

**Vietnam Veterans of America
Nebraska State Council Minutes
Bellevue university Veterans Center
Date: March 6, 2021**

Meeting called to order at 9:00 AM by President Tom Brown. The President led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call of State Council Officers: President Brown, Vice President Schissel, and Treasure Kjosa, all present. Secretary Haase absent.

Roll call of Chapter Delegates: No written roll call.

Introduction of Guest: Mike Jackman, DAV Dept. Commander.

Sick call /funerals: Funerals held for Lloyd Grote and Geoffrey Harris. Both Chapter 279 members.

President's report: President Brown presented the following information to the Council:

1. A new website is in the process of development in coordination with VVA Chapter 279. The new webpage will be found at: NebraskaVietnamVeterans.com. This website will feature information about all of the Nebraska chapters. A motion was made for the State Council to pay \$500 toward the development of this website. This motion was passed subject to receiving an invoice for this service.
2. Discussion was held regarding the two options for the VVA National Convention currently scheduled for November 1 and 2, 2021 in No. Carolina. The options were: a) hold a virtual convention via zoom calls or b) continue with the in person convention as in the past. A motion was made to continue that in person National Convention as in prior years. This motion was unanimously approved.
3. Copies of At Large Nebraska VVA members was distributed to each Chapter.
4. The pickles fund has approximately \$13,600 in the bank account. There are no outstanding bills.

Vice President's report: VP Schissel gave a report on the Nebraska Veterans homes.

Secretary's report: Minutes of the October 3, 2020 meeting where emailed to all delegates and officers. Reading of the minutes was waived. Minutes were not approved due to the absence of the Secretary.

Treasurer's report: The financial report for the months of November through December 2020 and January and February, 2021 were submitted. The report was approved as submitted. There were no bills submitted for payment.

Nominations and Elections: Not applicable for this meeting. The next Council election will be held in April 2022.

AVVA Report: No report.

Old business:

1. Need man hours and mileage reports.
2. Continue need for member outreach activities. At-Large member listing distributed for potential names to contact.
3. Life time membership remains at \$50. 87,564 total membership. 646 Chapters.
4. AVVA membership 9,933.

Committee reports:

1. Veterans Home Board. Dennis gave report on activities.
2. PTSD issues. Nothing new to report.
3. Women's Veteran. No report.
4. Agent Orange. Nothing new.
5. Veterans Health and Benefits. Update given by Mike Jackson.
6. POW-MIA. No report.
7. Legislative. Greg Holloway gave an update on a bill to that would grant 100% tax exempt status in Nebraska on military retirees pension payments, reduced motor vehicle taxes and grave markers for National Guard members.
8. Vietnam War Commemoration activities continue at the VA.

Chapter Reports:

Reports were given by Chapters 727 and 279.

New business:

1. Vietnam maps are still available for sale for \$10. Cost is \$1 to the chapters.
2. Paper safes are available as needed. Handed out at the VA and veterans homes.

Calendar of events:

1. VVA National Convention, November 2021, North Carolina
2. Nebraska Vietnam Veterans Reunion, August 12-15, 2021, Lincoln, Ne. See vetsreunion.com for more information.

Next Meetings: July, 2021. Date to be determined.

Note: These minutes prepared using the agenda and Tom Brown's notes.

Respectfully submitted:

Ronald A. Haase, Secretary

