

Veteran's Service Committee Meeting Minutes

**Buffalo County Veteran's Service Committee Meeting
Tuesday, March 10, 2026
Board of Commissioner' Board Room, Kearney, NE**

Chairperson Tom McCoy called the Regular Meeting of the Buffalo County Veteran's Service Committee Meeting to order on March 10, 2026 at 4:00 P.M. and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance. A copy of the Open Meetings Act was made available to the public for this meeting and posted at the back of the Board Room.

Roll Call-

Committee members present were Richard Bock, Stanley Brodine, Lisa Mitchell and Tom McCoy. Absent: Robert Harpst. Also in attendance were Commissioners Myron Kouba and Bill Maendele, Veteran's Service Officer Matthew Starkey, Buffalo County Office Clerk Rachelle Warner.

Notice of Meeting-

Public Notice of this meeting was published on March 5, 2026, in the Kearney Hub and in accordance with Section 84-1412 of the Nebraska Revised Statutes and also available on the Buffalo County Veteran Services Website.

Approval of Minutes-

The minutes of the February 10, 2026 meeting were previously provided to the committee members for their review. Moved by Robert Harpst and seconded by Richard Bock to accept the February 10, 2026 minutes. Upon vote, the motion passed.

Regular Agenda-

There were no County Veteran Aid requests at this time.

County Veteran Service Officer Matthew Starkey provided the members of the Committee with a Service Report. A copy of the handout is on file with the County Clerk. VSO Starkey went over the report in detail, stating their office was sitting good with their budget. He asked to Board to look at the County website, as it is updated. There is an increase of veteran scams and fraud. Emails are being sent to veterans to verify their information and benefits and it

includes a legal release of information that allows scammers to access their veteran files. Discussion was had regarding the LB1072 Bill that the Governor asked for \$3 million instead of \$5 million of the veteran's aid fund. Debate is still on the legislative floor.

VSO Starkey asked to Board to decide where they want to meet for the June meeting. Elm Creek was suggested. Board member Stan Brodine will contact The Creek Bar to set up a reservation.

Board member Richard Bock asked the Board to revisit the suggestion of having a veteran of the month. Commissioner Bill Maendele suggested that they put this on their agenda for next month. It was also suggested to have a subcommittee formed with two County Board members and two Veteran Board members.

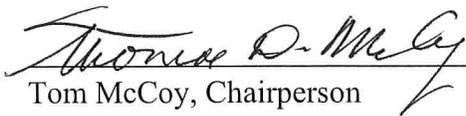
Mileage Claims-

The Committee was informed that mileage claims could be submitted for those committee members requesting reimbursement.

Public Comment Period/ Benefits Questions and Answers-

No one addressed the Committee.

Adjournment- Chairperson McCoy adjourned the meeting at 4:21 P.M. until Tuesday, April 14, 2026 at 4:00P.M.



Tom McCoy, Chairperson
Buffalo County Veterans Service Committee

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Date