



# Veterans Affairs January Commissioner Meeting

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## Mission Statement



“Assist Veterans and their Dependents  
needs to which they are Entitled”

January 8, 2025

# BHCVA Commissioners



Joy Briscoe  
Second Term



Chuck Wubbena  
First Term



Chairman Henry Korf  
First Term

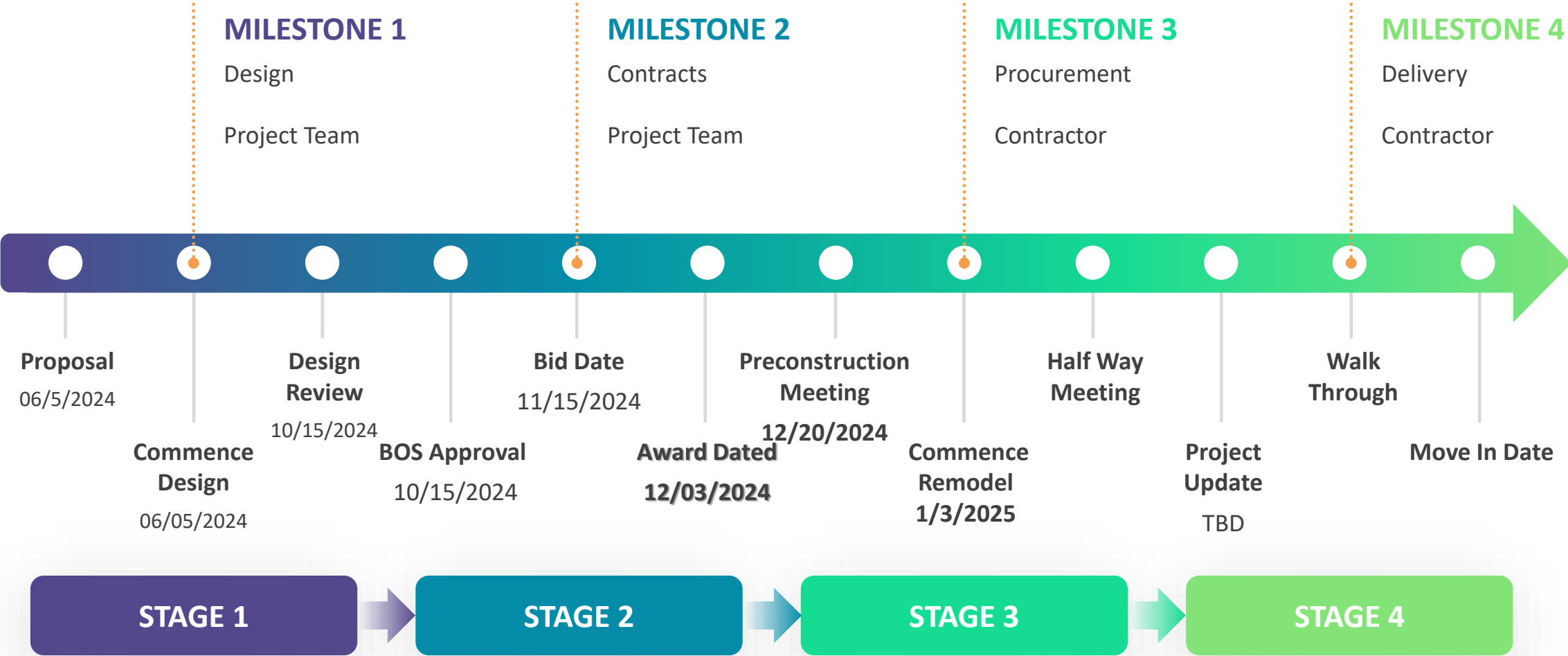


Todd Rosonke  
First Term



Michael Butler  
Second Term

# Veterans Affairs Relocation PROJECT TIMELINE









## Message from the Secretary Passing of President Jimmy Carter

We are all saddened to learn of the passing of Jimmy Carter, Navy Veteran, Governor of Georgia, and the 39<sup>th</sup> President of the United States.

