

## Minutes for May 14, 2025 Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 279 Meeting

The regular meeting of VVA Chapter 279 was called to order by President Hester at 1830 hours. After the salute to the American flag, President Hester led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call of Officers: President Hester, Vice President Mangiamelli, Treasurer Haase, and Secretary Halbkat. There were 4 officers and 34 members present. We have a quorum.

Before we got very far into the meeting, Vice President Mangiamelli made a motion to re-send a motion made at last month's meeting. The motion in question was brought before the chapter by Chaplan Holmes and seconded by Andy Doza and it involved a \$500.00 donation to a homeless veteran. The chapter approved the donation, but now having learned this veteran had a "go fund me" donation and did not need ours. This re-send motion was seconded by Anthony Weathers and passed unanimously.

Guest Speaker: None

New Members: Gus Berry. Gus comes to us via the Coast Guard. Welcome aboard, Gus.

Sick Call: Everyone is praying for a speedy recovery for Jim Quick's wife. She had a stroke. Get well soon, Marsha.

Secretary Report: The report was emailed to all members. Dwain Holmes moved to accept the report as written and Ed Boller seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Treasurer Report: The report was made available to all members and Treasurer Haase explained all the entries to the chapter. There being no corrections or changes, Vice President Mangiamelli moved to accept and Jim Scott seconded. Motion passed unanimously. There are some bills that have to be paid. Vice President Mangiamelli--- \$30.00 for Secretary of State application for new chapter name, President Hester--- \$103.98 for miscellaneous expense, food, travel, and mailing expenses. Jim Kjos moved to accept and Tom Brown seconded to pay the bills. Motion passed unanimously.

Golf Outing: September 29, 2025. Our 10<sup>th</sup> year. Going to be a big one. Need everyone to get excited about this one. All prices are the same as last year.

Scholarships: Tom Brown reports the financials will be available in June.

Veterans Home Board: meeting was held in Kearney 2<sup>nd</sup> week of May. 74 new applications were approved.

Correspondence Report: Vice President Mangiamelli read a letter from a member of the Western North Carolina Blue Ridge Chapter of the Quilts of Valor Club. A very moving letter about a husband of a wife who was a member that had passed away. The gentleman had asked that her club finish the quilt she had started and then send it back to Nebraska to be on display for all the fallen and lost sons of our community. Our chapter will receive this quilt by the end of May. Our chapter will then donate it to the VVA Memorial to be displayed at the Museum when built.

Veterans Court: Eddie Nelson reports nothing is new. The numbers are down.

National VVA Delegate Report: no report.

Nebraska VVA Foundation: no report.

Homeless Veterans: no report.

Chapter Membership Report: President Hester reports 214 members and 12 associates.

POW/MIA: Ron Haase reports the number is now 1572. Bone fragments found in December of 2024 were that of Colonel Downing of the Air Force.

There was no new or old business to discuss. Everyone please check out the chapter's webpage:

[nebraskavietnamveterans.com](http://nebraskavietnamveterans.com)

Next Meeting: Wednesday, June 11, 2025 at 1830 hours located at the Millard American Legion Post 374.

Motion to adjourn was made by Mike Steffan and seconded by Jim Scott. Motion carried unanimously.

Submitted by:

Tom Halbkat, Secretary