

**Veterans Assistance Liaison Committee Meeting**  
**3 October 2015 at Department Headquarters in Bloomington, IL**

1010 hrs – Chairman A.C. “Dave” Davis opened the meeting.

1. Roll call of committee members taken: 1 through 5 all present
2. Chairman asked if any further information for formation of county VAC’s (none reported).
3. Chairman mentioned four important veteran issues to those present so word about them can be spread.
  - A. New VA Disability property tax breaks for Illinois veterans –
    - i. 30 & 40 % VA Disability - \$2500 off assessed value of their home of property taxes.
    - ii. 50 & 60 % disability - \$5000 off assessed value of their home for property taxes.
    - iii. 70% to 100% VA Disability – no property tax.

Effective starting in August 2015 for further information contact a VA Specialist.

B. “Veteran” classification on driver’s license – all Illinois veterans can now have a veteran designation on their driver’s license. Grant for veteran discount identification. See a VA Specialist for details.

C. New ruling about the 5-year membership application – Department of Illinois is allowing those who already paid 2016 dues to pay for and received five-year membership effective until (1) Dec. 2015.

D. Bet can now get ID cards at VA healthcare facilities. Even if not now in VA healthcare.

Chairman asked for Division reports –

(Division 1) Jeff Pawlak reported that VA Hospitals in his area were experimenting with supplying non-VA Healthcare from outside the VA Medical environment to its veterans. Process seems to be working very well.

(Division 2) A.C. “Dave” Davis. No further report on how Jo Davies County is doing with their formation of a VAC.

(Division 3) Leroy Carlson. Leroy officially retired as Superintendent of Mercer County effective October 1, 2015. Congratulations on your retirement Leroy. A temporary replacement is working in the position until someone is hired.

(Division 4) Rich Moran. No report

(Division 5) Bernie Schwartz. Bernie mentioned that the Superintendent of Madison County had a dispute with an unknown party or party’s in August 2015. As a result, the Superintendent was

thrown out of the county courthouse to include his office space. The Superintendent is now working out of his own home. Bernie will keep us posted of any further developments.

Chairman requested anything for the good-of-the-order. Leroy Carlson from Division 1 mentioned they had a very successful veteran's stand-down in the quad-cities area in mid-summer.

Department Commander Paul Gardner & Sr. Vice Commander Cheri Stanton visited our committee session. Paul expressed that any member of a department committee who was missing a committee meeting should please call the chairman of the committee and **not** Department Headquarters. Then both Paul & Cheri thanked us for being there.

1050 hrs – motion and second to close the meeting. Decision was unanimous and the meeting was closed.

A."Dave" Davis (Division 2)

Committee Chairman