



ILLINOIS JOINING FORCES

*Supporting Service Members, Veterans
and their Families*

Illinois Joining Forces Board Meeting Agenda: March 21, 2023

- **Roll Call (Confirm Quorum)**
 - Attendance: Matt, John, General Neely, Ericka, Stephanie, Sgt Major Salami, Director Prince
 - Quorum is made with 6
 - Call to order by Ericka at 3:35pm
- **2023 Board of Director's December Meeting Minutes**
 - General Neely moved to approve
 - John seconded
 - Motion carried
 - Ericka addressed General Neely's retirement and thanked him for his service
- **Executive Director's Update (Brenda Osuch)**
 - **Staffing Update**
 - Southern Illinois Outreach, Education, and Community Engagement Specialist – Amanda Depew – Air Force Veteran
 - 2 Open Positions – Central Illinois OECWS and Care Coordination Center Specialist– Actively Interviewing
 - **Grants and Contracts Updates:**
 - IWAP Contract – Ends April 2024 – Provided information requested for renewal.
 - SSG Fox SPGP Grant Renewal Due 4/15
 - LSSI Renewal
 - Vote for National Able contract to renew contract and increase amount
 - John commented that they have been a great partner and we are getting a bargain. Ericka agreed and elaborated that it makes sense the cost is going up. John added that he is in favor of this but that it is probably lower than what we should be paying but we may want to look down the road to evaluate if we need to in house this.
 - Ericka asked for motion to approve
 - General Neely motioned
 - John Second
 - Motion carries
 - **Board of Directors**



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- Appointments
- Legislative Change/Nominating Committee
 - Ericka reviewed Board appointments and the reason for requesting approval for a Nominating Committee now.
 - Ericka asked for questions/discussion
 - General Neely thinks it's a good idea.
 - Vote to approve enactment of a Board of Directors Nominating Committee.
 - Ericka requested a motion to approve
 - John made a motion
 - General Neely seconded the motion
 - Motion carried
- **Project Management (Courtney Kohn Sanders)**
 - **Events**
 - February Summit in Southern Illinois –February 2024 – Gateway Classic Events (O'Fallen, Illinois) - Recap
 - May 1 - Annual Summit- Schaumburg, IL - Maggiano's
 - July 19 – Regional Summit – Springfield, IL – Erin's Pavilion
 - August 9 - Soaring to New Heights – Annual Fundraiser – Bob Buford's Home
 - September 27 – Regional Summit – Rock Island, IL – Location TBD
 - **Marketing Updates**
 - Social Media
 - IJF Welcome Packet
 - Military Appreciation Survey – How to Thank a Vet – May 2024
 - Operation Connect-a-Vet – November 2024
 - SGT Major requested cards
- **Outreach/Education/Community Engagement (Kevin Burke)**
 - **Partnership Models**
 - 2 Levels at Launch – Referral Partner and Collaborative Partner
 - Application available online
 - **Veteran Support Community Development**
 - **Outreach efforts**
- **Care Coordination Center (Katie Revell)**
 - **Data Comparison July 2022 – February 2023 vs July 2023 – February 2024**



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- **Treasurer's Report (Stephanie Kifowit/Brenda Osuch)**
 - **FY 2024 – Year to Date (July 2023 – February 2024)**
 - Stephanie reviewed the balance sheet and financial position statement
 - Ericka commented this is a strong position to be in
 - General Neely agreed that this is really incredible to see how far IJF has come.
 - Reminder that Board Retreat will be happening on 6/18 from 2-5 with Dinner following
 - Ericka commented that she appreciated that each staff member stepped forward to report on different areas
 - John commented that he was really impressed with the partnership page
 - General Neely wanted to close out with his last board meeting. He was Colonel Neely back in 2012 and has watched IJF be born as a concept and a lot of iterations but now the last 5 years being back on the board from the budget numbers to the data he is really impressed with the team being able to come forward and share the increases in our impact Its encouraging to see how we are building and financially solvent. He appreciates all the hard work.
- **Adjournment**
 - Ericka asked for a motion
 - John motioned
 - General Neely seconded
 - Meeting adjourned