

CLAYTON COUNTY VETERANS AFFAIRS MEETING  
CLAYTON COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING/CONFERENCE ROOM 1  
600 Gunder Road NE, Elkader, Iowa 52043  
November 10, 2025 at 7:30 a.m.

The Veterans Commission Meeting was called to order at 7:30 a.m. on November 10, 2025 at the Clayton County Office Building Meeting Conference Room #1.

**I.) Roll Call:** Commissioners Clark, Eilers, Torkelson, and Jordan, Director, were present.

**II.) Approval of Minutes:** A motion to approve the minutes of the October 6, 2025 meeting was made by Eilers and seconded by Clark. Motion carried unanimously.

**III.) Public Comments:** No comments were noted.

**IV.) Budget Review:** Jordan distributed the current Fiscal Budget for Period Ending: October 31, 2025. The Veterans Affairs Office began the current fiscal year on July 1, 2025. \$102,019.00 is the yearly budget for 2025-2026. \$6,703.81 was spent during the month of October with 78.73% remaining in the budget for the year. Eilers made the motion to approve the budget, Clark seconded the motion; the motion carried unanimously.

**V.) Old Business:**

a). Jordan discussed a conversation he had with EARL Transit regarding the coverage of a veteran's trip for ongoing medical care. It was determined that this was not a long-term solution for the veteran in question.

b). Jordan reported that our application for "Keys to Progress Veteran Vehicle Giveaway Program Business Automobile" was not selected.

c). The distribution of Veterans' Movie Tickets was discussed. Jordan is waiting to see if this program will be possible this year as the theatre is for sale pending new management.

d). Eilers was inquiring about the status of employment of new van drivers. Jordan said that at the current time, he had no applications. Eilers said that he had included the information in the Guttenberg Facebook page. He was wondering if an addition could be made to the employment ad reflecting payment of stipend to drivers. (The stipend is comparable to what drivers receive in other counties.)

**VI.) New Business:**

a). Commissioner CW 2 Greg Clark was recognized by the Commandant at the Fall Commissioner's Meeting for receiving the 2025 Hawkeye Distinguished Veterans Award. Five individuals received this award this year at the Iowa Oregon Game. The official ceremony was on November 7 and presentation was on November 8 during the football game in honor of Veterans' Day.

b). Clark and Torkelson reviewed the information they received at the Fall County Commissioner Training October 12-13, 2025 at the Event Center at Stoney Creek Inn in Johnston, Iowa.

c). Eilers noted that he would soon have a Command Sergeant Major of the Army Reserve in the family.

d). It was noted that Commissioner Clark's term on the Commission would be expiring at the end of December, 2025. Clark said he would be re-applying for this position at the Clayton County Auditor's Office.

e). VA Debt Management. During the winter, the Department of Veteran Affairs reconciles payment for the year. The process may result in Veterans receiving notices from the VA's Debt Management Center regarding adjustments to disability, education or pension benefits. Debt notices usually result from changes to disability rating or dependency status, updates to GI Bill enrollment, dual payments from another agency (like DFAS) and/or delay in reporting address or banking changes. The VA is required to notify a Veteran if an overpayment occurs, even if the overpayment is the result of administrative error. Do not ignore the notification. Review the waiver and/or enter a repayment plan if repayment causes hardship. Save copies of all letters, forms and call notes as good records are helpful should you find yourself disputing a debt. Receiving a notice doesn't always mean you owe money right away, but it does require attention. So, review this notice, verify information and contact the Debt Management Center.

f). The October Statistical Report was distributed. Fifteen total number of calls were received this month re: Veteran related concerns. Seventeen total office visits from Veterans. Four home visits for Veterans, and two training events.

**VII. Review and approval of Claims:**

**VIII. Confirmation of the Next Meeting:** Next meeting will be on December 8, 2025, at 7:30 a.m.

**IX. Adjournment:** Clark made the motion to adjourn, Eilers seconded the motion; Motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by Gerrie Torkelson

