



**PENNSYLVANIA  
WAR VETERANS COUNCIL, INC.**



**PO Box 2324  
Harrisburg, PA 17105**

**Phone: 717-730-9100  
Email: [info@pawvc.org](mailto:info@pawvc.org)**

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**[www.pawvc.org](http://www.pawvc.org)**

**February 6, 2025  
MINUTES SUMMARY  
10:00 AM**

**Roll Call**

**TAL** – John Fritz, Woody Hogan, Troy Michaels, Dean Noechel, Robert Black

**AMVETS** – Paul Forsman, Gerald Hawk

**BVA** – Wanda Grover

**CWV** – Michael Rang, Sister Mary Matthias

**DAV** – Robert Hammaker, David Gui

**KPVA** – Chris Fidler, Constance Snavelly, Joseph Dunn

**MCL** – Diana Henry

**MOAA** – Nick Taylor, Keith Beebe, Robert Gray

**MOPH** – Phil Arnold

**PCDVA** –

**VFW** – Barbara Loncar, John Getz, William Roland, Jessica King, David Gyger

**VVA** – Larry Googins, Richard Hudzinski

**The following were excused** –Sarah Cook, Victoria McCoy, James Diamond, Ernie Holling, Peter Verbos, Nate Thompson, Bob Ardner

### **Roll Call and Meeting Commencement**

- Woody Hogan conducts the roll call, listing various members and their alternates from different organizations.
- Woody Hogan confirms a quorum to conduct business.
- Speaker 2 calls for a motion to accept the minutes, which is seconded and carried.
- John Getz presents the Treasurer's Report, detailing the honor account balance, War Council count, and reconciliation of checks.

### **Treasurer's Report and Financial Acceptance**

- John Getz reports a previous balance of \$32,700 with expenses of \$13,500, ending with \$19,250.
- He mentions the reconciliation of all checks, marking the first time this has happened.
- John Getz also reports on the War Council account, noting a \$50 withdrawal and an ending balance of \$6,000.14.
- Speaker 4 makes a motion to accept the financial report, which is seconded and carried.

### **Legislative Report by Nate Silcox**

- Nate Silcox provides an update on the Senate Veteran Affairs Emergency Preparedness Committee.
- He lists five veterans-related bills: Senate Bill 129, Senate Bill 130, Senate Bill 144, Senate Bill 137, and Senate Bill 146.
- Nate Silcox discusses the progress of these bills, including their current status in the Senate and House.
- He mentions the confirmation of Acting Adjutant General John Pippy and the governor's 2025-2026 budget proposal.

### **Discussion on Global War on Terror Bonus Bill**

- John Getz asks about the Global War on Terror Bonus Bill and its progress.
- Nate Silcox explains the need for communication with Senate and House members to move the bill forward.
- Discussion on the potential adjustment of the \$50 million figure and the possibility of phasing the bonus by year.
- Nate Silcox emphasizes the importance of getting the bill out of the Senate Appropriations Committee.

### **House Legislative Report by Mike Hillman**

- Mike Hillman reports on the House Veterans Affairs Committee's actions, including the movement of four bills and two resolutions.

- He lists the bills: House Bill 304, House Bill 412, House Bill 427, House Resolution 2, and House Resolution 37.
- Mike Hillman mentions the confirmation of Adjutant General John Pippy and the governor's budget address.
- He provides local updates, including upcoming veterans breakfast events in Montgomery County and Philadelphia.

### **Committee Reports and Appointments**

- Jerry Hawk reports on membership and legislative updates, including the status of various bills and resolutions.
- Keith Beebe provides an update on the legislative committee's activities and the status of bills reintroduced in the current session.
- Troy Michaels reports on Advisory Council appointments and vacancies, including the need for new appointments at various veterans homes.
- Discussion on the reappointment of Richard Dougherty, who has passed away, and the need for new recommendations for various positions.

### **Advisory Council Appointments and Vacancies**

- Troy Michaels lists the current vacancies and reappointment needs at various veterans homes, including Delaware Valley, Holiday Bergh, Pennsylvania Soldiers and Sailors Home, South Eastern Veterans Center, and South Western Veterans Center.
- Discussion on the need for new appointments and the importance of filling these positions.
- Troy Michaels mentions the upcoming expiration of terms for certain individuals and the need for timely appointments.
- Discussion on the status of certain appointments and the need for updated bios and recommendations.

### **ACT 66 Grant Program and Veterans Homes Updates**

- Rob Black provides an update on the ACT 66 grant program, including the deadline for applications and the streamlined process.
- He mentions the changes in the grant approval process and the involvement of grant managers.
- Rob Black reports on the status of various veterans homes, including COVID updates, five-star ratings, and census levels.
- Discussion on the need for continued collaboration and the importance of filling vacancies in various positions.

### **Unfinished Business and New Business**

- John Getz mentions the unpaid dues from the county directors, specifically from the VFW.

- Woody Hogan reports on the ongoing efforts to reach out to the Jewish War Veterans and their lack of response.
- Discussion on the importance of communication and the need for timely responses from various organizations.
- No new business is brought before the council, and the meeting concludes with a benediction by Sister Mary Matthias.

Respectfully submitted,  
James “Woody” Hogan, Secretary