Jimmy Carter came family with a long tradition of military service. His Georgia lineage stemmed back to ancestors who served in the Revolutionary War through the First World War. As a naval officer, Jimmy Carter deployed on surface ships and diesel-electric submarines before joining the Navy's fledgling nuclear submarine program. He said often that submarine service was his life's proudest accomplishment, and even went out to sea while President onboard the newly-commissioned nuclear submarine USS Los Angeles. Upon his return to port, Jimmy Carter said, "Well, it shows that any sailor or officer in the Navy can become President." Later in life he would be honored with the naming of the USS Jimmy Carter, the most advanced submarine in the US fleet today tasked with some of our nation's most secretive and challenging missions. As President, Jimmy Carter faced immense responsibility to begin healing the Nation from the wounds of the Vietnam War, both internationally and here at home, including the profound scars of divisiveness brought on by the draft and racial injustice. He was a steadfast supporter of Veterans throughout his time in office, signing a myriad of laws on behalf of Veterans; incentivizing companies to hire over a half million jobless disabled and Vietnam –era Veterans, creating a review process for Veterans to appeal less-than-honorable discharges, granting Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASP's) military Veteran status, launching the VA State Cemetery Grants Programs, and more.

## Surviving Spouses' Responses from Gift Cards

- Dear Friends, Thank you so much for the gift card and most of all. Thank you for your invaluable help, support and guidance. You folks are priceless!
- Thank you so much for remembering me and the loss of my spouse with the Walmart gift card. I am so proud to say my husband was a veteran! God bless you and all veterans.
- Thank you for your kind thought and holiday wishes for myself and my daughters and for the very generous gift card. Your office was the most helpful during the time of my husbands passing. I really appreciated all the help. You gave us so many helpful suggestions, none of the other agencies I delt with were as helpful.
- Thank you for the Walmart gift card. Thanks for thinking of me.
- Thank you so much for the Walmart gift. Happy Holidays to all your staff.



Quote “ I pray that our Heavenly Father may assuage the anguish of your bereavement, and leave you only cherished memory of the loved and lost, and the solemn pride that must be yours.” President Abraham Lincoln

# December Production



Veterans and Surviving Spouses received the following retro amounts:

Monthly Total: **\$173,425.00 Federal dollars paid to BHC Veterans and Surviving Spouses in November.**

Michelle's Clients Retro	\$26,188.00
Stacy's Clients Retro	\$65,857.05
Director's Clients Retro	\$81,379.95

December Donations:	
Winter Gear	\$120.00
General	\$2,720.00
Christmas	\$5,000.00

<b>Total</b>	<b>\$7,840.00</b>
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# Six Month Comparison Services to Veterans

Initial Visit 978

New Veterans 173

Disability Claims 187

Female Vets 78

Pension/DIC 34

Health Care 92

Van Rides 113

Vietnam 391

Gulf War/P-911 314

Other Counties 90

SIX MONTH STATISTICS	July	August	September	October	November	December
Total # Veterans Served on Initial Visit	173	179	168	179	146	133
# Veterans Served on Return Visits	28	25	9	17	14	20
Office Visits - Service Work	103	105	80	109	87	101
Office Visits - Relief	39	29	26	38	41	27
Office Visits - Other	59	63	58	46	30	25
Home Visits	1	3	5	7	2	2
New Veterans	36	42	28	25	25	17
Walk-Ins	131	108	91	74	74	76
Female Veterans	16	9	13	16	13	11
Van Rides	12	15	16	27	24	19
Applications Completed						
Service-Connected Disability	28	31	24	45	26	33
Pension/DIC (Survivors &Veterans)	7	10	6	4	4	3
Health Care	24	18	11	22	8	9
Burial/Grave Markers	5	5	3	1	1	3
College/Education	1	1	0	0	1	0
Appeals	11	10	6	13	6	11
Veterans Home Applications	2	0	0	0	0	0
Trust Fund Applications	6	4	4	1	4	2
Food Pantry	26	25	24	36	32	16
Relief Applications	10	5	6	2	11	7
All other Federal Forms	128	140	138	144	147	159
PTSD/MST Claims	2	8	4	6	9	3
Military Service Periods:						
World War II	5	2	6	2	4	6
Korean War	5	5	2	5	2	3
Vietnam War	75	78	67	59	65	47
Persian Gulf War	23	23	19	24	28	29
Post-9/11	33	40	32	30	23	21
Peacetime	32	23	27	27	21	25
Waterloo/BHC Veterans	97	99	99	103	96	69
Cedar Falls Veterans	44	30	22	31	27	31
Other Iowa Counties Veterans	19	18	20	13	6	14





