

Cerro Gordo County
Veterans Affairs Commission
Meeting Minutes, May 18, 2026

Cecil Foell gaveled the meeting to order at 9:01 AM. Chair Reith and Commissioner Davis were absent. Director Beatty and the other commission members were present.

The Minutes from the April 20, 2026 meeting were reviewed. A motion to approve the Minutes was made by Commissioner Ochoa with a second by Commissioner Foell. The motion passed by voice vote.

In reviewing the monthly financials, the Director noted that there was \$4,786 remaining in the Other Services Account which is the Iowa State Grant. There was discussion regarding how to best utilize the remaining balance. The commission was reminded that there had been a \$1,000.00 donation made to Stand Down in 2025. Commissioner Foell moved and Commissioner Ochoa seconded that the Commission donate \$1,000.00 to Stand Down again this year. The motion passed by voice vote. The Director noted that he would purchase some office equipment from this account also.

The Commission reviewed the overall financials. Since the meeting is being held early this month due to the Memorial Day Holiday, there were no invoices to approve. Commissioner Foell moved approval of the overall financials and Commissioner Ochoa seconded the motion. The motion passed by voice vote.

Director Beatty reported that the SALT Forum held on April 28 was a huge success. He estimated there were 300 in attendance and he received 3 Health Claim Referrals from attendees. The Director noted that he and VSO Gilliam will be attending their Annual Conference telephonically from June 1- June 5th. They will receive 16 required CEU's for attending. The Director also announced that VSO Gilliam is the Featured Speaker at the Winnebago Memorial Day Services being held in Forrest City on May 19. He will be a great representative of Cerro Gordo County.

In reviewing monthly service-connected claims, it was noted there were 18 submitted this month with one to the Iowa Trust Fund and one from Mitchell County. Currently, there are 38 open claims.

There was discussion regarding Veteran Related activities. The Legion Auxiliary has been selling poppies this past week. Chapter 790 of the Vietnam Veterans traveled to Des Moines on May 14th to present the Colors during the State Vietnam Veterans Recognition Program. The Mason City Honor Guard will lead this year's Bandfest Parade. Veteran Floats will be well represented in the parade.

Commissioner Foell announced the new leadership team for VFW Post 733. Curt Quam is the new commander. Terry Reams will be the First Vice Commander, Brian Samson will be Second Vice Commander and Randy Solsaa will continue as Quartermaster.

It was noted there were no members of the public in attendance.

The next meeting of the commission will be June 29, 2026 at 9:00 AM.

The meeting adjourned at 9:35 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Daryl Johnson, Secretary