

Winnebago County Veterans Service Commission

Meeting Minutes

Date: November 13, 2017

Present: Bob Warnke, Tom Snider, Joe Maehl, Roy Rogers, Joe Aulik and Judy Steckbauer

Absent: Dale Witzke

Others Present: Mark Harris

Bob Warnke called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Bob Warnke requested a motion for the acceptance of the meeting agenda. Tom Snider so moved, second by Joe Maehl. All ayes, motion carried.

Bob Warnke requested a motion to go into closed session. Roy Rogers so moved at 1:02 p.m., second by Tom Snider. All ayes, motioned carried. Convened in closed session for the purposes of acting on applications for financial, medical, social, or personal histories of such applicants which, if discussed in public, would be likely to have a substantial adverse effect upon the reputation of any person referred to in such histories or date, as provided in sec. 19.85 [1] [f], Wisconsin State Statutes.

Bob Warnke requested a motion to come out of closed session. Tom Snider so moved at 1:30 p.m., second by Joe Maehl. All ayes, motion carried.

Bob Warnke called for Public Comments. Mark Harris spoke on issues with the Veterans Trust Fund. In recent budget deliberations the Joint Finance Committee removed funds from the King reserves. Several handouts distributed showing all WDVA programs eventually trailing off to \$0 benefits to veterans disbursed. Question asked, why they are moving \$13 million from King to the Veterans Trust Fund when this money is not going to benefits. He feels an audit of the Trust Fund needs to be done, separating the administrative/salary cost from benefits. The number of residents at King is being reduce so there may not be a surplus in the future. This drawing off the reserves my potentially cause financial problems for King and no WDVA benefits for veterans. WDVA payroll should be paid out of GPR. Joe Aulik gave historical background of the Trust Fund.

Bob Warnke called for approval of meeting minutes dated October 9, 2017. Roy Rogers so moved, second by Tom Snider. All ayes, motion carried.

Bob Warnke called for approval of the financial report dated November 13, 2017. Tom Snider so moved, second by Joe Maehl. All ayes, motion carried. Joe briefly detailed report. Discussed possibly purchasing some gift cards from Dollar General because no potential to purchase

alcohol and/or tobacco products which are available at Walmart. Joe stated that all veterans that receive the Walmart gift cards are asked to sign an agreement that these products will not be purchased and it is also written on the card that they are not to be utilized for such products.

Old Business: Office moving the week of November 27th. Anticipate to be fully functional by Monday, December 4th.

New Business: Joe spoke on the discontinuation of the SSVF Program which served many homeless Winnebago County Residents. Another program, CVI has taken over but there is a much longer application process so Commissioners may see more requests for motel stays until appropriate housing can be secured. Also the Veterans Outreach and Recovery Program (VORP) maybe discontinued unless WDVA funds themselves. This program also dealt with homeless and mental health issues.

Joe also spoke on the potential for a Federal Grant for CVSO's nationwide of \$50 million to fund recruitment and training of the offices and positions.

The next meeting will be at the new location on Monday, December 11, 2017 at 1:00 p.m. at the County Administration Building, 3rd Floor Conference Room, 112 Otter Ave., Oshkosh, WI.

Joe Maehl moved to adjourn, seconded by Tom Snider. All ayes, motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Judy Steckbauer
Veterans Benefits Supervisor