

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

The meeting was called to order on Monday, March 12, 2012 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 Wewrie, Dan Kamps, Marie Schuh, Dick Schuh, Mary Lex, and Liane Blahnik.

### Agenda Item #3. Approve the agenda and minutes of the previous meeting held February 13, 2012.

Motion by Richard Hurlbert to approve the agenda and approve the minutes from the previous meeting held Monday, February 13, 2012. Motion second by Mike Klimoski. All ayes. Motion carried.

### Agenda Item #4. Communications and Public Comment.

Dale Oatman reported the flags ordered for Memorial Day should be coming in Wednesday so people can pick up the flag batches anytime after that. Dale is concerned about running out of flag holders this year due to damage that occurs within the cemeteries.

Dale reported he received a communication as Congressman Duffy is trying to set up a town meeting in Antigo this week, but he did not know the date and time yet, as Congressman Duffy's office did not yet release that information.

Dale reported he was invited to speak at three Legion Birthday celebrations; one in Antigo, Crivitz, and White Lake. This is the 93<sup>rd</sup> Birthday for the Legion auxiliary and membership.

### Agenda Item #5. Discuss and approve 2012 Budget Summary report, travel pay, and payment of the bills.

The bills, the 2012 budget summary, and the travel pay reports were reviewed by the Committee. Motion by Mike Klimoski to approve the 2011 budget summary report, the travel pay report, and authorize payment of the bills. Motion second by Richard Hurlbert. All ayes. Motion carried.

### Agenda Item #6. Outreach Update.

Dale Oatman reported that the Iron Mountain VA Hospital has moved the emergency room to the newly renovated area and have now started to move providers. This will go into April before everyone is moved from the fourth and fifth floors into the new area. Dale advised people who have appointments there to arrive early to allow time to find their provider.

Dale reported some veterans who are in the VA health care system may be called up to volunteer to participate in the million veteran research program. They are looking for one million volunteers who will participate in research about how genes affect their health. Dale has received one call from a veteran and it is a legitimate program. Iron Mountain did comment about this program. The veteran will get a letter with a survey.

The VA has revamped some of its regulation when it comes to paying for a local emergency room visit for a veteran. This change will not circumvent the millennium act about the veteran having

other insurance, like those over 65 having Medicare, or another insurance that would pay first, unless that emergency room visit was service connected.

Dale reported the US Navy revised the requirements for the Purple Heart medal. Traumatic Brain Injuries will be considered if it meets their new criteria. Dale has not heard if other branches of service will follow suit.

Dale reported his office has some information and applications for telephone equipment for the hearing impaired from the State of Wisconsin. This is the TEPP Program, and could be for the veteran or spouse or both, and is a free service through this program.

Dale reported there is a World War II event coming up in Green Bay Wisconsin called "Operation Greatest Generation". This will be a day-long celebration honoring Wisconsin's World War II veterans and will be held Friday, May 4, 2012 from 10:00 am to 4:30 pm at the National Railroad Museum in Green Bay. They will have World War II exhibits and demonstrations, the army band will be there, you will be able to tour General Eisenhower's European Command train, and other ceremonies.

Dale reported on March 31, the Appleton National Guard Armory will hold the Stand Down for Homeless Veterans. Last year homeless veterans decreased by 135,000; but there is still in excess of 600,000 veterans that are homeless. Homeless veterans interested in attending should register with their local Veterans Service Officer.

Agenda Item #7. Confirm date and time set for next month's meetings and May's committee meeting.

The date for next month's meeting will be Monday, April 9, 2012 at 9:00 am. May's meeting was tentatively set for Monday, May 14, 2012 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 9:30 am.

Submitted by,  
Liane Blahnik  
Administrative Assistant