

**Vietnam Veterans of America
Bellevue University Veterans Center
Nebraska State Council Minutes
Date: October 2, 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, and Secretary Haase. All present.

Roll call of Chapter Delegates: Chapter 279 –Richard Luth and Joe Mangiamella; Chapter 455 – Steve Schawang; Chapter 727 –William Duffield and Terry Carpeck.

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

Sick call: Howard Ball

Funerals: James Martin Davis. His annual veterans Dy articles from the Omaha World Herald have now in a book.

Officers reports:

President's report:

1. President Brown distributed the "Nebraska At-Large" membership listings. Recommended that each chapter use to recruit new members.
2. The State Council received a 'thank you' note from the Louisiana State Council for the donation to them for flood relief.
3. He also reported the receipt of \$2,500 from National for assistance with lost revenues due to the effects of Covid 19 on the Councils fund raising activities.

Vice President's report:

1. VP Schissel gave a report on the Nebr. Veterans Home activity. A copy is attached.
2. There is little activity in raising funds through the pickle project as pickle tickets are not available from vendors. There is approximately \$20,000 in the pickles account. There was discussion about the need for a monthly pickles financial report. No action agreed upon.

Secretary's report: Minutes of the July 10, 2021 meeting where emailed to all delegates and officers. Reading of the minutes was waived. Minutes approved as submitted.

Treasurer's report: The financial report for the months of July, August and September, 2021 was submitted. The report was approved as submitted. Bills submitted for payment were \$33.37 to Tom Brown for National Convention resolutions and that Chapter 279 be reimbursed for one half of the storage rental fees as in prior years. Payment of both items approved.

Nominations and Elections: Not applicable for this meeting. Next elections to be held April, 2022.

AVVA Report: None.

Correspondence report by President: President Brown reported that the Nebr. Vietnam Veterans Memorial Foundation has submitted a request to the State of Nebr for Covid relief funds to help fund the Memorial.

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. 88,432 total members in 646 Chapters.
4. AVVA membership 9,814.

Committee reports:

1. Nebraska Veterans Council. The annual Veterans Day activity in the Unicameral will be held in Jan 2022.
2. Veterans Home Board. Dennis gave report on activities. Written report attached.
3. PTSD issues. Nothing new to report.
4. Women's Veteran. No report.
5. Agent Orange/Hep C. Bill submitted to include personnel who served in Thailand to receive AO coverage through the VA.
6. Veterans Health and Benefits. Mike Jackson recommended that anyone who served in Thailand, Guam and Okinawa to fill a claim now.
7. POW-MIA. 1,584 still remain MIA. No SE Asia remains currently at the ID labs waiting identification. Covid 19 stopped excavations and investigation activities.
8. Legislative. None
9. Vietnam War Commemoration: Nothing new. Program expires in 2025.

Chapter Reports:

Chapter 279 – Report presented. Written report attached..

Chapter 445 –No report.

Chapter 727 – no report.

New business:

1. Our webpage, www.nebraskavietnamveterans.com, is updated as new information is received from National.
2. Vietnam maps are still available for sale for \$10. Cost is \$1 to the chapters.
3. Paper safes are available as needed. Handed out at the VA and veterans homes.
4. Agent Orange booklets are being updated and reprinted.

Calendar of events:

1. VVA National Convention - November 1-7, 2021.
2. NESC meeting – January 15, 2022.
3. NVVR reunion – August 11-14, 2022 in Kearney, NE.

Next Meetings: January 15, 2022

Meeting to start at 9:00 am and held at the Bellevue University Veterans Center, 2108 Harvell Circle, Bellevue, NE.

Respectfully submitted:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Ronald A. Haase".

Ronald A. Haase, Secretary