Railroad Avenue, Glenwood

A. Pledge of Allegiance

B. Roll Call

C. Old Business

1. *The Chair is seeking a motion to approve minutes from the January meeting.*

Motion

2. Update re VA move to Annex Bldg

Remaining bills: Electricity and gas

Locked mailbox and parking signs yet to be removed

3. Final proposed budget for 2026-2027

Salaries, utilities, etc.

4. *The Chair is seeking a motion to approve the proposed budget for the 2026-2027 fiscal year.*

Motion

5. *The Chair is seeking a motion to approve the reimbursement for postage to Sandi Winton for sending out letters regarding HBI to area businesses.*

Motion

D. Reports and Outreach

1. Administrator's Monthly Reports/Awards

- a. Communication and Forms Reports

- b. Quarterly Assistance Report

- i. No new Assistance requested

- ii. Discussion re homeless veterans in the area

- c. Running Awards C and P

November 2025: \$1,296,360

December 2025: \$1,340,965 (\$44,605 monthly increase)

End year total: \$16,091,580 in yearly VA awards to County

Running count of **awards only**: 645 people

(veterans/widows/dependents)

This does not include current clientele.

Current # 100% Disabled Military Veteran Property Tax
exemptions/Mills County: approximately 123

2. Open House for New Location
 - a. Possible date: March 12th 4 – 6 pm
Cake, coffee, drawing
2. Upcoming CVSO Training
NACVSO National Training Increasing Zoom costs
3. Commissioner Training, February 18th 6:30 – 8pm.
Annex Room reserved (doors locked by 7 pm)
Iowa Commission of Veterans Affairs 2026 Update Paperwork and Talking Points
Paperwork

E. New Business

1. Commissioners' Updates
2. Iowa Veterans Trust Fund Honor Guard Reimbursement Paperwork
3. Update Website – meet early/late next month to discuss changes?
4. Article, Why the VA's Disability System is Really Worker's Compensation, shared
by Jeanne
5. VA Health Care Numbers Brochure
6. Office Procedures Reviewed
7. Kudos and Thank yous!
Many veterans have shared their appreciation for our new space with visits and
flowers, pie, and more flowers.
Kudos to Christina!

F. Adjournment

The Chair is seeking a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion

Next Meeting: March 13th, 2025

**Future meetings: items must be on Agenda by Wednesday before monthly
Commissioner's meeting (per Open Meeting Laws)**

January Activity List 2026

Communication Report

Type	January	December	Totals YTD
Outreach	2	8	186 + Hot Dog days put in t
Home Visits	2	0	37
Fax	28	44	400
Office Visits	55	59	742
Phone Calls	135	140	1725
Outgoing Mail	8	12	179
Email	156	161	1618
Teams	86	128	1329
Other	60	80	1249
Monthly communication in system	457	504	6086
Total Monthly Communication	543	632	7415

All Printed Forms Report

Type of Form	January	December
ITF (21-0966)	10	18
FDC (21-526EZ)	7	6
Pension/DIC (21-534EZ, 21P-527EZ)		3
Dependents (21-686c)	1	
Appeal (20-0995, 20-0996)	6	13
Medical Eligibility VA Healthcare (10-10EZ)		1
21-4138/20-10210/20-10208	24	29
21-22 (POA)	11	16
Records Request (SF 180)		
Burial Benefits (21P-530, 40-1330)		2
All Forms	75	99

Total number of Veterans Served:

2018	2,637
2019	2,423
2020	4,468
2021	4,207
2022	6,003
2023	6,607
2024*	5,816
2025	7415
2026 to date:	543

(Teams YTD-(86) for LS

*July24 had glitch in numbers, total may not be accurate

Veteran Financial Assistance:

Requested: None Paperwork Completed: Granted:

IA Driver's License – 4 added Veteran designations 2 postcards mailed

DAV Van Report

Total Driving Hours	Total Miles Driven	# of veterans transportation	# of times DAV van used
3.15	53	1	1