



KENTUCKY VETERANS PROGRAM TRUST FUND

Minutes

25 September 2025

Chairman Whitney Allen called the meeting to order at 9:07 a.m. This meeting was conducted via a hybrid Zoom videoconference and in-person in the KDVA Conference Room.

ROLL CALL:

A. Members Present:

- o Whitney Allen (KDVA), Chairman
- o Juan Renaud (KDVA), Deputy Commissioner, KDVA Designee
- o Carl Kaelin (VFW)
- o David Rummler (JECVO)
- o Dave Jarrett (DAV)
- o Tim Martinez (At-Large)
- o David Best (GAB)

B. Non-Voting Members Present:

- o MAJ Megan Walton (KYARNG)
- o Michael Sparks

C. KDVA Staff Present:

- o Lily Patteson, KDVA Executive Director, OVLS
- o Kelsey Sanders, KDVA HR Specialist Senior
- o Rachel Dockal, KDVA Budget Manager
- o Kirk Shepherd, KDVA Executive Secretary
- o Leilani Martin, KDVA Staff Attorney III

D. Quorum:

- o Pursuant to regulation, Quorum was satisfied to enable voting to take place.
- o

REVIEW OF OLD MINUTES:

- Review of Minutes from previous meeting.
 - Board received minutes from 11 June 2025 meeting as presented.

APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL REPORT:

- Monthly Activity Reports for funds available after obligations: June (\$367,633.53), July (\$496,646.03), and August (\$554,527.18).
- Total Available funds for granting today is \$554,227.18- Commissioner did not set a buffer. Financial Report received and approved.

DISCUSSION PRECEDENT:

A. OLD BUSINESS:

1. All current Board Member Appointments shall continue until such time as any or all of the Appointments are formally replaced.
2. Each organization needs to submit names to the Board of Commissions.
3. Camp Hero Inc. awarded after a roll call vote and money will be given to cover expenses.

B. NEW BUSINESS:

1. REVIEW OF GRANT REQUESTS TOTALING \$332,695.47 for the following grants:

I. Legion Battle Forge (KS0030344)

- Request for funding in the amount of **\$28,277.47** to secure startup funding for the non-profit organization, Legion Battle Forge.
- The Board voted to approve an obligation of **\$28,277.47**
 - # Initial Motion made by David Best (GAB)
 - # Motion seconded by David Rummler (JECVO)
 - # Motion for approval unanimously carried.

II. Woody Williams Foundation (KY0082634)

- Request for funding in the amount of **\$130,388** to establish a Gold Star Family Memorial Monument at KY Veterans Cemetery West and KY Veterans Cemetery Southeast.
- The Board voted to approve an obligation of **\$130,388.**
 - # Initial Motion made by Dave Jarret (DAV)
 - # Motion seconded by Carl Kaelin (VFW)
 - # Motion for approval unanimously carried.

III. Trigg County Veterans Memorial Park (KS0030400)

- Request for funding in the amount of **\$100,000** to build monuments at Trigg Co. Veterans Memorial Park to highlight the military service of Trigg Countians. The park will also feature an outdoor site with seating/benches for special ceremonies.
- The Board voted to approve an obligation of **\$81,000**
 - # Initial Motion made by David Best (GAB)
 - # Motion seconded by Dave Jarrett (DAV)
 - # Motion for approval unanimously carried.

IV. National Association of Black Veterans (NABVETS) Chapter 23 (KY0059441)

- Request for funding in the amount of **\$27,600** to honor veterans and their families during a Veterans Day parade in Paris, KY.
- The Board voted to table the request pending additional information.
 - # Initial Motion made by David Best (GAB)
 - # Motion seconded by Juan Renaud (KDVA)
 - # Motion for tabling unanimously carried.

V. Hopkins County Genealogical Society (KY0082602)

- Request for funding in the amount of **\$6,500** to build a monument that honors the approximately sixty American Revolutionary War Veterans of Hopkins County.
- The Board voted to approve an obligation of **\$6,500.**
 - # Initial Motion made by Dave Jarrett (DAV)
 - # Motion seconded by Juan Renaud (KDVA)
 - # Motion for approval unanimously carried.

VI. Veterans Walking Wounded Project (KY0072251)

- Request for funding in the amount of **\$20,000** to assist veterans in the Fayette County Veterans Drug Treatment Court Program.
- The Board voted to approve an obligation of **\$20,000**
 - # Initial Motion made by David Best (GAB)
 - # Motion seconded by Juan Renaud (KDVA)
 - # Motion for approval unanimously carried.

VII. Rising-again.org (N/A)

- Request for funding in the amount of **\$4,750** to connect veterans/seniors to accurate, verified, and accessible resources.
- The Board voted to deny an obligation of **\$4,750.**
 - # Initial Motion made by Juan Renaud (KDVA)
 - # Motion seconded by Carl Kaelin (VFW)
 - # Motion for approval unanimously carried.

VIII. Hopkins County Union Statue Committee (KY0070628)

- Request for funding in the amount of **\$7,680** to complete the building of a monument dedicated for Union soldiers who fought in the Civil War.
- The Board voted to approve an obligation of **\$7,680.**
 - # Initial Motion made by David Best (GAB)

- # Motion seconded by Juan Renaud (KDVA)
- # Motion for approval unanimously carried.

IX. KDVA Homeless Veterans Program (Internal)

- Request for funding in the amount of **\$7,500** to address the needs of underserved communities throughout Kentucky through things such as hosting seasonal standdowns and delivering essential gear and support to veterans tailored to the time of year.
- The Board voted to approve an obligation of **\$10,000**
 - # Initial Motion made by Carl Kaelin (VFW)
 - # Motion seconded by Dave Jarrett (DAV)
 - # Motion for approval unanimously carried.

GRANT SUMMARY:

- Total amount of Grants approved: 7 of 9. 1 request tabled.
- Total amount approved: **\$283,845.47**

DISCUSSION ANTECEDENT:

NEXT MEETING

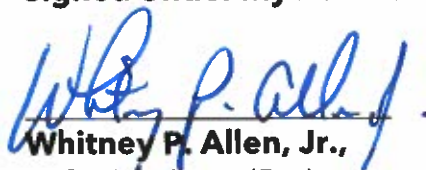
DATE: December 10, 2025
TIME: 9:00 a.m. EST

PLACE: KDVA, 1111 Louisville Road, Suite B, Frankfort, KY 40601 AND
via Zoom teleconference.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business remaining, this convening of the Veterans' Program Trust Fund Board and attendant, authorized personnel, was adjourned at 12:55 p.m., eastern.

Signed Under My Hand on this, the 25th day of September, 2025,



Whitney P. Allen, Jr.,

LTC, U.S. Army (Ret)

Chairperson

Veterans' Program Trust Fund

Kentucky Department of Veterans' Affairs (KDVA)