

Minutes of Langlade County Veterans Committee Meeting

The meeting was called to order on Monday, October 06, 2014 at 9:00 am by Chair Jim Jansen and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Larry Poltrock committee member asked to be excused. Richard Schuh made a motion to excuse Larry Poltrock, second by Jim Jansen.

Members present: Jim Jansen and Richard Schuh.

Members Absent: Larry Poltrock

Others Present: Dale Oatman, Mary Lex, Marie Schuh, Dan Kamps, Don Emley, Tom Matucheski, and Larry Mountour.

Agenda Item #3. Approve the agenda and minutes of the previous meeting held September 08, 2014.

Motion made by Richard Schuh to approve the agenda and the minutes of the meeting on September 08, 2014, second by Jim Jansen. All ayes. One absent. Motion carried.

Agenda Item #4. Approve Budget Summary.

The 2014 budget summary was reviewed by the Committee. Motion by Richard Schuh to approve the budget summary report. Motion second by Jim Jansen. All ayes. One absent. Motion carried.

Agenda Item #5. Update on Application Process

Dale stated the finance department has received quite a few applications already. Dale has not reviewed these for veteran status as outlined in Chapter 45 state statute and be sure all discharge documents each veteran has are turned in. Dale will get together with finance director Gary Olsen to see when Dale will be receiving these applications.

The deadline is October 15, 2014 at 4:30 p.m.

Five local commanders and one alternate were chosen by the veterans groups to attend the interviews and submit questions they would like answered by the applicant.

Commanders that were chosen are Mike Pillar, VFW...Tom Matucheski, Phlox American Legion... Lawrence Montour, Post 3 American Legion ... Al Werwie, White Lake VFW...Don Emley, 40 & 8... Alternate is Bob Graupner, White Lake American Legion.

Larry Montour was chosen to be the head of this group and will keep in contact with Dale.

Dale contacted the state for the exams needed for the testing. When the applicants are narrowed down to who will be taking the test, Dale will then send for these tests to be given to the chosen applicants.

Time will be short to have these applicants chosen, tested, interviewed and have one in place by the first part of December as planned.

Agenda Item #6. Update on CVSOS Conference.

Dale reported that the week of September 22 to the 26th Mary Lex and he attended a conference in Oshkosh.

Training started on Monday after the CVSOS business meeting.

Mr. Duane Honeycutt the director of the Milwaukee VA regional office spoke and told his journey on becoming the director of our regional office. Duane thanked the CVSOSs for sending in complete

claims. There are some states which do not have CVSOs so those claims are not complete and slow down the claim process.

Continued education must be completed by Mary and Dale each year to maintain accreditation with the different offices located in the regional office. With accreditation Mary and Dale have authorization to inquire about claims filed, income verification and any other information needed without getting a release every time from the veteran when questions arise.

This training must consist of a minimum of 16 hours twice per year with a set amount of hours for each of the different benefits we administer.

Dale reported that with this training the office will soon be able to get online and look up all of this information from our own office. Dale decided not to get into this VA intranet system due to his upcoming retirement but Mary Lex will soon be able to log in and access veterans records to see the progress of the claims and pension filed and other information needed to satisfy questions from veterans about their claims.

Agenda Item #7. Communications and Public Comment

Marie Schuh commented that she attended an American Legion District 9 convention over the weekend. At this convention it was emphasized that the American Legion now wants everything submitted on the computer by the officers of each Legion post. All officers are encouraged to get this training from someone so they can turn in the reports needed by computer.

Dale reported the VFW is strictly computerized already.

Dale was informed that there is a new medal for those veterans who served in Korea. Dale has a form which he brought from this convention for obtaining this medal.

Burial benefit rules have changed as of July 2014. The burial payments will go directly to the family of the deceased veteran instead of to the funeral home as before.

Agenda Item # 8 Outreach Update

Dale reported the annual state commission meeting was held at King Veterans Home in September. Tommie Stuckert and he attended that meeting. Commission members are Dan Kamps, chairman, Tommie Stuckert and Randy Adair. Tommie had been a member of the executive committee and was voted in as Junior Vice President and will hopefully work his way up to President of that association.

Agenda Item #9. Set Date for November Meeting and Tentative Date for December.

The committee scheduled the next meeting for Monday, November 3, 2014 at 9:00 in the Health Service Center Boardroom. December's meeting was tentatively scheduled for December 8, 2014.

Agenda Item #10 Adjourn the meeting.

Motion by Richard Schuh to adjourn the meeting. Motion second by Jim Jansen. All ayes one absent. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 10:00 am.

Respectfully submitted by,
Mary Lex
Deputy CVSO