

CLAYTON COUNTY VETERANS AFFAIRS MEETING
600 Gunder Road NE, Suite 6 Elkader, Iowa 52043
July 10, 2023 at 7:30 a.m.

Veterans Commission Meeting was called to order at 7:30 a.m. on July 10, 2023 by Commissioner Clark at the Clayton County Office Building/Public Meeting Room.

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

II.) Motion was made by Eilers to approve the minutes from June 10, 2023. Motion was seconded by Clark; Motion carried.

III.) There were no public comments made.

IV.) Budget Review. Jordan distributed the Fiscal Budget for 2022-2023 Ending 6/30/23 and the Fiscal Budget for 2023-2024 Ending 7/31/2023. Clark made the motion to approve both budgets, Eilers seconded the motion; motion carried.

V.) **Old Business:**

Internship Program was discussed. Jordan sent an email to the Clayton County Auditor requesting the establishment of an Internship Program beginning this Fall. Upon approval, a job description will be forthcoming. Jordan will contact colleges and other sources to find a suitable candidate for internship.

Jordan purchased a Dell laptop computer to be used in and out of the office. The laptop was purchased with grant funding. He commented that it will be great for use at both the Fall and Spring Trainings.

Jordan stated that the networking with Hospital Military Veteran Coordinators is still pending.

Discussion was held regarding the Van Driver Program, and the continued promotion/advertisement for van drivers.

Grave marker protocol with the Sherriff's Department is still pending

Jordan is planning to attend County Emergency Management Meeting to discuss networking.

VI. **New Business**

June Statistical Report was distributed. 46 total number of calls received this month re: Veteran related concerns. 20 total office visits from Veterans, and 3 veteran home visits.

Volunteer Transportation Network (VTN) Passenger Agreement Form was distributed and reviewed.

VA Caregiver Support Program's Mobile Resource Fair Information will be posted on the website.

Clark attended the 4th of July festivities. He noted that he had received many positive comments regarding Jordan's services to veterans in the community.

VII. Review and approval of Claims.

Next meeting will be on August 14 at 7:30 a.m.

Eilers made the motion to adjourn, Clark seconded the motion; motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 a.m.

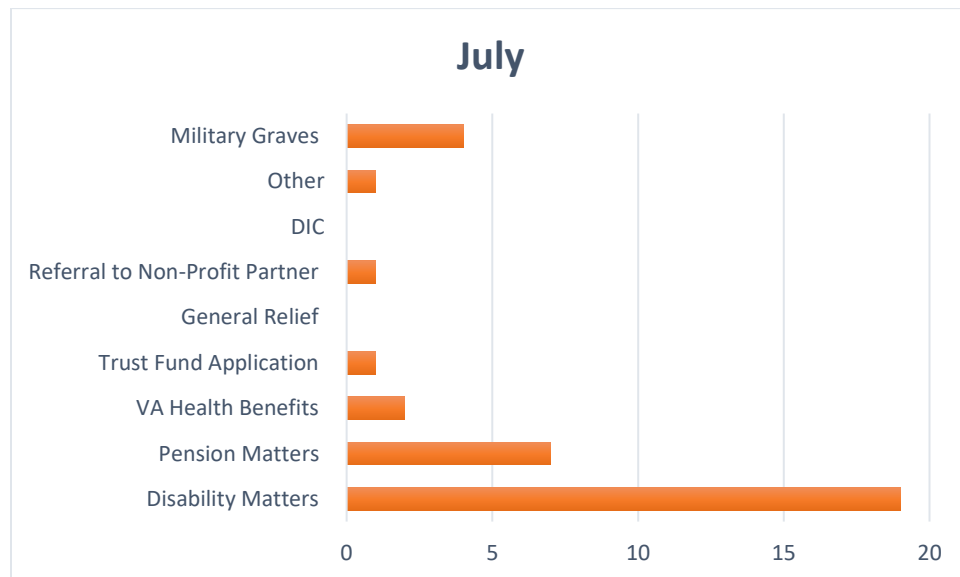
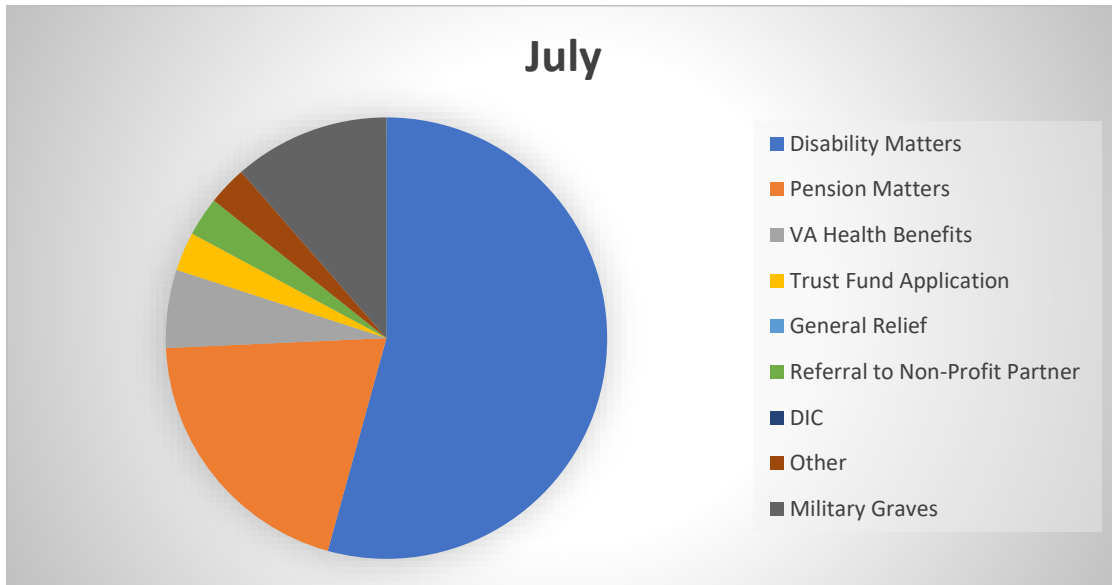
Respectfully submitted by Geralyn Torkelson

July Report

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

16 total office visits from Veterans.

1 veteran home visits



VA & State Updates:

File Online Supplemental Claim

Veterans can now file supplemental claims online at VA.gov. Filing a supplemental claim is an option for Veterans who disagree with a previously denied claim about a VA disability or pension claim. The option is meant to reduce wait times and save time in processing claims in enabling Veterans to files directly on VA.gov. There is step-by-step interview styled questions that help with the process and allow has features that facilitates uploading additional records and/or files to support a claim.

Free Entrance to National Parks for Gold Star Families and Veterans

The National Parks Service is extending this free Military Pass to the US Military, their dependents, Gold Star Families and US Military Veterans as a gesture of appreciation. The free pass allows access to over 2,000 federal recreational areas which included national parks, forests, and wildlife refuges. There isn't a form/application to complete for to receive this free lifetime pass. Instead, one would have to present a few types of identification to enter. Identification includes unexpired DoD Identification Cards (DD Form 2, DD Form 2765, or Next Generation USID Replacement), Veteran Health ID Card (VHIC) and veteran ID card, or veteran designation on stated-issued US drivers license or identification cards. Before visiting a national park site, Gold Star Family member should download and print a voucher from USGS Online store that they can present upon entry.