

Minutes of Langle County Veterans Committee Meeting

The meeting was called to order on Monday, February 10, 2014 at 9:00 am by Chair Jim Jansen and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Members present: Jim Jansen, and Larry Poltrock. Absent Mike Klimoski. A motion was made by Larry Poltrock to excuse member Mike Klimoski. Motion second by Jim Jensen. All ayes. Motion carried.

Others Present: Dale Oatman, Mary Lex, Carlene Nagel, Al Werwie, Tom Matucheski, Dan Kamps and Ken Szitta.

Agenda Item #3. Approve the agenda and minutes of the previous meeting held December 09, 2013.

Motion by Larry Poltrock to approve the agenda and approve the minutes from the previous meeting held Monday, December 09, 2013. Motion second by Jim Jensen. 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 Jim Jensen. All ayes. Motion carried.

Agenda Item #5. Communications and Public Comment .

Al Werwie stated that the American Legion birthday celebration is in the planning stage right now for the White Lake Post. The American Legion will celebrate its 95th birthday on March 15. Dale stated that the quarterly commission meeting was held on January 9th. Last year the commission fund ran out of money. So within the veteran department budget, money was able to be moved around to help some needy veterans at the end of the year. Because of running low on funds the commission decided to reduce some payments for veterans to \$300 depending on the circumstance surrounding their need. This will be determined on a case by case basis so it will help stretch the money for 2014. We did have money left in other line items within our budget and were able to transfer this into the commission fund and it will be carried over into 2014. The veterans travel is also carried forward every year and has been for many years. We received our veterans travel grant of \$3689.83 for this year so along with our carry forward amount this will add over \$7000 to the travel budget for 2014. Veteran travel pay is for veterans who do not receive travel pay from the VA facility. Veterans must be service connected 30% or more or be receiving pension to be eligible for the travel pay from the VA. Payment is 41.5 cents per mile and is now made by direct deposit so this helps cut down on the fraud.

Agenda Item #6. Outreach Update.

Dale attended a meeting last week in Iron Mountain which discussed the new dental plans available for veterans enrolled in the VA healthcare and dependents who are enrolled in the ChampVA insurance program. Those dental plans are not quite as good as originally thought they would be. The pay to the dentist providing care is the same as Medicaid which is a reduced rate for the dentist so some dentists are not accepting these plans. Delta Dental and Metlife

cannot refuse any veteran who meets the criteria for enrollment. Dale does not know if any dentists in this area are not going to be in this plan or not. Our office does not get involved in enrolling veterans into this plan. Our office does have brochures and phone numbers that are provided for the veteran and his family to choose the plan they wish to enroll in.

The Camp Lejeune water situation states that not only veterans who were drinking this tainted water but also their dependents are eligible for free healthcare through the VA. As of now Dale has not been able to get a dependent treated at a VA facility. This is what Obama authorized but as of now it is not yet in effect. Dale stated he has had no problem getting the veteran treated.

There has been a false army website created by scam artists in an attempt to steal military e-mails and passwords. This website has been disabled as of Sunday. It is not affiliated in any way with the United States Army and military families should be aware of this scam.

Agenda Item #7. Approve Carry Forward Amounts for 2014

Dale reported that by statute the money remaining in our commission fund at the end of the year will be carried forward. We also carry forward the remaining money in veterans travel. The two committee members signed the document. Motion by Larry Poltrock to approve the carry forward amounts for 2014. Motion second by Jim Jensen. All ayes. Motion carried.

Agenda Item #8. Set date for March meeting and tentative date for April meeting.

The committee scheduled the next meeting for Monday, March 10, 2014 at 9:00 in the Health Service Center Boardroom. April meeting was tentatively scheduled for Monday, April 14, 2014 at 9:00.

Agenda Item #9. Adjourn the meeting.

Motion by Larry Poltrock to adjourn the meeting. Motion second by Jim Jensen. All ayes. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 9:35 am.

Submitted by,
Mary Lex
Deputy CVSO