

## Hampton Roads Council of Veterans Organizations

### Meeting Minutes June 23rd, 2025

The meeting was called to order at 7 pm by HRCVO President Dan Doyle.

Invocation by HRCVO Chaplain.

All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call of Officers and Directors: Present were President Dan Doyle, Immediate Past President Robert Randall, Secretary Roger Durity, Treasurer Mike Maliniak, Chaplain Kevin Bowser and Board of Directors (BOD) Kathy Goodall, Michael Bukowski, Scott Breuer. Vice President position is vacant.

#### Guest Speaker:

Morgan Yeager, Cemeteries Operations Coordinator, Virginia State Veterans Cemeteries, Horton Veterans Cemetery briefed the HRCVO on The Virginia Department of Veterans Services' three veterans' cemeteries that provide a final resting place for veterans and eligible family members a place of honor, dignity, respect, and remembrance. The Virginia Veterans Cemeteries are Amelia, Albert G. Horton, Jr. Memorial Veterans Cemetery in Suffolk, and Southwest Virginia Veterans Cemetery in Dublin. She provided information on pre-applications, events such as Holiday Wreaths, Memorial Day and Veterans Day and gave information on resources available at the office and on the website. She mentioned that they are looking for volunteers to form their own Honor Guard at the Albert G. Horton, Jr. Memorial Veterans Cemetery. More information available <https://www.dvs.virginia.gov/veteran-cemeteries/cemetery-information>

#### Guest Speaker:

James Burrwell, Director, Chesapeake Vet Center, briefed the HRCVO on Vet Centers. They are community-based counseling centers that offer a wide range of social and psychological services, including professional counseling to eligible Veterans, service members, including National Guard and Reserve components, and their families. Counseling is available for needs such as depression, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), and the psychological effects of military sexual trauma (MST) in addition to referral and connection to other VA or community benefits and services.

#### President's Report and Opening Remarks:

- Vietnam War spotlight: 14 USAF personnel received the Medal of Honor for their actions during the Vietnam War. These acts of valor included extraordinary heroism in combat, rescuing fellow service members, and enduring captivity as prisoners of war.
  - Bennett Steven L: Captain
  - Day George E: Colonel
  - Dethlefsen Merlyn H: Major
  - Etchberger Richard L: Chief Master Sergeant
  - Fisher Bernard F: Major
  - Fleming James P: First Lieutenant
  - Jackson Joe M: Lieutenant Colonel
  - Jones William A: Colonel

- Levitow John L: Airman First Class
- Pitsenbarger William H: Airman First Class
- Sijan Lance P: Captain
- Thorsness Leo K: Lieutenant Colonel
- Wilbanks Hilliard A: Captain
- Young Gerald O: Captain
- Continued discussion on the Veterans Day Essay Contest.
  - Have a sponsor for the Essay Contest.
  - Essay winner ride in a car in the parade
  - Guest at the Luncheon
  - Open to Public School, VSOs
  - Essay topic related to Vietnam War
  - Participation from the NJROTC and Scouting America
- Review and Acceptance of the Minutes from Previous Meeting:

May 23, 2025, meeting minutes were posted to the website for review. Motion: Ron ODonnell, 2<sup>nd</sup>: Virgil Hart. The minutes were unanimously approved as posted without any changes.

Treasurer's Report:

Mike Maliniak read the treasurer's report and provided the following information:

- Tickets (\$30 each) are available for the Tidewater Veterans Day Luncheon at the Doubletree Hotel. The due date for tickets will be 22<sup>nd</sup> September.

The financial report was submitted and posted to the website prior to the meeting.

The Treasurer's Report was unanimously approved as read.

POA&M Review:

- Reviewed upcoming important dates of the POA&M.
  - North Carolina Vietnam Veterans Helicopter Pilots Association participation in the Vietnam Memorial Traveling Wall and Veterans Day activities.
  - The Vietnam Memorial Traveling Wall will be displayed in the Virginia Beach Convention Center (VBCC). A meeting is scheduled for July 8<sup>th</sup>, 2025, with the VB Communication Office.
  - Vietnam Veterans of America will participate in the Vietnam Memorial Traveling Wall and Veterans Day activities.
  - Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency will have a Static Display at the Vietnam Memorial Traveling Wall and Veterans Day activities.
  - Home Depot will provide the supplies needed to display the Traveling Wall.
  - Kevin Bowser is working on the chairs for the Veterans Day Ceremony.
  - Update on the number of parade applications received. Reminder to submit parade application.
  - Discussion on the notion of increasing military participation and bands in the parade and restricting the number of vehicles per group.
- Virgil Hart, Chair of VB Mayor Committee for Veterans (MVC) gave an update on the participation of the Traveling Wall during the week of Veterans Day.

