

**WISCONSIN STATE COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA**  
**BEST WESTERN GRAND SEASONS HOTEL**  
**WAUPACA, WISCONSIN**  
**MARCH 31, 2012**  
[www.vvawi.org](http://www.vvawi.org)

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\* James Mullarkey recording for Secretary Sorenson

MINUTES

Saturday, March 31, 2012

President Lindbeck **Called the Meeting to Order** at 12:00 Noon.

President Lindbeck led those in attendance with the **Pledge of Allegiance** followed by a **Moment of Silence** for our POWs/MIAs and those serving on active duty.

Acting Secretary Jim Mullarkey took **Roll Call of Officers** with all present except Secretary Sorenson and At-Large Director. A **Roll Call of Chapters** was taken by Mullarkey with the following in attendance: Chapters 92, 101, 206, 236, 4234, 351, 425, 437, 479, 529, 618, 635, 731 and 767. Chapters 114 La Crosse and 162 Tahoma are suspended. AVVA was present. The President stated there was a quorum present.

There was an **Approval of the Agenda**. Moved/Seconded/Passed Without Objection

There was an **Approval of the December 3, 2011 Minutes**;  
Moved/Seconded/Passed Without Objection

**President Lindbeck** John Margowski and Mike Demske went to Kansas State Council Meeting to present to the State Council President the award he was presented at the Delegate Conference in Reno, 2012; attended State Presidents Council Meeting in Daytona FL – special interest was given to **for-profit** colleges and the limited ability to transfer credits as well as recognition of the training provided; new Finance Report, available on VVA website, format with special instructions for VVA chapters, especially filing of IRS's 990N, losing tax exempt status will cost a minimum of \$850 and great difficulty to regain status; Margowski and Lindbeck participated in town hall meeting on Agent Orange in Minneapolis; Lindbeck spoke to Secretary Scocos about having a Wisconsin town hall on AO; Lindbeck was Keynote speaker for Vietnam Veterans Day, March 29, 2012, at the Veterans Museum in Madison; Lindbeck met with the

Secretary on King, Union Grove and Chippewa Falls; May 4, 2012 will be held a Railway Museum at Green Bay for Wisconsin World War II veterans – no cost; Governor Walker declared 2012 as the year of the vet, Bill 357 indicates that military training, education and experience can be used for credentials for civilian jobs allowing for immediate hires; scam on internet from Defense Finance Accounting Services for military spouses to register at a cost of \$350 – *“This is a scam!”*

**Vice-President** Craney provided overview of Annual Budget 2012 including 2011 Budget Year to Date. Vice-President Craney accepted a motion to accept 479/767, following discussion; budget was amended with a reduction from \$6,000 to \$4,000 of in section 505-01: Regional Directors Travel and Expenditures and accepted unanimously to a budget reduced from \$18,565.00 to \$16,565.00.

**Scholarship Report** submitted by Virginia Nuske, Coordinator. Along with the Coordinator Helen Waakens, Terry Radtke and Dennis Bohm. Eight applications meeting full criteria were received and three scholarship recipients at \$1,500 each were selected – all direct descendants of a Vietnam Veteran.

**Finance Report**, submitted by Kent Beeman

**AVVA Report** submitted by Pat Furno; AVVA selling Agent Orange pin; will be linked to vvawi.org; 2013 AVVA Convention, one chapter one vote, one state one vote, proposing December State Council Meeting to be training time for delegates for AVVA Delegate voting; looking for state representative.

**Regional Directors Reports** 1 - none, 2 - none, 3 Compliments on Newsletters, especially Appleton; 4 budget for regional directors report trying to start native American VVA Chapter.

**Chapter Reports** were given **Chapter 437** Oshkosh – lost two members, two major fund raisers in 2011 with 87 percent of the proceeds disbursed; three VVA Chapter members and one AVVA member received certificates for their outstanding years of service to the chapter and veterans community; nominations for officers were received during the March 2012 meeting. **Chapter 101** color guard participated in Veterans Day ceremonies at various locations; the chapter donated over \$1,000 to the food pantry, King Veterans Home, the PTSD Unit at Tomah and other local youth groups; upcoming events include: color guard participation in Memorial Day services, Orange Blossom sales and helping with the First Annual Veterans Reunion. **Chapter 448** of Newburg has had several successful fundraisers this year including Orange Blossoms and Brat Fries. The Chapter is starting a “Legacy Stone” project beginning Memorial Day; the Chapter is donating monthly to the Homeless Veterans Food Program in

Milwaukee as well as a donation to Fisher House. Personal clothing items were donated to “9<sup>th</sup> Floor Vets” at VA in Milwaukee. **Chapter 351** of Appleton has 55 members many of whom are very active in other organizations such as Fox Valley Veterans Council, the Patriot Guard, VFW, and The HighGround Board; the Chapter publishes a bi-monthly newsletter; sponsors both a Boy Scout troop and Cub Pack; for the last 10 years the chapter provides a day-long education program on Vietnam – with four to five Vietnam veterans providing sessions every period to an average of seven high schools – that has been seen thousands of students; and this year we raised nearly \$19,000 and returned those proceeds back into the community with special emphasis to veterans. Orange blossoms selling \$10K in two days. Donate to Fox Valley Allied Veterans. Appleton Memorial and Flag Day Parades. **Chapter 635** of donations of over \$40K in scholarships and events in the last 20 years, June 23<sup>rd</sup> Dinner Dance. **Chapter 425** of Waukesha is very in providing packages to active troops; moreover we provide financial aid to veterans when notified by our CVSO, vet rep with Girl Scouts that resulted in over 400 boxes of cookies being sent to troops; and our chapter has a very scholarship program – this year experimenting with a media scholarship.

**Veteran Shield of Wisconsin** (<http://www.veteranshieldofwisconsin.org/>) John Kusko provided a brief, but informative introduction to the Veteran Shield of Wisconsin, which serves a conduit to programs and services to veterans and their families; their mission is *Empowering, Focusing, and Advocating*.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**Starbucks:** an urban (rumor) legend about Starbucks not providing coffee to Veterans was laid to rest. The misinformation rumor was picked up and continued via the Internet by a USMC Sergeant. The rumor is FALSE! Starbucks has and continues to provide over 200,000 pounds of coffee, VIA (instant coffee) pacs in MREs and available in general as well as coffee to USOs. For that I say Veterans... support Starbucks a Veteran-friendly business.

**By-Laws** motion to have committee report on one-page bylaws changes Mullarkey/Lawrence at The HighGround meeting followed by additional discussion, specifically the committee will be bring recommendations to the June 2012 Meeting for voting at the June 2013 meeting. Motion Out-of-Committee/Passed Without Objection

**Travel** – fiscal policy is at IRS rate. Motion to change travel to \$0.25 per mileage starting April 1, 2012 motion made and seconded 235/635 followed by discussion. Motion Out-of-Committee/Passed Without Objection

**Proclamation** from Governor Walker to VVA Wisconsin State Council making March 29<sup>th</sup> Vietnam Veterans Day in Wisconsin was read by President Lindbeck.

President entertained a Motion to Adjourn. Moved/Seconded/Passed Without Objection

***Next meeting is Saturday, June 16, 2012 at the The Highground (Neillsville)***

**Meeting Schedule**

(Please put these dates on your calendar and share with other veterans.)

June 16, 2012 – The Highground, Annual Meeting

September 22, 2012 – Waupaca, Fall Meeting

December 8, 2012 – Waupaca, Meeting and Christmas Dinner

March 2013 – Waupaca, Meeting and Annual Budget Meeting