



# VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION OF COOK COUNTY

**Executive Board Meeting Minutes**

**19 May 2024**

**AML Post 36**

**1291 Oakwood Ave, Des Plaines, IL 60016**

**(Executive Board Members):** Frank Gutierrez (*President*), William Browne (*1st Vice President*), Dutch DeGroot (*2nd Vice President*), Robert Arciola (*Treasurer*),

**At Large Board Members:** Greg Jacobs, Wayne Kern, John Steciw. Non voting **Appointees** Jim Parker (*Secretary*), Kevin Ake (*Chaplain*), Pete Hurt (*Judge Advocate*), Lorenzo Fiorentino (*Sargent at Arms*). Elizabeth Soto (*Superintendent*)

## **I** Welcome – President Frank Gutierrez.

- a.** Special Board meeting called to Order at 1915 hrs.
- b.** Roll Call/Establish Quorum – 2nd VP De Groot
- c.** Introduction of attorney, Josh Herman

## **II** Opening Reflection – Pledge of Allegiance. Chaplain Ake

## **III** Public Comments – President Gutierrez

- a.** Victor Sarmiento American Legion Post 96 spoke on behalf of a former VACCC employee
- b.** Several attendees voiced disagreement with Victor Samiento's remarks.

## **IV** Motion by 2nd VP DeGroot to go into Executive Session was seconded and passed by unanimous voice vote at 2040 hrs.

- a.** Approval of Financial reports

## **V.** Motion by 1st VP Browne to resume Special Board meeting was seconded and passed by unanimous voice vote at 2109 hrs.

## **VI** Public Comment – President Gutierrez

- a.** Mr. Samiento announced that due the many negative comments about Mr. Somoza that in his opinion were untrue, his Post 96 was resigning from the VACCC.

## **VII** Adjournment.

- a.** The next Executive Board meeting will be at a location, date and time to be announced.
- b.** The next Membership Meeting will be held on June 24, 2025 at 1900 hrs. at AL Post 1941.
- c.** Motion by 2nd VP DeGroot to Adjourn was seconded and passed by unanimous voice vote at 2040 hrs.

Submitted by Jim Parker, Secretary