

Meeting - Veteran's Service Committee & Commission Minutes

Committee: Veteran's Service Committee & Commission

Date: Thursday September 8th 2022

Time: 10:00 A.M.

Place: County Board Room #107

Call to Order

Chairman Chaney called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and read the agenda.

Roll Call

Members Present: Chaney, Bocek, Thornton & Berg

Others Present: VSO Robert Koplien

Approve Agenda

Motion by Berg, to approve agenda as presented, seconded by Chaney, all present voting AYE.

Motion carried

Approve Minutes of prior meeting

Motion by Chaney, to approve minutes of the Wednesday April 13th

2022 meeting, seconded by Thornton, all present voting AYE.

Motion carried

WDVA CVSO Grant Update

VSO reports that on March 7th of this year he received the WDVA Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs Grant with amount of \$9350. VSO explains that annual grant assists the county as a salary / wage offset in regards to budget assistance.

Donations Update

VSO reports that he's received donations from Klescewski-Leja Armstrong Creek VFW Post 7444, Forest Larger Presbyterian Church, Lynn Barker, Kevin Amendson & NGA Walker. VSO explains that all of these donations are deposited into a non-lapse account that he uses to assist needy veterans, dependents and survivors. VSO report that the account balance is \$1405.00

Age My Way Fair

VSO explains that on May 25th he attended and set up a resource table at the Forest County Potawatomi Community Center from 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. VSO reports numerous networking opportunities with various other healthcare professionals as well additional contacts with veterans and dependents.

Commission Assistance Policy, Application for Assistance & Resolution Update

VSO reports that the policy that applies for the administering of county veterans service commission funds provided each year through a tax levy funds that are disbursed to aid needy veterans, spouses, surviving spouses, minor and dependent children of veterans and needy parents of veterans that qualify was approved by full county board on April 19th.

Crisis Line Number Update

VSO reports that the VA recently changed and streamlined the way Veterans and Service members in crisis and their families and friends can connect with qualified, caring VA responders through a confidential toll-free hotline, online chat, or text VSO explains instead of dialing the 1-800 -273-8255 and person in crisis can just Dial 988 and Press 1, 24/7. as well as chat online or Text 838255.

PACT Act Update

VSO reports The PACT Act is a new law that expands VA health care and benefits for Veterans exposed to burn pits and other toxic substances. VSO further explains this law helps us provide generations of Veterans—and their survivors—with the care and benefits.

VSO additionally explains that The PACT Act will bring the following changes in regards to expanding and extending eligibility for VA health care for Veterans with toxic exposures and Veterans of the Vietnam, Gulf War, and post-9/11 eras. VSO states that this will add more than 20 new presumptive conditions for burn pits and other toxic exposures additionally add more presumptive-exposure locations for Agent Orange and radiation.

Public Comments

NONE

Adjournment

There being no further business, Motion by Thornton to adjourn, seconded by Berg, all present voting AYE. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 10:20 a.m.