



Board Meeting Minutes (draft)

Monday, May 11, 2026 @ 7:00 PM

Online via Zoom

VOTING EXCELLENCE AND BUILDING ACCOUNTABILITY

Attendance

Officers		
ROLE	NAME	STATUS
President	Wanda Taylor	Present
1st Vice President	Rick Herrington	Present
2nd Vice President	Paul Kitchen	Present
Treasurer	Dominick Schirripa	Present
Secretary	Donna Dagner	Present
Immediate Past President	John Nunnally	Present

Ad Hoc Committees		
ROLE	NAME	STATUS
Extra Large Districts	Kate Hanley	Present
Membership/Nomination Committee	JoAnne Speiden	Present

District Directors		
DISTRICT	NAME	STATUS
North Central	Valerie Morris	Absent
Northern	Mary Strenko	Present
South Central	Patrick Washington	Present
Southwestern	Irma Mitchell	Absent
Tidewater	Mike Ziegenfuss	Present
Western	Marcy Reedy	Present

District Directors		
DISTRICT	NAME	STATUS
Other		
ROLE	NAME	STATUS
Programming VEBA Annual Meeting	Jane Hurst	Absent
IT/Website Vendor	Josepha Thompson	Present
Legislative Lobbyist	Luke Priddy	Present
Legislative Member	Lynette Clements	Present

Call to Order

VEBA President Wanda Taylor called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. The minutes from the April 13th meeting were approved by the Board.

Report from Treasurer

The checking account balance was \$131,552.11, and three CDs totaled \$54,000, bringing total assets to about \$186,000.

Old Business

VEBA Debit Card

Dominick shared that he now has the VEBA debit card in hand and requested that expenses be cleared with him before incurring them; Dominick will work with the Finance Committee on a more formal purchasing/payment policy.

Meeting Technology Purchase: Zoom vs. Teams

Proposal: Purchase Zoom Pro licenses to standardize meeting hosting and avoid ad-hoc account sharing complications.

Recommended configuration: A scenario of five licenses to distribute among the president, secretary, executive committee/committee chairs, district directors, and a master account for scheduling/management.

Rationale: Balances cost, access, and continuity; avoids the complexity and risk of a single shared license.

The board approved the purchase of Zoom Pro with five licenses (estimated annual cost ~\$850). Logistics for dissemination and host management are to be determined later.

Annual Meeting Survey/Program Feedback

Josepha Thompson, our website/IT vendor, shared a summary of the responses from the submitted surveys.

Response: 92 survey responses—strong positive feedback on event organization, registration, vendor engagement, and key sessions (legislative update, ethics, FOIA, meeting conduct, breakouts by locality size).

Areas for improvement: AV/aesthetics (acoustics, lighting), walking distances at venue, clearer targeted survey questions, and additional materials for boot camp participants (handbooks, glossaries, separate tracks for new vs returning attendees).

Next steps: Executive summary in development; program and training committees will use feedback to refine future training and session structure; survey summary to be posted on the website.

VEBA Handouts

Josepha also stated that all handouts from the annual conference have been posted on the VEBA website.

Abstracts from April Special Election:

Several district chairs reported concerns about localities that refused to conduct the canvass or sign the abstracts. They were advised to contact Paul Kronan, ELECT's policy analyst.

New Business

Paul Kitchen, 2nd Vice President, requested a financial analysis comparing the Annual Conference 2025 and 2026. The treasurer will request attendee lists and financial data to analyze the annual meeting revenue shortfall (a decline in attendance drove a revenue decline compared to the prior year).

ELECT has scheduled a legislative webinar for Saturday, May 2, 2026, from 9:00 to 12:00. An advisory was emailed on May 6 to all.

Reports from Leadership

Treasurer: Checking account funds are three times the organization's annual non-meeting expenses, so the treasurer recommended moving excess cash into an interest-earning account while keeping it readily accessible.

Dominick motioned to open a money market account with Truist Bank, with an amendment requiring that at least 115% of annual non-meeting expenses remain in checking. The Treasurer and Finance Committee will have discretion over fund transfers. The motion passed.

Dominick circulated a draft budget in the second and third tabs of the spreadsheet, but formal approval was deferred until outstanding items—especially Josepha’s retainer—are finalized. Madame President will call a special board meeting to approve the retainer and finalize the remaining details.

Reports from District Directors

District directors were reminded to forward all information to our IT vendor, Josepha, so she can personalize each district's training page.

The treasurer will coordinate payment coordination for district events (card-on-file, direct payment to vendors) to reduce reimbursements.

North Central

Absent

Northern

Date: Friday, September 4, 2026. Special Guest: Steve Koski

South Central

Date: Saturday, September 5, 2026. Location: Roma’s Italian Restaurant, Petersburg

Southern

Date: Friday, August 21, 2026. Location: Bedford Visitors Center

Southwest

Absent

Tidewater

No confirmed meeting date yet.

Western

Date: Saturday, June 13, 2026, Location: Augusta County Government Center

Reports from Committees

Awards and Honors

No Report

Legislative

Legislative kickoff: The committee will hold a legislative forum on Tuesday, May 19, at 7 p.m. to set priorities and begin policy papers; VEBA retained Legislative Strategies Group, and Luke Priddy remains the representative (hopefully for the next two years).

Plans for in-person legislative information and education session in late July are being discussed (looking for a free venue; meal costs only if funded).

Membership

The EB List is inaccurate because it contains 580 names. JoAnne suggested that we have our communication list for Electoral Board members only. Based on the new code, ELECT will prepare name tags for all Electoral Board members. They will be distributed to the general registrars.

Program Committee

Rick Herrington, 1st Vice President, is planning to attend all District Meetings. We were reminded that The Homestead has asked us to reconsider the dates for our 2027 Annual Meeting because it's scheduled for Palm Sunday. More details are forthcoming. The training committee will form an ad hoc training subcommittee (including presenters from the annual meeting and interested volunteers) to address different audience levels (new members vs. experienced members) and improve boot camp materials.

Public Relations

The public relations committee will standardize branding (email masthead, letterhead, PowerPoint template, approved logos) and explore a member-focused newsletter distribution (Mailchimp or similar) to reach membership subsets more precisely.

Big 10 Localities

Discussions about the amplified communication methods being used on Election Day.

Final Remarks/Adjournment

Madame President thanked all for their participation. For the good of the order, the meeting adjourned at 8:33 PM.

Next Meeting Date and Time

Monday, June 8, 2026

Respectfully,

Donna J Dagner,

VEBA Secretary