

**Disabled American Veterans Minneapolis Chapter One**

**1515 East 66<sup>th</sup> Street, Richfield MN 55423**

**Chapter Meeting Minutes**

**Date: Feb. 2, 2026**

**1. OPENING CEREMONY BY THE COMMANDER:**

- Call to Order: Meeting Declared Open at 6:35 PM
- Opening Prayer
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Single Purpose Message:

*"Empowering veterans to lead high quality lives with respect & dignity. This is accomplished by ensuring the following:*

- I. That veterans and their families can access the full range of benefits available to them.*
- II. Fighting for the interests of America's injured heroes on Capitol Hill.*
- III. Educating the public about the sacrifice and needs of veterans transitioning back to civilian life.*

**2. ROLL CALL BY THE ADJUTANT:**

<b>Role</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>	<b>Excused</b>
<b>Board Members</b>				
Commander	Hunt	X		
Sr Vice	LeTourneau			X
1st Jr Vice	Carlson	X		
2nd Jr Vice	Tait	X		
3rd Jr Vice	Vacant			X
Adjutant	Schilling	X		
Treasurer	Turbett	X		
Chaplain	Tessmer	X		
Past Commander	Johnson, Wm		X	
<b>Staff Members</b>				
CSO	Hunt	x		
Legislative Advisor	Hunt	x		
IT	Wytonick			X
Outreach	LeTourneau			X

3. VISITORS/GUESTS/NEW MEMBERS:

- Visitors: None
- Guest Speakers: None

4. ACCEPTANCE AND APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:

- Chapter Meeting Minutes Dec 2, 2025 and Executive Board meeting of Jan. 21, 2026
- Motion to approve by Deb Johnson, Seconded by Craig Maehling
- Pass

5. TREASURER'S REPORT:

Seen at the Chapter meetings-

6. MEMBER ILLNESS OR IN DISTRESS REPORT BY CHAPLAIN:

- Illness: Chuck LeTourneau
- Deceased:

7. INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS

- Member's First Meeting: Tom Schauer
- New Member's to be sworn in: Tom Schauer

8. REQUEST FOR TRANSFER:

- None

9. COMMITTEE REPORT

A. Legislative Committee: Mid Winter Conference at Washington DC, Cmdr Hunt attending

B. Membership & Meeting Attendance Committee: Sr. Vice

- Feb. 2, 2026; current members 3,034 goal 3,050 (16 from goal)

10. UNFINISHED/OLD BUSINESS:

- a. VA Hospital Visitation: Last visitation, 1-25-26
  - i. Chapter #2 running event, 5 from Chapter #1, 9 from Chapter #2 and 0 from Chapter 39, 0 from Chapter 40
  
- b. Fort Snelling Stables Holiday Meal
  - i. Tuesday Dec 23, 2025, 45 meals served by 5 Chapter Members
  - ii. Joint operation with Every Third Saturday
  - iii. Food by HYVEE cost \$1354.93
  
- c. By-Law Update:
- d. Current BY-LAWS

**ARTICLE IV–ADMINISTRATION**

~~Section 1-~~ Section 1: The administrative affairs of this Chapter shall be vested in the Commander, Adjutant and approved designee for routine administrative matter (no more than \$1,000 in cost). All other actions are to be addressed by the Chapter Executive Committee and must be ratified by a majority vote of those Chapter members present and voting at the next regular Chapter meeting.

i. Proposed :

~~Section 1-~~ Section 1: The administrative affairs of this Chapter shall be vested in the Commander, Adjutant and approved designee for routine administrative matter (no more than \$1,000 in cost). During period of Government Shutdown (Federal or State Level) or other declared emergency, the Chapter Executive Committee may approve funding for up to \$5,000 by 2/3 majority vote. All other actions are to be addressed by the Chapter Executive Committee and must be ratified by a majority vote of those Chapter members present and voting at the next regular Chapter meeting.

3<sup>rd</sup> Reading to be conducted at March 2026 Chapter Meeting.

10. NEW BUSINESS & GENERAL INFORMATION:

Future Membership Meetings

- Feb. 25, 2026                      Exec. Board Meeting
- Mar. 3, 2026                        Chapter Meeting
- Apr. 1, 2025                        Exec. Board Meeting
- Apr. 7, 2025                        Chapter Meeting
- Apr. 29, 2026                      Exec. Board Meeting
- May 5, 2026                        Chapter Meeting
- May 27, 2026                      NO Exec. Board Meeting
- Jun. 2, 2026                        NO CHAPTER MEETING
- July 18, 2026                      Annual Picnic

A: Office Lockdown

- i. Effective approx.. Jan 12, 2026 our Physical Offices has instituted enhanced security measures based on current social unrest.
  1. Lobby doors locks, call for Appointment to see Adj.
  2. Offsite visits are available.
  3. More display of SIGNAGE on office door to clearly state DAV Offices.