# FY 25 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter LOE's



06 January 25

Outreach LOE #1	Cause and Effect	Primary CVSO
Outreach Events/Programs	Commissioners and Director actively involved in community events	Loveless /Albus
Local Service Organization Liaison	Commissioners and Director are participating in the monthly meeting	Albus /Sloyer
Nursing Home Liaison	Interaction with various nursing home Social Workers and Staff.	Sloyer /Loveless
Advertisement	WCF Courier and Radio Station to promote Veteran events and Holiday greetings.	Loveless /Sloyer
Scheduling Van Rides	Quarter average 13.	Mendoza /Loveless
Food Pantry	Increase by 9 food bags from previous quarter	Albus /Mendoza

# FY 25 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter LOE's



06 January 25

Benefits LOE #2	Cause and Effect	Primary CVSO
Pension/Compensation/Appeals Applications	Right at the 1st quarter average	Loveless /Sloyer
Iowa Trust Fund Application	Below the 1 <sup>st</sup> quarter average	Albus /Sloyer
Health Care Enrollments	Below the 1 <sup>st</sup> quarter average	Loveless /Sloyer
Veteran License Plates/Driver License Applications	As requested by Veterans, normally birthdays drive this request	Mendoza /Loveless
General Relief (Shelter, Utilities, Funeral)	Below the 1 <sup>st</sup> quarter average	Albus /Sloyer
Homeless Veterans/PTSD	Right at 1st quarter average	Albus /Mendoza
Burial/DIC/Headstone	Below the 1 <sup>st</sup> quarter average	Loveless /Sloyer
Veteran Home Applications	No applications submitted during the 2nd quarter	Sloyer /Albus

# FY 25 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter LOE's



06 January 25

Administration and Budgeting LOE #3	Cause and Effect	Primary CVSO
FY Budget	FY26 Budget proposal submitted.	Loveless /Albus
Accounts Payable	Submitted weekly to the Auditors Office.	Albus /Loveless
Scheduling Training	5 of 5 Commissioners have completed the required training.	Loveless /Mendoza
Grave Registration Custodian	We hold all grave registrations that are sent to our office.	Albus /Mendoza
Widow's Letters	Continue to send them upon notification. We recognized 29 Surviving Spouse during the Holidays	Albus /Mendoza
Scheduling Appointments	We continue to have more walk-in's than scheduled appointments.	Mendoza /Sloyer



## Top 8 Running Awards for Beneficiaries in Iowa by County

***As of November 2024***

<u>County</u>	<u>Veteran Population</u>	<u>Receiving Benefits</u>	<u>Monthly Grand Total</u>
<b>Black Hawk</b>	<b>7,158</b>	<b>2,007</b>	<b>\$3,468,810</b>
Dubuque	5,104	1,519	\$2,742,537
Johnson	5,697	1,539	\$2,761,141
Linn	13,897	3,568	\$6,479,005
Polk	24,300	9,268	\$16,230,101
Pottawattamie	6,224	2,456	\$3,977,502
Scott	11,609	3,339	\$6,330,109
Woodbury	5,584	1,750	\$2,738,797

# General Service to Veterans



“Veterans helping Veterans”

