



KENTUCKY VETERANS PROGRAM TRUST FUND

Minutes

11 March 2026

Chairman Whitney Allen called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. This meeting was conducted via a hybrid Zoom videoconference and in-person meeting.

ROLL CALL

- Members Present:
 - o Whitney Allen (KDVA), Chairman
 - o Juan Renaud (KDVA), Deputy Commissioner, KDVA Designee
 - o Carl Kaelin (VFW)
 - o Dean Stoops (JECVO)
 - o Richard Dallaire (American Legion)
 - o David Best (GAB)
 - o Margaret Walton (KYNG)
 - o Michael Sparks (DAV)
 - o Tim Martinez (At-Large)
- Non-Voting Members Present:
 - o Dave Jarrett (DAV) - not voting
- KDVA Staff Present:
 - o Lily Patteson, KDVA Executive Director, OVLS
 - o Kelsey Sanders, KDVA HR Specialist Senior
 - o Holly Likes, KDVA Budget Manager
- The majority of voting members were present to satisfy a quorum.

REVIEW OF MINUTES

- Review of Minutes from previous meeting.
 - o Board received minutes from 10 December 2025 meeting as presented.

APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL REPORT

- Monthly Activity Reports for funds available after obligations: January (\$376,445.60), February (326,663.90), and March (596,536.91)
- Total Available funds for granting today are \$596,536.91 – Commissioner did set a buffer \$250,000. Financial Report received and approved.

DISCUSSION

OLD BUSINESS

- On 1/7/26, Big South Fork Hunt awarded funding in amount of \$16,500. On 1/3/26, Homeless Vets Program (KDVA) funding request was approved and awarded in the amount of \$60,000.
- Michael Sparks was appointed as DAV voting member and Dean Stoops was appointed as JECVO voting member.

NEW BUSINESS

REVIEW OF GRANT REQUESTS TOTALING \$318,500.00 for the following grants:

1. Honor Flight Kentucky, Inc. (KY0056700)

- Request for funding in the amount of **\$75,000** to fly WWII, Korean War, and Vietnam veterans and guardians to Washington DC to visit the memorials honoring them.
- The Board voted to approve an obligation of \$75,000
 - # Initial Motion made by Carl Kaelin (VFW)
 - Motion seconded by Juan Renaud (KDVA)
 - # Motion for approval unanimously carried.

2. Wilmore Community Development Board (KY0035795)

- Request for funding in the amount of **\$80,000** to host an event recognizing and honoring 250 veterans from Thomson-Hood Veterans Center & others across Central Kentucky.
- Initial Motion made to award \$30,000
 - Motion made by David Best (GAB)
 - Motion seconded by Juan Renaud (KDVA)
- Initial Motion amended to change the amount from \$30,000 to \$50,000
 - # Motion made by Carl Kaelin (VFW)
 - # Motion seconded by Michael Sparks (DAV)
- Motion to amend the amount to award in the amount of \$50,000 passed by a vote of 7-2.

3. Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter \$1051 (No Vendor #) – declined to present

- Request for funding in the amount of **\$8,000** to host the American Huey 369 Remembrance Flight in Elizabethtown, KY.

- 4. Louisville Armed Forces Committee (KY0077588)**
 - Request for funding in the amount of **\$10,000** to host the annual Louisville Armed Forces Day Dinner to recognize and honor Armed Forces Day with active-duty service members and veterans.
 - The Board voted to approve an obligation of \$10,000
 - Initial Motion made by Richard Dallaire (American Legion)
 - Motion seconded by Margaret Walton (KYNG)
 - Motion for approval unanimously carried.
- 5. Fire Mission Veterans Services (KY0081525)**
 - Request for funding in the amount of **\$35,500** to enhance access to safe transitional housing, supporting services, and healthcare resources for veterans in Shelby County and surrounding communities.
 - Initial motion made to award the full amount of \$35,500
 - # Initial Motion made by David Best (GAB)
 - # Motion seconded by Richard Dallaire (American Legion)
 - Original motion was amended to award in the amount of \$31,760
 - # Motion made by Juan Renaud (KDVA)
 - # Motion seconded by David Best (DAV)
 - Motion for approval in the amended amount of \$31,760 unanimously carried.
- 6. Kentucky Shakespeare, Inc. (KY0041671)**
 - Request for funding in the amount of **\$10,000** to offer veterans a place to gather and a healing examination of Shakespeare's text.
 - The Board voted to deny an obligation of \$10,000
 - # Initial Motion made by Juan Renaud (KDVA)
 - # Motion seconded by Margaret Walton (KYNG)
 - Motion for denial unanimously carried.
- 7. Scaling Up, LLC (KS0032934)**
 - Request for funding in the amount of **\$90,000** to provide free EMDR Basic Training to mental health therapists serving KY veterans.
 - The Board voted to deny an obligation of \$90,000
 - # Initial Motion made by Carl Kaelin (VFW)
 - # Motion seconded by Juan Renaud (KDVA)
 - Motion for denial unanimously carried.
- 8. DAV Post 106 (KY0083964)**
 - Request for funding in the amount of **\$20,000** to replenish funds to use for programs for direct veteran support & outreach.
 - Initial motion made to approve an obligation of \$20,000
 - # Initial Motion made by David Best (GAB)
 - # Motion seconded by Richard Dallaire (American Legion)
 - Motion amended to change the award amount to \$18,000
 - # Motion made by Margaret Walton (KYNG)
 - # Motion seconded by David Best (GAB)

- Motion for approval of the amended amount of \$18,000 unanimously carried.

GRANT SUMMARY

- Total amount of Grants approved: 5 of 8 approved. 2 denied. 1 declined to present.
- Total amount approved: **\$184,760.00**

DISCUSSION

N/A

NEXT MEETING

DATE: June 10, 2026

TIME: 9:00 a.m. EST

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

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:19pm

Whitney P. Allen, Jr
Whitney P. Allen, Jr.
Chairperson