

**PARALYZED VETERANS OF AMERICA – WISCONSIN CHAPTER
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

January 14th, 2026

1. CALL TO ORDER:

2. The Paralyzed Veterans of America, Wisconsin Chapter BOD meeting was called to order by President Todd Drazy at 1:04 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was conducted, followed by a moment of silence for all veterans who have passed away.

3. ATTENDEES:

Todd Drazy	President	Present, Zoom
Scott Griffith	VP, National Director	Present, In Office
Michael Thomas	Board Member	Present, Phone
Troy Kurzcek	Board Member	Medical Leave of Absence
Richard Buth	Board Member	Medical Leave of Absence
Angela Walker	Board Member	Medical Leave of Absence
Gary Stott	Secretary, Board Member	Present, Zoom

4. RECOGNIZE VISITORS:

- Brenna Frey, Adv. & Eng. Coord.
- Matt Seidl, Executive Director
- Brenda Stencil, NSO
- Christina Baurichter, GRD
- Louie Mullins, PVA National VP

5. CONSENT AGENDA:

- Gary Stott made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Mike Thomas seconded the motion. All votes were accepted, no nays, no abstentions, and the motion was carried.

6. AGENDA:

- January agenda presented.

7. PREVIOUS MINUTES:

- December minutes presented.

8. FINANCE REPORT:

- Written report presented.

9. PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

- Written report presented.

10. NATIONAL DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

- Written report presented.

11. NATIONAL SERVICE OFFICER'S REPORT:

- No report presented.

12. GRD'S REPORT:

- Written report presented.

13. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- **Sports & Recreation:**

- i. No report presented.

- **Communications & Advocacy:**

- i. Written report presented.

- **Finance:**

- i. Written report presented.

- **Membership/Peer Mentorship:**

- i. No report presented.

- **Membership:**

- i. Members: 308

- New: Jonathan R. Martinez, Jacob R. Becker, Jennifer R. Olson

- i. Associate: 198

- New: N/A

- iii. Transferred:

- N/A

- iv. Deceased:

- Leonard T. Alt

14. OLD BUSINESS:

- N/A

15. NEW BUSINESS:

- Associate Membership Application – Letitia R. Watkins-Holloway
 - Scott Griffith made a motion to approve the associate membership application. Mike Thomas seconded the motion. All votes were accepted, no nays, no abstentions, and the motion was carried.
- Application to Transfer Membership – Candice L. Caesar
 - Scott Griffith made a motion to approve the transfer membership application of Ms. Candice Caesar from the Texas Chapter to the Wisconsin Chapter. Gary Stott seconded the motion.
 - Discussion followed regarding the request. Board members considered concerns about precedent, sustainability, and the potential impact of accepting members who do not reside in Wisconsin, including implications

for resources and future requests. Other board members noted Ms. Caesar's active national involvement in adaptive sports and advocacy, her desire for a supportive chapter environment, and the opportunity for positive representation of PVA-WI at national events. It was also confirmed that national procedures had been followed and that chapters are not territorially restricted.

- After the discussion concluded, a vote was taken. All votes were accepted, there was one nay, no abstentions, and the motion was carried. Candice L. Caesar's transfer member application was approved. The Board noted that this decision was based on the specific circumstances of this request and does not establish an automatic policy for future transfer applications.
- PVA-WI Chapter Bylaws
 - President Todd Drazy explained that a bylaw change made in 2023 was not properly vetted through the required national process. General Counsel recommended reinstating the last fully vetted and approved bylaws to ensure compliance.
 - Scott Griffith made a motion to reinstate the PVA-WI Chapter Bylaws dated October 9, 2019, and to void the 2023 changes. Mike Thomas seconded the motion. All votes were accepted, no nays, no abstentions, and the motion was carried.
- NVWG Reimbursement Amount
 - President Todd Drazy presented the proposed NVWG reimbursement amount of \$2,500, which includes a \$500 caregiver stipend and is consistent with last year's reimbursement amount.
 - Scott Griffith moved to approve the \$2,500 reimbursement amount, including the caregiver stipend. Mike Thomas seconded the motion. All votes were accepted, no nays, no abstentions, and the motion was carried.
- Milwaukee MS Walk Event Sponsorship
 - Scott Griffith made a motion to sponsor the Milwaukee MS Walk at the Silver level for \$5,000, consistent with last year's sponsorship amount. Gary Stott seconded the motion.
 - A brief discussion clarified that the sponsorship provides visibility for PVA-WI, including our logo on the back of the event t-shirt, a company tent, and support for the National MS Society while increasing community awareness.
 - After the discussion concluded, a vote was taken. All votes were accepted, no nays, no abstentions, and the motion was carried. The Silver-level sponsorship for \$5,000 in support of the Milwaukee MS Walk was approved.

- 2026 SCI Budget
 - Scott Griffith made a motion to approve the 2026 SCI budget for \$1,900 as presented in the board packet. Gary Stott seconded the motion. All votes were accepted, no nays, no abstentions, and the motion was carried.

16. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Website Use & Event Registration
 - Board members were encouraged to assist in educating members on how to use the chapter website to submit reimbursement requests and register for events. Registration forms for all PVA-WI events—except the Membership Banquet—are available on the website and in the President's Report.
- From Ms. Christina Baurichter, GRD:
 - Christina reported that new legislation is still being introduced as the session nears its close, including efforts to increase the \$50 reimbursement cap for military funeral honors. She noted that AB 745 may face challenges, while the similar Senate bill, SB 810, is more likely to advance.
 - She announced she will be at the Capitol January 26–27 to advocate for AB/SB 92, the spinal cord injury research grant, and invited others to join.
 - Christina also reported an accessibility complaint regarding Aquavia Lumina in Wisconsin Dells and stated she is working with National to address the issue.
- From Brenda Stencil, NSO:
 - Brenda reported that she will attend two April events with Dr. Lee: April 15 in Tomah and April 23 in Madison. Iron Mountain dates are still pending. She also noted that the PVA site visit is scheduled for April 28–30, with the usual town hall meeting to be held beforehand.
 - She shared updated benefit rates: the automobile allowance increased to 27, and the clothing allowance for the year is \$1,053.19 (an increase of about \$29).
 - Brenda encouraged the chapter to include ALS events in addition to MS events. She attends all ALS clinics and noted that the ALS Association representative, Robin, is regularly present.
- Associate Membership Discussion
 - Matt Seidl reported an increase in associate membership applications from Illinois and noted the website states only WI residents are eligible for associate membership. There was a question about whether the website is

correct and what the actual policy says. Approval of the current associate membership applications will be tabled until the next meeting, along with the previously submitted/voted on Letitia R. Watkins-Holloway application, to allow time for the formal policy to be located and presented to the Board.

17. ADJOURNMENT: Mike Thomas made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Scott Griffith seconded the motion. All votes were accepted, no nays, no abstentions, and the motion was carried. The meeting adjourned at 1:53 PM by President Todd Drazy.

Next BOD meeting: Wednesday, February 11, 2026, at 1:00 PM on Zoom and in the PVA-WI office.