

Attendance

- **Participants:** Kevin Barszcz, Jack Ross, Charles Henderson, Larry Nazimek, Karen Hernandez, Steve Fixler, Jesus "Chuy" Segura, July Franco
- **Staff:** Levi Todd, Marina Sangit, Valeria Metzgen Castro, Rogelio Elizondo, Noemi Avelar

Meeting Notes

Attacks on Veterans / Cuts to VA

- Impacts of outreach cuts are serious—they may not impact benefits directly, but they impact how people can access resources and become aware of their benefits.
- These cuts are clearly meant to lead to privatization of the VA—from healthcare to housing.
- Veterans on the ground are confused and concerned, some areas more than others. People believe in the quality of VA healthcare and don't want it taken away, especially for service-disabled veterans.
- Veterans who used to work for the VA or currently do are uniquely triggered—veterans are having to lay off other veterans.
- Folks want to see more dedicated attention on how Elon Musk is targeting the VA—this seems to be getting less attention than USAID/Social Security/Medicaid, etc. It is deeply concerning that Musk has access to veterans' personal and sensitive data, including health data.
- Hines and Jesse Brown have been understaffed historically—so these cuts are going to only worsen and compound. We need MORE Veteran Service Officers in the district and state, not less.
- These attacks on veterans are going to impact both the recruitment and retention of servicemembers. It'll take time for us to see the impacts, but speaks to danger.