

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

The meeting was called to order on Monday, May 8, 2017 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, Marie Schuh, Dale Oatman, Dan Kamps and Tom Matucheski.

Agenda Item #4. Approve the agenda and minutes of the previous meeting held April 10, 2017.  
Motion by Richard Schuh to approve the agenda and the minutes from the previous meeting held April 10, 2017. Motion seconded by Larry Poltrock. All ayes. Motion carried.

Agenda Item #5. Review Budget.

Agenda Item #6. . Public comment on agenda items, and consideration of requests for items to be added to future meeting agendas.

No Comment

Open Forum:

Dale Oatman stated that he is now the elected American Legion commander for the White Lake Post.

John stated that the Secretary of the VA has proposed to close approximately 4000 VA facilities throughout the nation. These will mainly be rural VA medical centers and claims offices. This will allow the veterans eligibility for the Choice Program. This program is now a permanent fixture in the VA system. This proposal cannot be approved until the budget is finalized.

Agenda Item #7 Veterans Issues and Office Updates.

John stated that he will be out of the office May 10 thru the 12 finalizing his military retirement. The office will be closed from May 17<sup>th</sup> thru the 19<sup>th</sup>. The spring conference is being held in Bayfield county.

John commented that the Veterans Benefits Expo which took place in Rhinelander went very well. There were about 385 veterans and spouses who attended. There were 20 from Langlade County. There were many vendors who offered us information we can now share from our office.

John stated that we will start outreach in Elcho on June 14 at the American Legion Hall from 10:00 to 3:00 and will be in White Lake at the Community Center on June 19<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 to 3:00. Hopefully we will have a good turnout enabling us to meet with veterans who cannot travel the distance to see us. Flyers for this outreach have been sent to the posts.

VA now has a mobile app which enables veterans to order their prescriptions and set up doctor appointments through the internet. Iron Mountain and Tomah are on the list of available medical facilities which utilize this app.

The American Red Cross has a program which will install up to three smoke alarms with a 10 year battery for veterans and military families. If interested contact your local Red Cross.

There is a Choice Card scam listing a number to call for the Choice Program which is similar to the legitimate number but starts with 800 and the Choice program starts with 866. Posters were sent out to all the posts telling of this scam warning all veterans to please double check the number before calling for the Choice Program.

Agenda Item #8 Set Date for June 2017 Meeting and Tentative Date for July 2017.

The committee scheduled the next meeting for Monday, June 12 at 1:30 p.m. July's meeting is tentatively scheduled for Monday, July 10 at 1:30 p.m.

Agenda Item #9. Adjourn the Meeting.

Motion by Dick Schuh to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Larry Poltrock. All ayes. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Submitted by,  
Mary Lex