

Minutes of Langlade County Veterans Committee Meeting

The meeting was called to order on Monday, April 11, 2011 at 9:00 am by Chair Jim Jansen and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Members present: Jim Jansen, Richard Hurlbert and Mike Klimoski.

Others Present: Dale Oatman, Al Werwie, Mary Lex, Jack Marciniak, and Liane Blahnik.

Agenda Item #3. Approve the agenda and minutes of the previous meeting held March 11, 2011.

Motion by Richard Hurlbert to approve the agenda and approve the minutes from the previous meeting held Friday, March 11, 2011. Motion second by Mike Klimoski. All ayes. Motion carried.

Agenda Item #4. Communications and Public Comment.

Dale Oatman reported that it has been in the news recently that Secretary Black resigned as Secretary of Veteran Affairs. The interim secretary will be Ms. Williams, a retired colonel from the National Guard. The governor plans to look at the most qualified individual even if this means looking outside of the State. Dale will attend the CVSO advisory board meeting later this week where he hopes to learn more.

Jack Marciniak reported he attended the Boy Scout Troop meeting at the Antigo Armory last week where he presented them with \$125.00 check from the DAV.

Jack reported he attended the Sixth District meeting at the Legion club in Wausau on Saturday.

Agenda Item #5. Discuss and approve 2011 Budget Summary report, comp time report, travel pay, and payment of the bills.

The bills, the 2011 budget summary, the travel pay and the comp time reports were reviewed by the Committee. Motion by Richard Hurlbert to approve the 2011 budget summary report, the comp time report, travel pay and authorize payment of the bills. Motion second by Mike Klimoski. All ayes. Motion carried.

Agenda Item #6. Outreach Update.

Dale reported he attended a veteran's meeting at Iron Mountain where he learned a new director has been named. Jim Rice was selected by Washington DC to be the Director of this VA Hospital. Jim is from upper Michigan.

Dale reported he attended training in Rhinelander. This "Hand over Hand" meeting was primarily focused towards people who work with veterans or families of veterans who come off of active duty to deal with issues of suicide, marriage breakups or why family members do not act the same when they came back.

Dale attended the northeast CVSO meeting where he learned from a representative from Senator Kohl's office that the Green Bay mega-clinic is still on. Part of the delay for this mega-clinic was the review by Washington DC who took a look at the five mega-clinics that were proposed for the year. Green Bay is the only one of the five that survived the review and will open in 2013, but they do not have a ground breaking day yet.

Dale reported there will be a Vet Center in Wausau. This two person office will report to a larger Vet Center but will cover northern Wisconsin.

Dale reported a representative from Milwaukee's VA Clinic reported a Fisher home has been approved in Milwaukee on the VA Hospital grounds. This took three years, as the whole complex is in a historical area, so all renovations need to be approved through their Historical Society.

The Milwaukee VA Clinic representative discussed the Caregiver Program. Dale reported he has had several veterans request this in-home service, but this was not available unless the veteran was service connected or 100%, and then it would be fee-based out and is not the same as 24-hour care. They are still working on the policy and procedures and all hospitals will have a person managing a Caregiver Program.

Dale reported the first "Old Glory Honor Flight" out of the Fox Valley, took a trip to Washington DC. It was briefed that the youngest WWII veteran was 82 years old and the oldest was 97 years old. They have five more flights scheduled. The Mosinee will hold its first "Old Glory Honor Flight" sometime this month and they have four more scheduled and are looking to start flying the Korean War Veterans on their final scheduled flight.

Dale reported that Mary attended the northeast Administrative Staff Meeting last week where she received some updates on forms for Veterans applying to King; there was an update from the Green Bay Vet Center; and an update from "Dry Hooch", which is a program for a veteran trying to get off of alcohol or other drug use.

The spring CVSO Conference will be held in La Crosse the first week of May. Mary and Dale will attend to continue with their accreditations so their office will be closed during that first week of May.

Agenda Item #7. Confirm date and time set for next month's meetings and April's committee meeting.
The date for next month's meeting will be Monday, May 9, 2011 at 8:00 am. June's meeting was tentatively set for Monday, June 13, 2011 at 9:00 am.

Agenda Item #8. Adjourn the meeting.

Motion by Richard Hurlbert to adjourn the meeting. Motion second by Mike Klimoski. All ayes. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 9:40 am.

Submitted by,
Liane Blahnik
Administrative Assistant