

BOARD MINUTES
BOARD OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
Meeting of August 13, 2020 ~ 1:00pm
Webex/ Teleconference

Board Members

Larson, Vern, Chair
Schmitt, Jr., Curtis - Vice Chair
Richards, Al - Secretary
Best, Steven
Chamberlain, Paul
Carter, Tonnetta
Schrum, William - Excused
Townsend, John - ABSENT
Hanson, Chris

Others Present (not all inclusive)

Kellianne Blazek, WEDC
Denise Stromme, Rep. Hesselbein Ofc.
Daniel Checki, WVM Foundation
Lester Bischoff, Retired Enlisted Assoc/COVP

WDVA Present

Mary Kolar, Secretary
Kathy Still, Assistant Deputy Secretary
Kelly Behling, Executive Staff Assistant
Carla Vigue, Communications Director
Shannon Miller, Communications
Scott Sussman, Office of Legal Council
Patty Harrison, Communications
Donald Placidi, Veterans Benefits
Christopher Kolakowski, Museum Director
Anthony Schwartz, IT

1. Call to order and roll call
The meeting was called to order by Chairman Vern Larson. A quorum was present.
2. Pledge of Allegiance
The pledge of Allegiance was recited.
3. Certification of notice of meeting
Proper notification of the meeting occurred.
4. Review and action on BOVA meeting minutes
Chris Hanson moved to approve the minutes of the August 13, 2020 meeting, 2nd by Steve Best, motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.
5. Secretary's Comments
Secretary Kolar provided the Board with agency updates.
6. Legislative Update:
Assistant Deputy Secretary Still provided a Legislative update to the committee.
7. Presentations:

Kellianne Blazek, Director of Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC) presented to the Council. Donald Placidi shared highlights of Veteran State Benefits

8. Committees:
Grant Review Committee volunteers: Christ Hanson, Curtis Schmitt, Jr.; Tonnetta Carter.
9. Old Business: None
10. New Business: None
11. Board Member Reports by District
Board members provided updates by district.
12. Public Comment: None
13. Future meetings
The Council recommended the:
 - February 11, 2021 – Location TBD
 - May 6, 2021 – Location TBD
14. Adjournment
A motion to adjourn was made by Al Richards, 2nd by Christopher Hanson and carried on a voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 2:10pm.

Vern Larson
Chair