



**VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION
OF
LIVINGSTON COUNTY
“VETERANS HELPING VETERANS”**

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County Board Chairman Marty Fannin
Commission Vice President James Franklin

County V.A.C. Chairman Joe Steichen

Commission President Robert Thorson
Superintendent Thomas Bailey

**LIVINGSTON COUNTY BOARD
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION
MINUTES OF THE Jun, 4th 2013 MEETING**

Chairman Joe Steichen called the meeting to order at 4.00 p.m. at the Historic court House.

Board Members Present: Chairman Joe Steichen, Vice Chairman, Earl Rients, and John Yoder

Others Present: Supt. Bailey, June Slagel, and half of the County Board

AGENDA: motion to accept by, John Yoder seconded by Earl Rients. *MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL AYES.*

MINUTES: Minutes of last month were presented, and a motion by Earl Rients, seconded by John Yoder. *MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL AYES.*

MONTHLY REPORT: The monthly report was given and a motion from John Yoder was made to accept the report, seconded by, Earl Rients *MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL AYES.*

BUDGET: Supt. Bailey presented the 2014 Budget approved by the Veterans Commission. Motion by John Yoder to take the budget back to the Veterans Commission, because he didn't think it was realistic, seconded by Earl Rients. *MOTION CARRIED* Supt Bailey tried to explain that the budget was inflated some because he has, had to borrow \$60,000 from the working cash in March 2013 to operate till the 2014 tax money comes in, in the second week in Aug. Supt Bailey also pointed out that he had a enough money in the account in 2010 , but the powers that be, decided that I shouldn't have a reserve , citing an audit finding so my levee was lowered to exhaust the reserve. As it stands now I will be out of money the first part of 2014.

OTHER BUSINESS: none

VIEW AND APPROVAL OF BILLS: Motion made by John Yoder seconded by Earl Rients to approve all bills presented, *MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL AYES*

There being no further business to come before the committee, a motion by, John Yoder seconded by Earl Rients to adjourn. *MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL AYES*, meeting adjourned at 5;00P.M. The next meeting will be Aug5th at 4:00 at the Historic Court House.

Recorded by Thomas Bailey _____

I would like to make a statement on the record that at the Monday, June 3rd VAC committee meeting, I stated that I would vote for the total proposed amount of the 2014 budget for VAC commission in the amount of \$188,000.

I had two concerns with the 2014 budget which I stated on June 3rd. 1. Capital Expenditures amount - last item on the budget. Because the commission had just purchased a new van to transport veterans to VA hospitals and clinics, I felt that we should hold off until 2015 budget to consider purchasing another van. 2. Superintendent's salary - line 4101-000. I felt that a \$5,000 increase was excessive considering the economic condition in our county. Many citizens have lost their jobs or have taken benefit cuts in the private sector. Also I am answerable to ALL county employees who also provide services to our county taxpayers. Fairness is an issue I have to consider when voting for raises.

I went to the VAC commission meeting last Monday night, June 24th to explain my two concerns and my position. I was met with an atmosphere of NO compromising and was threaten that the commission would take the county board to court if they did not get approval from the VAC committee of the county board. I went in good faith to work out the 2014 budget but left the meeting very frustrated and wondering why we could not work together.

I would like this statement in the minutes so I am not misquoted about my dedication to ALL Honorable Discharge Veterans of Livingston County. They have my greatest respect.

Earl A. Rieck, Vice-Chair of VAC Committee