



**PENNSYLVANIA
WAR VETERANS COUNCIL, INC.**



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**April 3, 2025
MINUTES SUMMARY
10:00 AM**

Roll Call

TAL – John Fritz, Woody Hogan, Troy Michaels, Peter Hartman

AMVETS – Paul Foresman, Kim Carson

BVA – Wanda Grover

CWV – Michael Rang, Sister Mary Matthias

DAV – Robert Hammaker, David Gui

KPVA – Chris Fidler, Constance Snavelly

MCL – Diana Henry, Sarah Cook

MOAA – Nick Taylor, Keith Beebe

MOPH – Phil Arnold

PCDVA – Alvin Loveless

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

VVA – Larry Googins, Richard Hudzinski

The following were excused – Dean Noechel, Gerald Hawk, Bernie MacDonald, Sam Huhn, Victoria McCoy, James Diamond, Robert Gray, Peter Verbos, Nate Thompson, Bob Ardner, Jesiah Schrader, Matthew Zamosky

Outline

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

- John Fritz calls the meeting to order and requests Sister Mary to lead the invocation.
- Sister Mary offers a prayer, asking for strength to fight evil and unity under the banner of love.
- Troy Michaels leads the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by Woody Hogan.
- Woody Hogan conducts the roll call, listing the names of all present and those excused.

Roll Call and Approval of Minutes

- Woody Hogan continues the roll call for various veterans associations and military officers.
- Woody Hogan confirms a quorum to conduct business.
- John Fritz requests a motion to accept the minutes as submitted, which is seconded and approved.
- John Getz presents the Treasurer's Report, detailing the previous balance, deposits, withdrawals, and current balance.

Treasurer's Report

- John Getz provides a detailed report on the financial transactions, including checks issued and bank statements.
- John Getz mentions an outstanding payment of \$100 from a county director.
- John Fritz calls for a motion to accept the Treasurer's report, which is seconded and approved.
- John Getz reminds everyone about the \$35,000 in the city fund.

Brig. General Weigl Report on Homes Update

- Brig. General provides an update on the COVID and flu status in the veterans' homes.
- Mentions the five-star rating of Del Valley and the four-star rating of Erie Holidays and Southeast.
- Brig. General discusses the highest waitlist in the Philadelphia area and the upcoming ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new facility.
- Highlights the volunteer recognition events and the Fishing Derby planning.

Brig. General's Report on Veterans Trust Fund and Federal Impacts

- Brig. General discusses the Veterans Trust Fund awards and the Act 66 scoring process.
- Mentions the impact of federal funding cuts on community programs and the potential VA cuts.
- Brig. General talks about the Department of Defense's projected cuts and their impact on the Pennsylvania National Guard.

- Introduces the Vet Con 2025 event and the upcoming trip to Washington, D.C., for legislative advocacy.

Brig. General's Request for Prayer for Steve Duda

- Brig. General requests a prayer for Steve Duda, a Marine and security guard, who is terminally ill.

Nate Silcox's VAEP Senate Report

- Recaps the legislative activities, including the passage of five bills in support of veterans.
- He mentions the Vietnam Veterans Day service at the Capitol and the involvement of various members.
- Discusses the advancement of five more measures, including the blind, amputee, and paralyzed veteran pension program increase.
- He highlights upcoming events like VE Day and VJ Day celebrations and the DMVA's Guard Day.
- Talks about the veterans claim shark legislation and the constitutional amendment for the RE tax program.
- He mentions the filling of the VSO position in Philadelphia and the Purple Star School Program celebration.
- Thanks General Pippy and the Acting Secretary of Education for their participation.
- He concludes his report and opens the floor for questions.

Committee Reports and Appointments

- Robert Gray provides a legislative report, mentioning the meeting with the PWVC legislative committee and the PWVC president.
- He discusses the three issues the committee wants the legislature to address: increasing the blind and amputee pension, the claim shark bill, and the Richard Star Act.
- Robert Gray requests support for the Global War on Terrorism bill and the pending legislation.
- Troy Michaels presents nominations and reappointments for various veterans associations and homes.

Discussion on Appointments and Reappointments

- Troy Michaels reads the nominations and reappointments for various positions, including Gino J Merli, Delaware Valley Veterans Home, and Pennsylvania Soldiers and Sailors Home.
- He mentions the need for bios for some appointments and the expiration dates of certain positions.
- Larry Dugan from VVA confirms he has reappointment letters for Tim Susengill and Barry Amole.
- Troy Michaels concludes his report and opens the floor for questions on the appointments.

Unfinished Business and New Business

- Woody Hogan discusses the unfinished business concerning the reinstatement of the Jewish War Veterans.

- He mentions the need for documentation from a higher authority and the payment of financial arrears.
- Woody Hogan proposes giving the organization another 30 days to meet the requirements.
- The motion to table the issue is seconded and approved.
- John Fritz calls for any new business, but there are no new items brought forward.

Closing Remarks and Adjournment

- John Fritz asks for any correspondence or remarks for the good of the organization.
- There are no remarks or correspondence.
- Sister Mary leads the closing prayer, asking for lasting happiness and joy for Steve and his family.
- The colors are retired, and the meeting is adjourned.