

Mike Voth Memorial  
Vietnam Veterans of America  
Chapter 5 – Eau Claire  
May 6, 2026

AVVA

Attendance- Peg O., Micki C. and Rick T.

discussion – a motion was made to approve the minutes of the April 1, 2026 meeting by Micki C. and seconded by Peg O. The motion carried without objection. The Election papers will be completed and mailed to State and National.

VVA

Agenda – no changes

Call to Order – Mike Korger (6:45pm)

Pledge of Allegiance – led by Joe Graff

Opening Prayer – Joe Graff

Moment of Silence -

Deceased Members – Thomas Neuenfeldt, Jerome Bertram and Michael Schmitt

Welcome Veterans and Guests – Gundlach Family

Guests – The Gundlach Family came to the meeting, to help the Chapter present a \$1,000.00 Scholarship to young Aaron Gundlach. Many photos were taken of the family with the veterans, as Gundlach explained he was attending CVTC and then hopefully UW Eau Claire. Jake Gundlach (member of chapter 5) was the veteran interviewed for the scholarship essay.

Reports

Secretary – Jake Gundlach (Rick A. Talford – AVVA – assistant)

A motion by Rodney Pettis to accept the minutes from the April 1, 2026 was made, with a second from Rory Schutte. The motion carried without objection.

Treasurer – Mike Smith

Smith provided information on the accounts of Chapter 5 and the Vietnam Veterans Day Funds. Everything is in good standings. Smith was “Thanked” for his report.

President – Mike Korger

no activity to report – update on Memorial Day Parade – Chapter 5 will lead the parade in Eau Claire, with VFW Post 7232 taking care of the gun volley.

Vice-President – Rodney Pettis

Pettis will be working on flag placements at two cemeteries for Memorial Day

AVVA – Rick A. Talford

Talford reported the minutes for last months election were approved.

## Meetings

National – Washington, DC in 2027

Region 6 – no update received

State – June 13, 2026 in Waupaca at Par 4 (State Election)

Chapter Elections were held on April 1, 2026, with members remaining in position by acclamation. Jake Gundlach was nominated for Secretary, with no other nominations, he was accepted by acclamation. Rick A. Talford will also remain the AVVA Representative by acclamation. He will also assist Jake Gundlach with secretarial duties for the Chapter. Election and Finance Reports will be completed and sent to State and National.

VA/Benefits/Claims – need a chair – no reported

Minority Report – Dave Zien – absent

Membership – VVA 126 AVVA 28 (Korger will file report on deceased members)

## Old Business

Veterans Home – Rory Schutte (no report)

High Ground – Joe Graff

- May 6-9 – work week

- May 9 – volunteer appreciation lunch

- May 13 – CAMO Event

- May 16 – Legacy Stone Placement; Spring Bake Sale

- May 25 - 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Honor Ride; Memorial Day Ceremony

- June- TBD – Female Veterans Retreat

- June 5-7 – Courage to Heal Female Veteran Retreat

VVA Logo/Clothing – Rick A. Talford

There are still a few shirts and hoodies available. Contact Talford for sizes available. 715.829.3540

Post Cards to Members – not done yet

Talford Honorary Lifetime Vietnam Veteran Membership Application. There is still time to provide a letter of recommendation to be given to State and National. Please bring to June 3, 2026 meeting.

## New Business

Membership Review – Korger has a list of membership to review and contact each for a status. This is an ongoing project.

High School to Heroes Event – Mike Korger, Joe Graff, Mike Smith, Bob Bonesteel and Rick A. Talford attended the event at the Wild Ridge Gold Course on April 15, 2026.

Memorial Day Parade – Joe Graff, Mike Korger, Rodney Pettis and Rick A. Talford plan on attending the parade. Others will be called to help out the Chapter, as we are the lead of this years parade. Rick A. Talford will carry the US Flag. Truck and Trailer will be available for non-walkers.

Scholarships – Mondovi HS has two recipients, Carson Hass (\$1,500.00) and Julia Jardine (\$1,000.00). Eau Claire Memorial had one recipient, Aaron Gundlach (\$1,000.00). Certificates and Holders were purchased to provide each recipient.

Future Fund Raising – Mike Smith

Smith spoke of the AMVETS work in Hayward, providing White Clover Poppies for donations. They did extremely well. Joe Graff spoke of the orange and black poppies the VVA has. Rory Schutte spoke of Hy Vee being a possible location to set up. Mike Korger spoke of Festival Foods could also be a set up site.

VVA Goals/Outreach – no reported

Chapter Elections – next in April 2028

Committees – Scholarship information covered early

Communications – none

Anything Under the Good of the Order -

Rick A. Talford – James “Mac” McBee was finally laid to rest at Arlington on April 27, 2026.

Rory Schutte – Summer Jam is June 19-20, 2026. Veterans get in free

Upcoming Events – Memorial Day Parade

Closing Prayer – Joe Graff

Next Meeting – June 3, 2026 at 6:30pm

Adjourn – 7:40pm