

Isanti County Beyond the Yellow Ribbon: Task Force Meeting Minutes**May 21, 2026 at 7:00 pm****Armed Forces and Reserve Center - Cambridge**

Member Attendance	☒	Adam F	☒	Susan M	☒	Gail G	☒	Ronda F
	☒	Jessica K	☒	Arelene K	☒	Kathy R	☒	Richard N
	☒	Carl Ann S	☒	Brad B.	☒	Jim R	☒	Jesse P

Agenda Item	Discussion / Action
Call to Order	Meeting called to order by Chair Adam F at 07:04pm
Pledge of Allegiance	The Pledge of Allegiance
Secretary's Report	Action: Corrections to minutes - Ronda was not in attendance at the last meeting. Motion: Susan Second: Brad Vote taken: all in favor; motion carried.
Treasurer Report	Checking April starting balance: \$36,679.73 Total deposits: \$14,263.04 Total disbursements: \$10,956.42 Ending balance: \$39,986.35 Savings account balance: \$22,516.87 Action: Approve the treasurer's report and set it aside for audit. Motion: Brad Second: Jim Vote taken: all in favor; motion carried.
Chair's Report	Tree removal • Request updated three times due to quote changes and veteran discount. • Original payment of \$1,073.75 was cashed. • Follow-up attempted; no response. • Case considered closed unless refund issued. Housing Assistance • Request received May 4 for \$1,750. • Veteran verified and referred to service office. • Veteran connected with MACV housing resources. • Request may return before June 1 deadline. Vehicle Repair • Request received May 19 for returning veteran; \$651.82. • Assistance requested for urgent transportation/living situation. • Total aid remains below \$5,000 cap. • Board approved. Other Updates • No new Soldier and Family Readiness requests.

	• No additional follow-up items. Strategic Planning Google Workspace • Board emails being created by position. • Includes storage and Google Meet access. • Supports virtual meetings for up to 250 people. • Domain cost: \$6 first year / \$12 annually. • Dedicated emails will improve transitions and record keeping. Events Dinner Dance • Continued discussion on 2026 planning and expenses. • Began discussing 2027 options and venues. • Braham Event Center being researched by Gail. Volleyball Tournament • Low early registration due to weather. • More interest developed later. • Possible reschedule to June or July. Princeton Rum River Days • Prior feedback showed low value for resources. • Decision made not to attend. Upcoming Events • Braham Appreciation Days • Isanti County Fair • Braham Pie Days • State Fair Community Recognition • Beyond the Yellow Ribbon nominated again for “Best Of.” Board Communication • Requests should go through official board channels. • Agencies should be contacted through proper chain of command. Upcoming Meetings • June 8 • July 13 • August 10 Action: To approve items as presented. Motion: Ronda Second: Brad Vote taken: all in favor; motion carried.
Committee Reports	Website/Social Media Committee: Website Report (Scott F): • 181,579 visitors so far. • 2,248 visitors last month, up 8%. • All agendas and minutes posted on website. • Tweet sent out reminding followers of tonight’s meeting. • 38 followers on Twitter X. • Could use photos of the Dinner/Dance and the Volleyball tournament. Facebook (Susan M): • 2851 views. • 10 new followers. • 127 engagements. • Interested in help with managing the Facebook page. Resource/Brochure Committee (Gail G): • None currently.

