

# Minutes of Langlade County Veterans Committee Meeting

The meeting was called to order on Monday, August 11, 2014 at 9:00 am by Chair Jim Jansen and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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

Others Present: Dale Oatman, Mary Lex, Carlene Nagel, Ken Popelka, Al Werwie, Dan Kamps, Marie Schuh, Tom Matucheski, Steve Bradley, Tommie Stuckert and Randy Adair.

## Agenda Item #3. Approve the amended agenda and minutes of the previous meeting held July 14, 2014.

Motion made by Richard Schuh to approve the amended agenda and the minutes of the meeting on July 14, 2014, second by Larry Poltrock. All ayes. Motion carried.

## Agenda Item #4. Approve Budget Summary.

The 2014 budget summary was reviewed by the Committee. Motion by Larry Poltrock to approve the budget summary report. Motion second by Richard Schuh. All ayes. Motion carried.

## Agenda Item #5. Approve Proposed 2015 Budget and Preliminary 2016 Budget

The 2015 proposed budget and the preliminary 2016 budget were reviewed by the committee. Discussion: Jim Jansen asked about having enough money in the 2015 budget to pay for health insurance benefits for the person hired to fill the CVS0 position as Dale does not take the county health insurance benefits. No money is in the 2015 budget for this and this cost would have to be covered with funds from the general fund. Motion by Larry Poltrock to approve the 2015 budget and preliminary 2016 budget. Motion second by Richard Schuh. All ayes. Motion carried.

## Agenda Item #6. Communications and Public Comment

Steve Bradley stated 40 et 8 Voiture 1204 of Langlade County just had the Grand Promenade which is the annual meeting and will be hosting Mid Winter Petite Promenade in February at the Days Inn and the Knights of Columbus hall. 50 years ago the convention was held in Antigo and many parades were held. There were a lot of locomotives at that time or motorized vehicles that looked like trains in those parades. 40 et 8 has the locomotive as its symbol. There are very few locomotives left anymore. Marie Schuh commented that the parades were very popular in the past and they would transport a locomotive from Washington DC all the way to the east coast. The parades are no longer held due to high insurance costs.

Tommie Stuckert, a committee member of the commission has concerns that when Dale retires there may be a vacancy in the office which would be a hardship to the veterans in this community. Tommie is hoping that the board will have someone in place before the end of the year when Dale retires. His concern is also that an application from a CVS0 from another county is not taken into consideration if this person does not take the commission association seriously. The veterans have been so pleased with Dale's participation in all the veterans organizations that it will be hard to replace his position and Tommie is hoping veterans have a chance to voice their opinion on the replacement CVS0.

Dale commented that the quarterly commission meeting was just held and the committee wrote up a new policy reducing the amount of help from \$400 to \$300. Purchase of groceries and gasoline for doctors appointments was increased slightly. Each year the money is dwindling with more veterans

coming in for assistance. The only way to increase this fund is to ask for additional levy from the taxpayers.

Tommie stated that the commission application process is slow and if a veteran needs immediate assistance they are sent to DAV.

Dale stated the bill for veterans to see non VA doctors was signed by President Obama. This bill is new and much information is needed to properly understand how it will work. Veterans unable to have an appointment at a VA facility within 45 days will be allowed to seek treatment at a non VA facility provided they follow the steps outlined by the VA. New clinics and more doctors are going to be set up throughout the country which will take time.

Agenda Item #7. Outreach Update.

Dale stated the Mobile Vet Center from Green Bay was here on Monday, August 4<sup>th</sup>. The office had not received any comments from the veterans about this visit. The Vet Center was asked by Washington DC to set up this mobile van in each county. Veterans and families are able to receive counseling for war issues, drug and alcohol abuse.

Agenda Item #8. Discuss Process for hiring CVSO.

Jim Jansen attended the finance meeting on Friday, August 8 where he was told the cost to support the CVSO position could be funded the last week of December 2014. There is not enough money in the budget to hire earlier. This one week would not allow enough time for training with Dale.

Larry questioned if it is necessary to go to the personnel committee or if a resolution can be brought before the board at the September county board meeting to hire the first week in December. A motion was made by Larry Poltrock to make a resolution to the board at the September 14<sup>th</sup> meeting to start the hiring process to have a new CVSO by December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014.

Dale will contact Robin and ask how soon this position can be advertised and begin the hiring process.

Tommie Stuckert requested that the dates of the personnel and executive meetings be listed in the minutes so veterans will be able to attend. The executive meeting will be held on September 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Law Library of the Courthouse at 8:00 a.m., the personnel committee meeting will be on September 4<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. in the Law Library of the Courthouse.

Steve Bradley suggested that the veterans should have some decision on the hiring process and stated that there are 9 posts in Langlade county. Suggestions that the county posts should elect 3 or 4 veterans to be present during the hiring process.

By state statute the CVSO must be a veteran and have an honorable discharge.

Agenda Item #9. Set date for September meeting and tentative date for October meeting.

The committee scheduled the next meeting for Monday, September 8, 2014 at 9:00 in the Health Service Center Boardroom. October's meeting was tentatively scheduled for Monday, October 6, 2014 at 9:00.

Agenda Item #10. Adjourn the meeting.

Motion by Richard Schuh to adjourn the meeting. Motion second by Larry Poltrock. All ayes. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 10:00 am.

Respectfully submitted by,

Mary Lex

Deputy CVSO