

Minutes of Langle County Veterans Committee Meeting

The meeting was called to order on Monday, April 11, 2016 at 1:30 p.m. by committee chairman Jim Jansen, the Pledge of Allegiance was recited and a moment of silence was observed for the veterans associated with the Langle County Veterans Office whom have passed away since the last committee meeting.

Members present: James Jansen, Larry Poltrock and Richard Schuh.

Others Present: John Zenkovich, Mary Lex, Marie Schuh, Dale Oatman, Dan Kamps, Robert Graupner, and Tom Matucheski.

Agenda Item #4. Approve the agenda and minutes of the previous meeting held March 14, 2016.
Motion by Richard Schuh to approve the agenda and minutes from the previous meeting held March 14, 2016. Motion seconded by Larry Poltrock. All ayes. Motion carried.

Agenda Item #5. Approve Budget Summary.
Motion by Richard Schuh to approve the budget summary report. Motion seconded by Larry Poltrock. All ayes. Motion carried.

Agenda Item #6. Public Comment on Agenda Items and consideration of requests for items to be added to future meeting agendas.

Agenda Item #7 Public Comment.

Dale Oatman commented that the 40 et 8 had their National Testimony for Don Emley the National Commander. Everyone attending was very impressed with the local support of Karl's Transport which has the logo for the 40 et 8 on one truck with the flag of the United States on each side of the trailer. Karl's Transport has three trucks with flags on and those are driven nationwide showing support for veterans.

Tom Matucheski stated that he received an invitation for the picnic Karl's Transport holds every spring for the veterans in the park. Karl's plays a big role in supporting our local veterans.

Dale thanked the CVSO office for supporting the American Legion in their revitalization for the county. Elcho Post is at 100%, Antigo and White Lake moved into the 90% range for membership which is very good.

Agenda Item #8 Veterans Issues and Office Updates

John stated the office was closed the previous week because John and Mary attended the spring conference in Kenosha. There were great speakers and the training was very informative. Each of the hospitals had a representative there for a question and answer session which was one of the best programs. The VA is focusing on coming up with some program for rural healthcare. When you live 100 miles from the closest VA Medical Center it is just about impossible for veterans to drive there in an emergency situation which is the biggest problem. That is one of the top priorities for the Secretary of the VA to try and get something passed through congress. It will basically allow some type of access for emergencies only.

Dick Schuh questioned if the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs Secretary Scocos is still trying to get a bill passed having CVSOs regionalized rather than one for each county. John replied that Secretary Scocos will more than likely try to put it through again because he basically believes that this is the future with the dwindling number of veterans and technology allows the veterans to do most of the benefits on their own. Obviously as an organization the CVSOs are trying to figure out a way to curb this. The Executive Committee met with the assembly minority leader and went over the attributes of having local CVSOs and how important they are in the community.

Dale commented that the American Legion continues to support county VSOs.

John stated that he will construct a resolution for the committee to present to the county board requesting to keep the grant the way it was previously allowing us to continue getting the same amount of money each year for the Veterans Office. The goal is to have all 72 counties in the state get this resolution passed to present to the state.

The Veterans Office brings alot of money into the county because of compensation and pension monies being spent in this county.

John stated that he is pleased by the number of people seeking help from our office because of the ads he placed on the radio this year.

Agenda Item #9. Set Date for April Meeting and Tentative Date for March

The committee scheduled the next meeting for Monday, May 9 at 1:30 pm. June's meeting was tentatively scheduled for Monday, June 13, 2016 at 1:30 pm.

Agenda Item #10. Adjourn the meeting.

Motion by Richard Schuh to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Larry Poltrock. All ayes. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 2:04 p.m.

Submitted by,
Mary Lex