

Meeting - Veteran's Service Committee & Commission Minutes

Committee: Veteran's Service Committee & Commission

Date: Thursday May 16th 2024

Time: 1:00 P.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.

Pledge of Allegiance Moment of Silence POW/MIA

All those in attendance recited the pledge and observed a moment of silence for POW/MIA.

Recognition of the recently fallen

VSO read off a list of the recently fallen since last meeting.

Roll Call

Members Present: Chaney, Marvin, Wirtz, Bocek & Thornton

Others Present: VSO Robert Koplien

Approve Agenda

Motion by Marvin to approve agenda as presented, seconded by Wirtz, all present voting AYE.

Motion carried

Approve Minutes of prior meeting

Motion by Chaney, to approve minutes of the Thursday December 21st 2023 meeting, seconded by VSO Koplien, all present voting AYE.

Motion carried

Pact Act Expansion Updates

VSO explains that on August 10, 2022, the Honoring our PACT Act of 2022 ("the PACT Act"; Public Law 117-168) was signed into law. VSO reports that amendments made into law expanded health care eligibility for toxic-exposed Veterans. VSO explains with the VA made changes effective March 5, 2024. and under the PACT Act, all toxic-exposed Veterans who were exposed to toxins or other hazards while serving our country are now eligible for VA care.

CVSOA Spring Conference

VSO reports that he attended Spring 2024 conference at the Hyatt Regency Hotel and KI Convention Center in Green Bay WI, from Monday, April 15th, 2024 through Friday, April 19th, 2024. VSO explains that these mandatory conferences are for continuing education and maintaining accreditation to be able

to process claim through the Veterans Benefits Administration to include WDVA, VFW, DAV, American Legion & NACVSO.

2023 Assembly Bill 102 Veterans Tax Credit

This bill reduces the eligibility threshold for an eligible veteran, the spouse of an eligible veteran, and the un-remarried surviving spouse of an eligible veteran to claim the veterans and surviving spouses' property tax credit under the individual income tax system. Under the bill, a claimant may claim the credit if the claimant's service-connected disability rating is at least 70 percent. Currently, that rating must be 100 percent.

Under the bill, the maximum credit that a claimant may claim is multiplied by the percentage of the claimant's service-connected disability rating. The bill does not affect a claimant who claims the credit based on his or her individual unemployability rating. Under current law, an individual with a 100 percent disability rating based on individual unemployability may also claim the credit. VSO reports that this bill was shot down in March and never made it off the Senate floor.

WDVA Grant

VSO reports that the applied for from the WDVA Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs of \$11688. VSO explains that the annual grant assists the county as a salary/ wage offset in regards to budget assistance. VSO reports that he received the grant on 5/10/2024 in the amount of \$11688.00.

Office & Pact Act Multi Media Advertising

VSO reports that he's been in contact with WI State Journal and in using the WDVA supplemental grant he is advertising a video distribution to TV and Internet in Forest County. The total amount of \$4600 for three months of TV and internet advertising in Forest County. This would be after the one-time \$475 fee for video production.

VSO reports that with the with the agreement the office gets exposure of approximately 36,000 impressions monthly. VSO explains that the impressions can be thought of as the number of times the video is viewed using each tactic of TV and Internet. VSO reports that a 3-month campaign was agreed upon and that these levels of spending will get outstanding reach and frequency. VSO explains that this advertising outreach is to attempt to tap the veteran's community so they know where he is and what he can offer them. VSO states he will have \$3325.60 in the supplement account after the final payment to the media company.

Public Comments

VSO announces and hands out flyers for upcoming VAMC Town Hall at Wabeno Post 44 on June 14th 2024 starting at 10:00 a.m. VSO reports the informational meeting is to provide and presentation on VA Healthcare, provide updates and Q&A session.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Motion by Marvin to adjourn, seconded by Wirtz, all present voting AYE. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 1:20 p.m.