



Madison County Administration Bldg. Phone: 618.296.4554 Office Hours:
157 North Main Street, Suite 115 Fax: 618.692.8958 Monday- Friday
Edwardsville, Illinois 62025-1963 Web: co.madison.il.us/mcvac 8:30 a.m.- 4:30 p.m.

SPECIAL EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

AUGUST 10, 2022

1. Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance / Prayer / Roll Call of Executive Board Members

At the call of the President of the Commission the notice and agenda of this Special Executive Board Meeting having been posted and published in accordance with section 2.02 of the Illinois Open Meetings Act, in the office of the Veterans' Assistance Commission of Madison County in the Madison County Administration Building located at 157 North Main Street, Suite 115, Edwardsville, IL on August 08, 2022.

Special Executive Board Meeting called to order at 6:40 p.m. at the VAC in Edwardsville, IL by President Ronnie Hicks. The Pledge of Allegiance and Prayer were completed. President Hicks then directed the Secretary to call the roll of Executive Board Members to determine the presence of a quorum to do business.

Members Present: Ronnie Hicks, Earl Watts, Kate Broadhurst, Mark Nelson, Ron Swaim, Mike Harbison, Vernon LeClaire, Larry Meisenheimer, Donald Scheyer, Wayne Able and Ken Morales

Members Virtual: None

Members Excused: None

Members Absent: None

VAC Office Present - Phone: Superintendent Brad Lavite

In accordance with Art. VI, §2 of the by-laws, there being 6 or more Board Members attending, President Hicks declared a quorum was present. President Hicks then called for consideration of the matters on the agenda for this special meeting.

In approving these minutes, the Board notes that the Agenda for this special meeting expressly includes: "Veterans' Assistance Commission of Madison County Personnel Discussion (Executive session) if appropriate to discuss recent developments/concerns surrounding Veterans' Assistance Commission of Madison County Personnel."

To provide context to this meeting, the Board approves the following statement of facts that preceded and, at least in part, precipitated this meeting: Several Executive Board Members had been directly contacted by Bradley Yount and Jeremy Lile, subordinate VAC Staff Employees, expressing dissatisfaction about how the VAC Office was being run. This contact was not limited to the President of the Board, but involved telephone calls to the personal numbers of various Board Members. Ron Swain and Kate Broadhurst are two such Board Members granting permission to reveal their names as having been contacted. President Hicks confirms that he was also contacted. The meeting was called to permit those who wished to address the Board.

To provide additional context, Superintendent Lavite requested to attend via remote telephonic connection, but when time came to make that connection, it was already occupied by an attorney from the Illinois Attorney General's office, who at the request of Bradley Yount, was present by the telephonic connection through the conference table phone. Bradley Lavite then made arrangements to telephonically attend the meeting using the speaker phone on Mike Harbison's cell phone. There was no video or audio recording of the meeting conducted or maintained by the VAC.

2. Special Meeting Business

- A. The following were permitted to address the Board in the following order:
1. Brad Lavite – read a prepared statement
 2. Bradley Yount – presented an 18-page submission, the first 2 pages being notice & agenda and the 3rd having the title: “Veterans Assistance Commission of Madison County, IL Grievance 22-01 August 10, 2022”
 3. Timothy Turner
 4. Tori Ryan
 5. Jeffrey Sherwood
 6. Jeremy Lyle
 7. Indira James
 8. CJ Yarian
- B. At approximately 7:00 p.m., Ken Morales suggested that the Board needed to go into executive closed session and Larry Meisenheimer agreed. Times in and out of executive session were not remembered or recorded.

Note: President Hicks and his wife, Kathy, who was in attendance, does not recall there being a motion or a vote to formally go into closed session. Page 5 of Kate's handwritten notes states: “went into executive session @ 7?”. The Hicks recall that the connection to Lavite was disconnected at the cell phone, and seems to recall that Ron Swain and Mike Harbison stated whoever was listening in from the Attorney General's office on the conference table phone was disconnected when Vernon LeClaire and Larry Meisenheimer went to bathroom. The Hicks remembers it was more like a bathroom break. The public left the confines of the meeting room. The Hicks' recollection was that prior to Larry Meisenheimer and Vernon LeClaire returning from the bathroom break, CJ Yarian addressed those Board Members that were in the room. Pages 5 – 7 of Secretary Broadhurst's notes seem to be about the session when the public was not in the room. No one recalls if a vote was taken to go into or out of executive session. The consensus of the Board was that no resolutions or motions were made and that nothing was voted on in or out of executive session. On page 8 of her notes she writes: “called staff back in before we adjourned.” No time for this given in her notes. Pages 8 – 10 of Secretary Broadhurst's notes seem indicate a question and answer session going on between Mike Harbison and the staff. Sign-in sheet was available for the meeting and members remember signing it, however no one knows where it went after the meeting and it has yet turn up or be located.

Further Note: According to President Hicks, there was no verbatim recording of any part of the meeting, open or closed. If that is the case, it should be noted in the minutes. No verbatim recording of any part of the meeting, open or closed was made by the Board of the meeting.

3. Adjournment

Motion was made by Larry Meisenheimer and seconded by Don Scheyer to adjourn at 9:04 p.m. The motion carried. Note: The Hicks recall (Kathy made a note) that it was Larry Meisenheimer who moved and Don Scheyer seconded to adjourn at 8:05 p.m. Kates notes suggest it was Ken Morales who moved and Ron Swain who seconded to adjourn at 9:04 p.m.

Kate Broadhurst / Recording Secretary / August 10, 2022