

Minutes of Langlade County Veterans Committee Meeting

The meeting was called to order on May 13, 2013 at 9:00 am by Chairman Jim Jansen and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Members present: Jim Jansen, Larry Poltrock, and Mike Klimoski

Others Present: Dale Oatman, Mary Lex, Carlene Nagel, Dan Kamps, David Lee, Tom Matucheski, Richard and Marie Schuh, and Steve Bradley.

Agenda Item #3. Approve the agenda and minutes of the previous meeting, April 15, 2013.

Motion by Mike Klimoski to approve the agenda and approve the minutes from the previous meeting held April 15, 2013, seconded by Larry Poltrock. All ayes, motion carried.

Agenda Item #4. Approve the budget summary, payment of bills and veterans travel payment.

Motion by Larry Poltrock to approve the budget summary and payment of bills. Seconded by Mike Klimoski. All ayes, motion carried.

Agenda Item #5. Communications and Public Comment.

Dale reported that on Memorial Day he will be the speaker in Phlox after the parade. Marie Schuh reported that the Memorial Day parade in Elcho starts at 10:00 where everyone meets in Summit Lake, then the parade begins there with the high school band and all the fire trucks down Main Street a ceremony is performed. Then at 11:00 everyone meets at the Church of Christ in Elcho and there is a ceremony there also. Richard Schuh drives his Jeep and pulls a trailer with chairs for those veterans that are not able to walk the distance.

David Lee reported that the Memorial Day Parade for Antigo starts out at the Hudson Street Bridge at 8:00 with a ceremony and from there goes to the hospital for a ceremony and then on to Eastview Nursing Home to line up for the start of the parade at 9:00. The parade then travels to the Vietnam Memorial, a ceremony is held there and then everyone proceeds to the Veterans Memorial on the Courthouse grounds with a ceremony which will consist of a high school student reciting the Gettysburg Address and the Gold Star Mothers poem and the folding of the flag. This is to educate everyone on the 13 folds of the flag.

Dale is pleased with all the parades that take place for Memorial Day honoring our veterans. Steve Bradley praised the Antigo Daily Journal for covering all of the parades with informative reporting in the Tuesday edition following Memorial Day.

Dale reported that the majority of the cemetery officials picked up the flags for the outlying cemeteries to be placed for Memorial Day.

Dale stated that Keith Wilson went on the Honor Flight in April and was so pleased with the trip that he is planning a program where he and other veterans will share their experience with the public at the Volm Theatre on Father's Day, June 16. Marie Schuh commented that she believes all the WWII veterans should try to go on the Honor Flight.

Agenda Item #6. Update on CVSOA conference.

Dale reported on some of the training he and Mary received at the spring conference they attended in Richland County, in the town of Richland Center. Topics presented include all the requirements needed to maintain accreditation with VA organizations which enable Mary and Dale to interact to obtain information for claims and pension. Without this training each year they would not be able to speak with VA representatives regarding veterans claims.

Agenda Item #7. Outreach Update.

Dale attended a meeting at Iron Mountain VA on Monday, May 6, where it was announced that Dr. Robbins was hired and will be starting at Rhinelander Clinic in June. He is replacing the late Dr. Potter. Teleconference appointments are being scheduled which allow the patient to travel to Rhinelander but be seen by a doctor from other various clinics throughout the state via a monitor and a large screen with a speaker. This allows the veteran less travel time and saves office space for the clinic. Teleconference appointment is not much different than on line video chatting. These psychiatrists prescribe medications and one drawback to these teleconference appointments is the lack of personal contact with the patient. Iron Mountain has hired a pharmacist for mental health medications. These pharmacists are authorized to change medications for patients which have a reaction to a certain medication or for some reason can't tolerate a medication prescribed by their physician or psychiatrist. This eliminates some of the mistakes being made by the psychiatrist when prescribing medication for mentally ill patients. Iron Mountain is extending hours one day a week in the evening and one half day on Saturday to help with the backlog.

The audiology department has hired a technician and a registered nurse to help lessen the delay of the many hearing claims and hearing aid appointments.

Dale attended the NE CVS0 meeting in Appleton on April 22. He was told the Green Bay Medical Facility will be open in August with the ribbon cutting to take place on the 15th and open for patients on the 19th. CVS0s and VSOs are invited to an open house in July.

Agenda Item #8.Set date for June meeting.

Meeting date was set for Friday, June 14, 2013 in the Health Center Boardroom.

Agenda Item #9 Adjourn the meeting.

Motion made by Mike Klimoski to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Larry Poltrock. All ayes, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by,
Mary Lex
Deputy CVS0