

## **VETERAN SERVICE COMMISSION AND COMMITTEE**

### **Annual Report Meeting Minutes Thursday, February 4, 2016, 3:30 pm First Floor Conference Room Grant County Administration Lancaster, WI**

**Committee and Commission Members Present:** Lester Jantzen, Robert Scallon, John DuCharme, Gary Erickson and Jim Knautz.

Others present were Robert Keeney, County Chairman; Joyce Roling, Human Resources Director; Tim Murphy, Veterans Service Officer; Kerry Tester, Deputy Veterans Service Officer.

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Commission Chairman, John Ducharme at 3:22 P. M.

**Meeting Notice:** County Veteran Service Officer, Tim Murphy noted that the meeting had been properly noticed and within compliance with the open meeting requirements.

**Adoption of Agenda:** A motion was made by Lester Jantzen and seconded by Robert Scallon to adopt the agenda as written. Motion Carried 5-0.

**Minutes:** A motion was made by Gary Erickson and seconded by Lester Jantzen to approve the minutes of September 3, 2015. Motion Carried 5-0

### **OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC OUTPUT**

Tim Murphy expressed his appreciation for everyone's help and support with the Proposed Legislation of LRB-4524.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

- Proposed Legislation of LRB-4524. Was discussed that the bills have been withdrawn. This was largely due to the CVSO's getting their service organizations and communities involved and contacting the state representatives and getting them involved.
- The approval and adoption of the "Charter & Operation Procedures of the Grant County Veteran Service Commission". Changes made are to give CVSO permission to authorize a relief of \$150 and the Commission to approve up to \$350 for the year. Motion to approve and adopt was made by Jim Knautz and seconded by Robert Scallon. Motioned Carried 5-0.
- Veteran Request for Assistance under the adoption. Jerry Kieler approved for \$164.50 to go towards his car insurance; Motion made to approve by Gary Erickson and seconded by Robert Scallon. Bruce Adams approved for \$75 to go towards his phone bill; Motion made to approve by Robert Scallon and seconded by Lester Jantzen. Duane Duncan approved for \$350 to go towards rent/utilities; Motion to approve made by Lester Jantzen and seconded by Gary Erickson.
- Approval of 2015 Annual Veteran Service report. Motion to approve by Jim Knautz and seconded by Robert Scallon.
- Information only on WDVA's 2015 CVSO Grant Application. Was approved in January because of the WDVA deadline. Tim discussed Kerry's pay and how he is trying to get the most out the Grant in order to cover it.

- Discussion in supplying flags and holders for veteran's grave. Will get an inventory from service organizations and will make a decision at next meeting. Possible proposal to have service organization pay for flags and holders, tabled to next meeting.
- Discussed Committee and Commission re-configuration. No action taken informative only.

## **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

- Personnel Overview. Discussed a way to get a list of recently discharged veterans for Grant County. These lists would then be given to service organizations to reach out to these veterans and advise them of programs and assistance offered for Federal and State programs as well as getting them in touch with the CVSO.
- VA's Veterans Choice Program. Discussed how the program is supposed to work and the challenges we are seeing with veterans using this program.
- PTC Overview. Discussed how the program was revised in January 2015 to include all Surviving Spouses receiving Dependency and Indemnity Compensation. Asked for support in getting this information out to all surviving spouses to contact the CVSO to see if they qualify.
- Implementation of Vetra Spec and D2D. Coming soon to our office will be the ability to use our local program of Vetra Spec to upload claims directly to the VA using D2D (Digital to Digital). This will in turn decrease the submission time of claims submitted instead of our current process of mailing them.
- Next meeting to be held on June 30, 2016 at 3:00pm in the Memorial Park.

## **MISCELLANEOUS**

- April 4-8, 2016 CVSO Association Spring 2016 Conference at Best Western Harborside Inn and Conference Center at 5126 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Kenosha WI (Kerry)
- October 3-7, 2016 CVSO Association Fall 2016 Conference Waushara County Green Lake County Heidel House Resort and Spa 643 Illinois Avenue, Green Lake, WI (Tim)

## **ADJOURN**

There being no further business to conduct motion was made by Gary Erickson and seconded by Robert Scallon to adjourn the meeting. Motion Carried 5-0. The meeting ended at 5:55 p.m.