

Veteran's Service Committee Meeting Minutes
Buffalo County Veteran's Service Committee Meeting
Tuesday, August 11, 2026
Board of Commissioner's Board Room, Kearney, NE

Chairperson Tom McCoy called the Regular Meeting of the Buffalo County Veteran's Service Committee Meeting to order on August 11, 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 for anyone who wishes to have a copy.

Roll Call-

Committee members present were Richard Bock, Stanley Brodine and Tom McCoy. Absent: Robert Harpst and Lisa Mitchell. Also in attendance was Commissioner Myron Kouba, Commissioner Bill Maendele, Veteran Service Officer Matthew Starkey and Office Clerk Amanda Forney.

Notice of Meeting-

Public Notice of this meeting was published on August 6th, 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 July 14, 2026 meeting were previously provided to the Committee members for their review. Moved by Bock and seconded by Brodine to accept the July 14, 2026 minutes. Upon roll call vote, the motion passed unanimously.

Regular Agenda-

Veteran Service Officer (VSO) Starkey presented a proposal to reduce the budget for County Veteran's Aid for Fiscal Year 2026-2027 from \$45,000 to \$35,000. VSO Starkey reminded committee members of the discussion held at the May 2026 meeting stating that over the last ten years, the Veteran Service Office has awarded an average of \$19,740 in County Veteran's Aid. He added the Veteran Service Office in that 10-year period has never exceeded \$28,293 in expenditures for County Veteran's Aid. VSO Starkey emphasized the purpose behind the proposed reduction is not to reduce service to Veterans but rather to utilize the funds entrusted to us by the citizens of Buffalo County responsibly and efficiently. Committee Member Bock read

communication from Vice-Chair Harpst writing in support of the change. Discussion was held. Moved by Harpst and seconded by Brodine to approve the current limits for County Veteran's Aid as drafted. Upon roll call vote, the motion passed unanimously.

There were no County Veteran Aid requests at this time.

VSO Starkey provided an office update to the Committee. Copies of the handouts are available in the Clerk's Office.

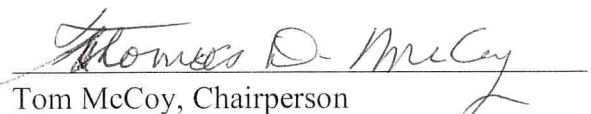
Mileage Claims-

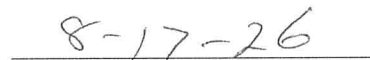
The Committee was informed that mileage claims could be submitted for those committee members requesting reimbursement.

Public Comment Period/ Benefits Questions and Answers-

No one addressed the Committee.

Adjournment- Chairperson McCoy adjourned the meeting at 4:15 P.M. until Tuesday, September 8, 2026 at 4:00 P.M. in the Buffalo County Boardroom.


Tom McCoy, Chairperson
Buffalo County Veterans Service Committee


Date