- Karen Gill, Virginia Beach Engagement Communications gave an update on the VB Engagement Communication office planning for the Traveling Wall.

#### Old/Unfinished Business:

The Vice President position is vacant.

Virgil Hart stated that he is awaiting the briefing on the Virginia Beach Central Business District Project and the impact on the Tidewater Veterans Memorial.

#### New Business:

No new business

#### Organization Reports

Kevin Bowser shared that the Virginia Fraternal Order of Eagles (FOE) donated \$3.6 million to charities last year.

#### Good of the Order:

Michael Bukowski shared The Armed Services Art Program (ASAP) that provides free art and comedy classes to veterans, service members, military spouses, family members, and caregivers. <https://asapasap.org/>

Kevin Bowser shared the success of the ASYMCA Hearts for Heros fishing trip. He mentioned that the 1<sup>st</sup> Catch, Door Prize and Grand Prize were won by Alice Cooper, a member of the HRCVO.

Dan Doyle encouraged the VSOs to participate in the 2026 Hearts for Heros fishing trip.

The next meeting will be held on July 28<sup>th</sup>, 2025, at 7 pm.

Benediction and Prayer for Our Troops by HRCVO Treasurer

The meeting adjourned at 8:02 pm

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**HRCVO**  
**Financial Report**  
**June 2025**

**Beginning Balance (6/1/2025)**

Checking	\$ 4,242.44
Savings	\$ 3,032.30
CD	\$ 10,414.01
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 17,688.75</b>

**Income**

Dan Doyle - 20 Luncheon Tickets	\$ 600.00
40&8 - 10 Luncheon Tickets	\$ 300.00
USSVI - Hampton Roads Chapter (Sub Vets) (Donation)	\$ 50.00
CD Interest	\$35.88
Savings Account Interest	\$ 0.15
<b>Total Monthly Income</b>	<b>\$ 986.03</b>

**Expenses**

HRCVO Email Addresses (Kevin Bowser)(1190)	\$70.00
JCVCC Donation (Mike Maliniak)(1191)	\$199.84
<b>Total Monthly Expenses</b>	<b>\$269.84</b>

**Ending Balance (6/30/2025) \$ 18,404.94**

**CD Rollover on 6/4/2025 - 6 months @ 3.85%**

Submitted by Mike Maliniak, Treasurer





# Hampton Roads Council of Veterans Organizations

## Meeting Agenda

June 23, 2025

1. Call to Order
2. Invocation by HRCVO Chaplain
3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. Roll Call of Officers and Directors
5. President's Report
  - Mr. James Burrwell, Director, Chesapeake Vet Center
  - Ms. Morgan Yeager, Operations Coordinator, Horton Veterans Cemetery
  - Vietnam War Spotlight: USAF
  - Vietnam Veterans Patriotic Essay Contest
6. Review and Acceptance of Minutes from Previous Meeting
7. Treasurer's Report:
  - Bills and Invoices Paid/Pending/Forthcoming
  - Financial Statement Review
  - Luncheon ticket status report – payment deadline Sept 22 meeting
8. POA&M Review
  - Mission: POW/MIA update
  - Co-Marshal selection status report
  - DV/VIP's update
  - Vietnam helicopter static display status report
  - Vietnam wall marketing and advertising plan
  - Parade Entrant Vehicle Limitation Idea
9. Old/Unfinished Business
10. New Business
11. Organizational Reports
12. Good of the Order
  - Next meeting date = July 28, 2025 at 7 PM
  - Discussion items from the floor
13. Benediction/Prayer for Our Troops by HRCVO Chaplain
  - Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands. Protect them as they protect us. Bless them and their families for the selfless acts they perform for us in our time of need.
14. Adjourn