	Billboard Committee (Brad B): • Mau's Corner sign fell; billboard is not fixed. • Would like to get in contact with the residents on the East side of town where they said we could put up a billboard. Community Service Resources Coordinator (Carol Ann): • No attendance BYR Friends Coordinator (Arlene): • New Friends application from the Isanti County Electric Inc. • Veteran owned business. • Discount to current members, military veterans. Congregational Committee (Ronda): • Not currently. Packages for the Deployed Community Liaison (Kathy): • New approved items listing. Law Enforcement Liaison (Jesse): • None currently. School Liaison (Bruce): • Military Signing Event ◦ Attended by Gail, Bruce, Richard, and others. ◦ Approximately 11–16 students participated. ◦ Event was well received. • Shadow Box Recognition ◦ County News Review featured Memorial Day shadow box article on front page. • Silent Dismissal Event ◦ Scheduled for Friday from 1:40–2:20 PM. ◦ Check-in between 1:15–1:30 PM at tent outside Door 21. ◦ Volunteers asked to wear something representing military service. ◦ Name tags and flags will be provided. ◦ RSVP reminder sent by Jessi Kluck. Scholarship Committee (Bruce and Carol Ann): • Scholarships presented April 16. • Bruce attended Cambridge-Isanti High School scholarship event with recipient Marissa. Thank-you note received from Marissa. • Carol Ann attended Braham Area High School event for recipient Carter. Carter also received several additional scholarships and awards. Fundraising (Gail G): • Discussion around the Dinner Dance gross and expenses.
Upcoming Events	Volleyball Tournament – May 16th • Canceled; possible future reschedule discussed. City Center Market Roundup • Remains scheduled for July. Golf tournament • Planned for September. Community Events Braham Appreciation Days • Registration due June 3. • Event scheduled for June 6. • Driver and rider availability still being confirmed. Isanti Jubilee Rodeo Days Parade • No confirmed driver yet. • Some riders expressed interest. • Final participation depends on volunteer availability. Isanti County Fair & Freedom Fest • Fair runs July 15–19; registration due June 15. • Trailer setup planned for July 15. • Volunteers needed Thursday–Saturday. Braham Pie Day(s)

	• Event scheduled for August. • Multiple volunteers expressed interest in working the booth. Minnesota State Fair Military Appreciation Day • Discussed volunteer availability and parade involvement. • Events include military resources, entertainment, and activities. 148th TRC Family Day • Event planned for August 16. • Organization invited to attend June planning meeting. • Representative attendance still undecided.
Old Business	Note from Dr Nate Rudolph in regards to the shadow boxes.
New Business	Voting for New Friends application. Action: New Friends application from the Isanti County Electric Inc. Motion: Jim Second: Brad Vote taken: all in favor; motion carried.
Open Agenda	Veteran House Fire Assistance • Discussion held regarding a local veteran whose home was destroyed by fire. • Jamie is already in contact with the family. • Organization may assist if a formal request is made. State Volunteer Impact • Organization recognized statewide volunteer impact totals: ○ Over 60,000 volunteer hours. ○ Over 636 supported events. “We Will Remember” Project • Dog tags honoring fallen service members were made available. • Project created by a teenager to honor those killed in action. • Donations accepted through project website. Additional Materials • Annual reports made available to members. Dinner Dance Discussion Venue Change Proposal • Board discussed moving 2027 Dinner Dance to the Braham Event Center. • Goal is to simplify planning, logistics, and costs. • Venue offers: ○ Catering ○ Bartending ○ Audio/visual options ○ Volunteer staffing ○ Predictable upfront pricing • Nonprofit rental cost reduced from \$1,100 to \$550. Action: Reserve Braham Event Center for April 17, 2027. Motion: Gail Second: Jim Vote taken: all in favor; motion carried. Grant Opportunity Connexus Energy Grant • Grant application in progress for 250th anniversary funding opportunity. • Potential award up to \$25,000. • Proposal focused on veteran mental health and trauma support services. • Discussion included partnering with organizations such as Invisible Wounds Project.

	- Funds could help cover: - Transportation - Lodging - Program fees - Mental health recovery support - Susan is leading the application process. - Application requires a project name, proposed: "All the Way Home"; open to suggestions.
Adjourn	Action: Adjourn Motion: Jim Second: Ronda Vote taken: all in favor, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:18 PM.

Upcoming Task Force meetings: (third Thursday 7pm)

- June 18, 2026
- No July Meeting
- August 20th, 2026