

## **Minutes of Langlade County Veterans Committee Meeting**

The meeting was called to order on Monday, December 12, 2016 at 1:30 p.m. by committee chairman Jim Jansen, the Pledge of Allegiance was recited and a moment of silence was observed while John Zenkovich read the names of Veterans associated with the Langlade 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, Dale Oatman, Al Werwie, Marie Schuh, Dan Kamps and Tom Matucheski.

Agenda Item #4. Approve the agenda and minutes of the previous meeting held November 14, 2016.

Motion by Dick Schuh to approve the agenda and the minutes from the previous meeting held November 14, 2016. Motion seconded by Larry Poltrock. All ayes. Motion carried.

Agenda Item #5. Approve Budget Summary.

Motion by Dick 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.

Public Comment Open Forum:

Dale Oatman stated the American Legion mid winter conference will be held in January at the Ho Chunk Casino in Baraboo. This is a full day of training for members.

Dale also stated that the 40 et 8 is having a wreck this Wednesday for four new members.

Agenda Item #7 Veterans Issues and Office Updates

John stated that he and Mary attended a winter conference in Neilsville. There was a tour of The Highground Veterans Memorial Park on Thursday by Kirk Rodman. This spring they will unveil a working dog with soldier bronze statue. They have the statue under tarp at this time.

Training was great, there was a rep from the Milwaukee VA who explained that they are working on customer service by sending out surveys to every veteran after each appointment they attend. Hopefully this will improve the veteran's experience with their healthcare from the VA. Veterans who use the Choice Program with a civilian doctor will also get these surveys.

January 1<sup>st</sup> there will be a .3% increase in compensation and pension amounts.

WDVA CVSO grant is due on January 15. Posted for public viewing is the administrative code which still states salary is a refundable expense. So John has contacted Robin Stowe and Gary Olsen to verify using salary as our expense to receive the \$8500 grant this year.

Wisconsin should have a new Veterans Affairs Secretary by the next meeting. Governor Scott Walker has been calling veterans for input on the election of the Secretary.

John commented that all of the veteran's files have now been put into our computer program and we are working on the deceased veteran files having approximately 100 left to put into the computer. Our office will then have all files scanned and no more paper files.

Agenda Item #8. Set Date for January Meeting and Tentative Date for February

The committee scheduled the next meeting for Monday, January 9, 2017 at 1:30 pm. February's meeting is tentatively scheduled for Monday, February 13, 2017 at 1:30 pm.

Agenda Item #9. At approximately 2:00 p.m. consider moving into closed session pursuant to Section 19.85 (1)(c) to complete the annual evaluation of the Veterans Service Officer.

Motion by Larry Poltrock seconded by Richard Schuh to move into closed session. All ayes. Motion carried. The Committee commenced to closed session at 2:21 p.m.

Agenda Item #10. At approximately 2:15 p.m. return to open session with possible action taken on any matters discussed in closed session.

Motion by Larry Poltrock, seconded by Richard Schuh to return to open session, all ayes, motion carried. The Committee returned to open session at 2:22 p.m.

Agenda Item #11. Adjourn the meeting.

Motion by Dick Schuh to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Larry Poltrock. All ayes. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 2:25 p.m.

Submitted by,  
Mary Lex