B: NSO OPERATIONS

- ii. NSO are all working remote since the Whipple Bldg is not available for their use.
  1. Phone or E-mail to contact
  2. No in person appointment available
  3. They are getting US Mail addressed to the physical office after an approximate three week gap, working back log

C: DAV Spring Convention

- iii. April 30 – May 2, 2026
- iv. Holiday Inn Duluth Downtown
- v. Meals: Friday Breakfast, Lunch & Banquet, Saturday Breakfast
- vi. Travel Thursday April 30
  1. CSO Training
  2. Foundation Meeting
  3. Depart. Commander's Call TBD
- vii. Friday May 1, 2026
  1. Business Session and Banquet
- viii. Saturday May 2, 2026
  1. Business Session with Election
- ix. Room Cost, Std Room \$140 +tax,
  1. Room reservation (800) 477-7089 or (218) 722-1202 before March 27, 2026
- x. Convention Registration cost \$90/ delegate (due by April 2026)
  1. DO NOT PAY ON LINE, LET CHAPTER submit Registration and PAY for it and submit delegate with credentials
  2. Chapter pay mileage and room if over 50 miles.
- xi. If running for Depart Office, need to complete application no later than April 1, 2026 (emailed to [ADMIN@DAVMN.org](mailto:ADMIN@DAVMN.org))
- xii.

D. DAV Mid-Winter Conference- George Hunt to attend.

- a. Crystal Gateway Marriott, Arlington VA rate \$219 +tax
- b. Fly Sat. 2-21-26
- c. Event Sun. – Weds Feb 25, 2026
- d. Cmdr Hunt to call into Exec. Board Meeting Weds Feb. 25, 2026
- e. Projected cost \$2,456.39 (without mileage or parking calculated) Department to reimburse Chapter \$1,000 (limit 2 people)

E. VETS DAY ON THE HILL:

- a. TENTATIVE. Thursday April 23, 2026

F. Annual Chapter Picnic

- a. Saturday July 18, 2026
  - i. Vets Park, Richfield MN Shelter #2
  - ii. 1-4PM

G. Nomination for Election of Officers

- a. Positions:

<b>Board Members</b>	
Commander	George Hunt
Sr Vice	-----
1st Jr Vice.	John Carlson
2nd Jr Vice.	Don Tait
3rd Jr Vice.	Kelly Peniate
Treasurer.	Step Turbett
Chaplain	Mark Tessmer

- b. Sr. Vice runs nomination process per By-laws, Chaplian stepped in.
- c. Nominations Feb, Mar and April
- d. Election April 2026 (by State By-Laws must be before State Convention)

H. Restrictive Funds for Office Safety or Security

- a. \$2,000 donation only to be used for Offices Safety and/or Security
- b. Propose AED for Building Lobby
  - i. Philips HeartStart OnSite Complete AED Package
    - 1. Cost \$2009.99
    - 2. Approved by Land Lord of property.
- c. Motion to approve purchase of AED for Office Safety / Security upgrade  
Deb Johnson. Motion 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dale Steinberg  
Pass

I. FGMN Spring 2026

a. Site Captains met on Weds Jan 21, 2026

i. As of Feb 2, 2026

a. Dates of May 8 & 9 and also May 15 & 16 2026

Four Sites: HY-VEE New Hope, MN May 15 & 16, 2026 site Capt. George Hunt  
Cub Food Eden Prairie, MN May 8 & 9, 2026 site Capt. Don Tait  
Jerry's Edina, MN, Site Capt. Dates TBD (pending review by Jerry's Foods)  
Cub Brooklyn Park. MN , Site Capt. Mark Jaruszewski tentative May 8, 9 2026

ii. Received MN Attorney General Keith Ellison letter of

a. Disabled American Veterans, Minneapolis Chapter 1  
(EIN:0410220880) Charitable Organization Annual Report  
Accepted Dated Jan. 07, 2026[

h. Sr. Vice will not be at meetings / activities in near future due to health issues. Good of Order to continue, Schilling picked up finish order from vendor for drawings. NEW FORMS THIS MONTH!

i. Bloomington Events Center Meal cost

Chapter Meeting Dec. 2, 2025, meal cost \$1,099.45; meal income \$479.01

11. OPEN DISCUSSION BY COMMANDER:

a. Open Discussion by Commander

i. Need individuals for Board or CSO positions.

b. Good of the Order: 6 (+ one Garrison Cap)

1. Tom Schauer

2. Deb Johnson

3. Steven Chase

4. Tom Schauer Garrison Cap

5. Joel Schilling

6. Jan Kopischke

7. John Carlson

12. CLOSING CEREMONIES:

a. Single Purpose Reminder Commander

b. Purpose of Gathering Commander

c. Salute to the Flag Commander

d. Prayer Chaplain

e. Date of Next Board Meeting Commander **Feb. 25, 2026**

f. Date of Next Chapter Meeting Commander **Mar. 3, 2026**

g. Declaration of Adjournment Commander

13. ADJOURN:

Meeting Adjourned at: 7:22 PM