<u>Transaction</u>	<u>Expense</u>	<u>Percent used</u>	<u>Balance</u>	<u>Prior Yr. Total</u>
Funeral Expense	\$4,928.14	21%	\$18,071.86	\$8,230.00
Shelter	\$2,178.50	11%	\$18,124.50	\$2,470.00
Utilities	\$371.00	7%	\$4,629.00	\$1,487.75
Transportation	\$0.0	0%	\$3,000.00	\$1,140.00
Cemetery Expense	\$745.00	186%	(-\$345.00)	\$298.50
Grave Markers	\$1,116.96	112%	(-\$116.96)	\$1,238.40
Medications	\$0.0	0%	\$1,000.00	\$94.00
	\$9,339.60		\$44,363.40	\$14,958.65





## December Helping Veterans

Christmas Basket	\$1,617.21
Christmas Dinners	\$5,000.00
Motel 6	\$59.00
Gift Cards	\$110.00
Utilities(Water)	\$100.00
Rent	\$312.50

Total amount: **\$7,198.71**

## December Iowa Trust Fund disbursement:

- Home Repairs \$21,305.00
- Auto Repairs \$820.31

Total amount: **\$22,125.31**



## December Staff and Commissioner's Participation

- 12/4 Coffee and Camaraderie Grout Museum (Commissioner Butler)
- 12/5 Meeting with Veteran (Commissioner Butler)
- 12/8 Military Funeral Honors Vietnam Marine Corp Veteran (Director Loveless)
- 12/7 Veterans Resource Appreciation Black Hawks Hockey (Director Loveless)
- 12/9 Waterloo Exchange Club Banners Way Ceremony (Director Loveless)
- 12/11 Coffee and Camaraderie Grout Museum (Commissioner Butler)
- 12/13 Military Funeral Honors Vietnam Navy Veteran (Director Loveless)
- 12/14 Wreaths Across America Iowa Veterans Cemetery (Loveless)
- 12/17 Monthly VFW Meeting (Commissioner Butler)  
Monthly Waterloo American Legion Meeting (Commission Korf, Director Loveless)
- 12/18 Coffee and Camaraderie Grout Museum (Commissioner Butler)
- 12/19 Nursing Home Gift Bags Delivery (Stacy, Michelle, Sara, Volunteers)
- 12/20 Pre-Construction Meeting (Director Loveless, Stacy)
- 12/21 Military Funeral Honors Peacetime Army Veteran (Director Loveless)



# Heroes Among Us



## Do you know a hero?

Someone who has

- done something extraordinary to benefit others
- gone beyond their moral duty to ensure the well being of others
- shown great compassion and courage

## NOMINATE YOUR HERO TODAY!



The public is invited to submit nominations online now through Friday, Jan. 10, 2025 by visiting [MercyOne.org/heroes](https://MercyOne.org/heroes).

### CATEGORIES

- |                        |                        |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| ● Animal               | ● Good Samaritan Youth |
| ● Community Service    | ● Medical/Health Care  |
| ● Environmental        | ● Military             |
| ● Good Samaritan Adult | ● Public Safety        |
|                        | ● Work Place           |

The Heroes of 2024  
will be formally  
recognized at the

**Heroes  
Among Us  
Awards  
Breakfast**

**Thursday,  
March 27, 2025**

Proceeds benefit MercyOne Waterloo Foundation and MercyOne Cedar Falls Foundation





# **1ST ANNUAL WEST HIGH WRESTLING PROTECT & SERVE NIGHT**

**THURS, JAN 9, 2025**

**@ WEST HIGH GYM**

**5:30PM VARS GIRLS V HEMPSTEAD**

**6:15PM JV BOYS V HEMPSTEAD**

**6:30PM RECOGNITION PROGRAM**

**7:00PM VARS BOYS V HEMPSTEAD**

**7:30PM VARS GIRLS V FT DODGE**



**HONORING OUR  
ACTIVE & RETIRED  
MILITARY AND  
FIRST RESPONDERS  
WITH FREE ENTRY  
INTO THE WRESTLING  
MEET AS A THANK  
YOU FOR YOUR  
SERVICE!**

\*SHORT RECOGNITION PROGRAM  
BETWEEN BOYS JV & VARSITY





# Question?

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