

Minutes of Veterans Affairs Commission
August 12, 2026

The meeting called to order at 4:30 p.m. in the 2nd floor meeting room.

Members present were:

Shelly Howsare

Robin Housley

Mike Male

Bryan Schroeder

Michael was absent due to meeting conflict.

Minutes of the July 8, 2026 meeting were read. Commissioner Housley made the motion to approve the minutes of July 8, 2026 meeting, Commissioner Howsare seconded the motion to approve. Approved by all present.

August reports were reviewed. Reports were approved.

Old business: The Administrator gave an update regarding the burial assistance request. The Administrator explained to the applicant the rules and that the Commission would deny. Discussion was held regarding the possible assistance with the placement of the headstone. The applicant was quoted for almost \$1,000, but there is another option. The Commission asked that when the time comes they will discuss by using a different installer.

New business: Discussion was held regarding the Durant Fireman's parade. We will meet at the high school around 8:30. The Administrator has the candy in bags and asked if the Commission was ok with handing out the leftover koozies also. Commissioner Male will be driving the truck that we will be riding in. We have a sign that will be placed on the front of the truck.

The Administrator addressed a recent medical diagnosis and issue regarding the current office desk. There are accommodations that are needed, however in order to do anything other line item balances will need to be used. Discussion was held regarding line items and options. The Administrator isn't sure of the cost and will do some research. Discussion was held regarding the set up of the office and if there are options to change where Veterans sit. The Administrator will look at different options.

Commissioner Schroeder made a motion to use line items in order to purchase a different desk set up to allow standing. Commissioner Housley seconded. Approved by all in attendance.

The Administrator shared the monthly reports from the Regional Office. Our overall total went up 5 recipients for the total of 347 in the amount of over \$14,442 a month more. We are now at \$683,038 per month coming in from VA federal funds. Last year at this time we were at 318 recipients and \$587,544. This is a 29 Veteran increase and a \$95,494 monthly increase in a year. This also does not include those who have passed or moved out of Cedar County.

The August Beacon from the VAMC was shared with the Commission.

The meeting was motioned for adjournment at 5:22 p.m. by Commissioner Housley, seconded by Commissioner Howsare, approved by all in attendance.


Patricia Hamann, Administrator