



# Veteran Affairs

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The Polk County Veteran Affairs Commission held a regular monthly meeting at 1535 hrs on December 20, 2022

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Vikki Palmer, James Marren  
Commissioner Kolleen Dahl Absent  
Assistant County Attorney Mark Taylor Present  
Executive Director Pat Sweeney Present  
Assistant Director Michael Mortensen Present

**Minutes:**

Novembers' minutes approved no objections.

**Claims:**

Pat discussed the previous months' claims, 42.41% expended  
Federal claims filed increased from 389 claims filed in November 2021 to currently 499 claims filed. Service organizations are also feeling the increase and continue to refer to our office, this increase may in part of PACT act changes  
Moved by Marren, seconded by Palmer to approve the claims of November 2022.  
VOTE YEA: Palmer, Marren

**Exception Report:**

Pat discussed thirty-three total exceptions for the month of November; 21 shelter, 8 utility and 4 food assistance vouchers. The exception report is within guideline and ratified.  
Moved by Marren, seconded by Palmer to approve the exceptions for November 2022  
VOTE YEA: Marren, Palmer

**Executive Directors' Report:**

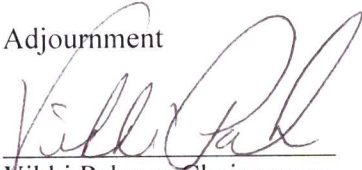
Pat discussed the November food pantry success despite the weather, Elks lodge, VFW and Vet Center volunteers managed to distribute to over 280 families. Polk County Board of Supervisors donated Fareway gifts to those that missed our food pantry for the holidays. Veterans Service Officers Jeromy Geiken received his first 100% service connected claim filed, Jeromy assisted with the filing and maintaining full contact with the Veteran throughout the process. Jeromy states, "It is very gratifying and feels accomplished to have provided assistance with this Veterans claim." Novembers' GDX reports compensation and/or pension for Polk County awarded monthly is \$10,558,914.00. Majority of these awarded are filed through our office.

**Incarcerated Veterans Report:**

Assistant Director Michael Mortensen reported 20 total self-reported Veterans incarcerated in November. Thirty-two claims filed and fifty financial assistance granted.

Januaries' meeting scheduled for January 17, 2023 at 1530 hrs.

Adjournment

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Vikki Palmer', written over a horizontal line.

Vikki Palmer, Chairperson