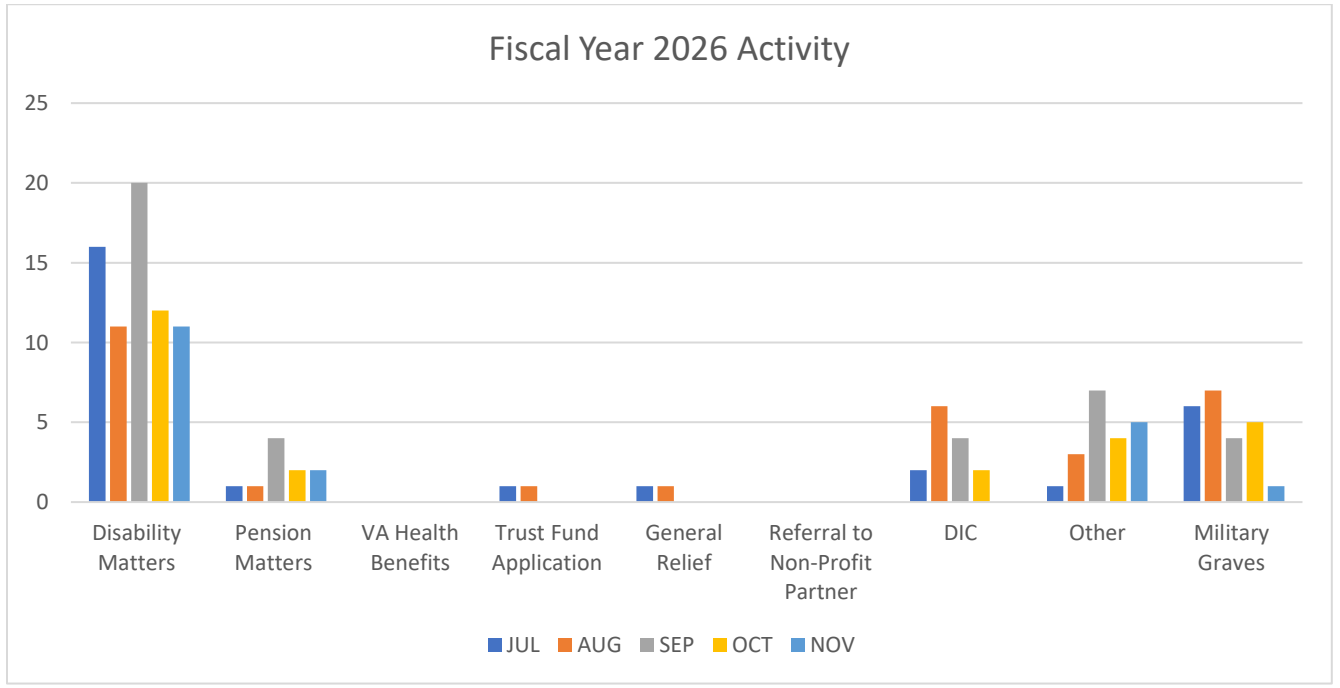
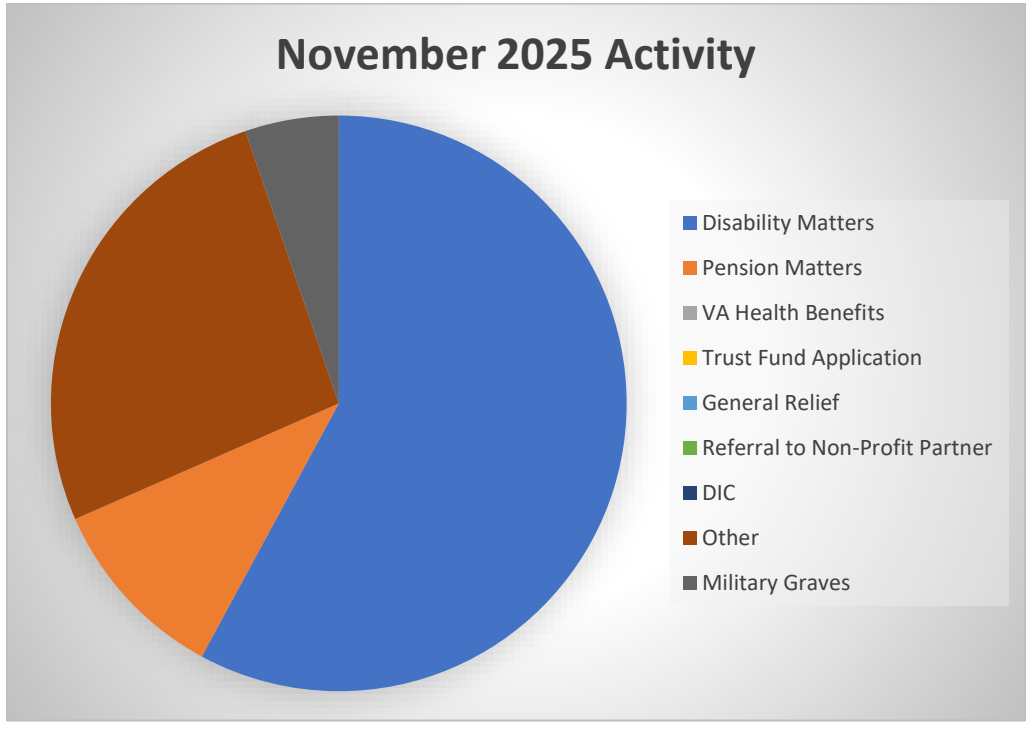
# November Report

25 total number of calls received this month re: Veteran related concerns.

17 total office visits from Veterans.

0 home visits

1 outreach event



## **VA & State Updates:**

Veteran Engagement Center: The Veteran Engagement center in collaboration with the VHA Office of Rural Health and VA Health Services Research are seeking female veterans and caregivers to participate rural Midwest veteran engagement panel to share their perspectives, insights, and offer constructive ways to improve how the VA healthcare system operates. Participation in the panel discussions help researchers make or propose recommendations that a centered around Veteran's needs. Interested persons may learn more about this opportunity at [https://www.hsrd.research.va.gov/veteran\\_engagement/grove/grovehub.cfm](https://www.hsrd.research.va.gov/veteran_engagement/grove/grovehub.cfm).