

**Vietnam Veterans of America
Nebraska State Council Minutes
Bellevue university Veterans Center
Date: January 8, 2022**

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, Secretary Haase, all present.

Roll call of Chapter Delegates:

Chapter 279 – George Abbott, Joe Maggiamelli
Chapter 455 – Steve Schawang
Chapter 727 – Greg Holloway, Terry Carpenter

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

Sick call /funerals: Sick call – Richard Luth, Jerry Lippicott. Funeral held for Howard Ball, 279.

President's report:

- A. Financial report on the Pickles Fund. Balance of \$24,185.54 as of 1/8/2022.
- B. New President elected for VVA National at the convention. He has good connections with the politicians on the hill. Dottie Barickman received the most votes for At-Large Director. The constitution was changed to allow for electronic meetings in the future.
- C. There are 143 VVA members in the 'At-Large' category in Nebraska. Possible contacts to join our three chapters.
- D. Kentucky and Colorado Aid – As a result of the tornados in Kentucky and fires in Colorado, a motion was made to donate \$500 to the Kentucky State Chapter and \$1,000 to the Colorado State Council. Funds are to be distributed to VVA members in need of assistance.

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

Secretary's report: Minutes of the October 2, 2021 meeting where emailed to all delegates and officers. Reading of the minutes was waived. Motion made and seconded to approve the minutes as submitted.

Treasurer's report: The financial report for the months of October through December 2021 were submitted. Payment was made to Millard Air Park Storage for the annual fee. One half of the charge will be reimbursed from Chapter 279. Tom Brown submitted a bill for \$33.37 for copy charges. Tom Brown also submitted a bill for \$235 for National Convention expenses.

A motion was made and seconded to approved the report as submitted. There were no other 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.
3. Life time membership remains at \$50. 89,104 total members, 646 Chapters.
Use "At-Large" report to get new members.
4. AVVA membership 9,910.

Committee reports:

1. Nebraska Veteran's council. Next meeting January 18, 2022.
2. Veterans Home Board. Dennis gave report on activities. Report attached.
3. PTSD issues. Nothing new to report.
4. Women's Veteran. No report.
5. Agent Orange. Nothing new.
6. Veterans Health and Benefits. Update given by Mike Jackson.
7. POW-MIA. 1,584 still remain listed as MIA. Covid has stopped most activity.
8. Legislative. Greg Holloway gave an update on bills in process. A copy of the list is attached.
9. Vietnam War Commemoration. Nothing new.

Chapter Reports:

Chapter 279 – Successful golf tournament, \$4,000 given to VSO' for distribution to needy Veterans, \$400 donation to speakers who works with veterans. As the VFW Post 8334 is closing the Chapter will be moving its' meetings to the American Legion Post. Also had a Christmas party with spouses on December 2, 2021.

Chapter 445 – No report.

Chapter 727 – Pizza party, received \$2,500 form veterans parade committee, donated \$1,000 to veteran's center for distribution, \$150 to DAV. Trying to find a set location to hold meetings.

Motion was made and seconded that the State Council pay for an Associate Membership for Mike Jackson. Motion passed.

Greg Holloway to start the process to make Gov. Ricketts an honorary member of the VVA.

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.

Dottie brought to the attention of the Council that there is an individual that has many books about Vietnam that they wish to donate to someone. Ron Haase will work with Dottie to find a home for these books.

Calendar of events:

1. VVA National Convention – summer of 2023.
2. Nebr. State Council (NESC) meeting set for April 2, 2022.
3. Nebraska Vietnam Veterans Reunion, August 11-14, 2022, Kearney, Ne. See vetsreunion.com for more information.

Respectfully submitted:

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

Ronald A. Haase, Secretary