

Winnebago County Veterans Service Commission

Meeting Minutes

Date: December 9, 2019

Present: Bob Warnke, Dale Witzke, Tom Snider, Roy Rogers, Lucy Burr, Jeff Bucholtz and Judy Steckbauer

Absent: None

Others Present: None

Bob Warnke called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

Bob Warnke requested a motion for the acceptance of the meeting agenda. Roy Rogers so moved, second by Dale Witzke. All ayes, motion carried.

Bob Warnke requested a motion to go into closed session. Lucy Burr so moved at 1:05 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 1:15 p.m., second by Lucy Burr. All ayes, motion carried.

Bob Warnke called for Public Comments. None.

Bob Warnke called for approval of meeting minutes dated November 18, 2019. Dale Witzke so moved, second by Tom Snider. All ayes, motion carried.

Bob Warnke called for approval of the financial report dated December 9, 2019. Tom Snider so moved, second by Bob Warnke. All ayes, motion carried. Walmart & Kwik Trip gift cards will be purchased prior to year-end. Also, some discussion on giving funds to the Fox Valley Veterans Council since they assist with Outagamie & Winnebago County Veterans. Organization may look more favorably on Winnebago County residents if we were donating funds. Decision made not to explore this option. Some discussion on any other organizations in Winnebago County that specifically work with veterans.

Old Business: Nothing new on relocation of Neenah Office. Jeff distributed handouts on retroactive disability compensation benefit numbers for 2018 and so far in 2019. Benefits the office has brought in have increased. Round numbers: 2.5 million in 2018 & 2.8 million so far in 2019. He also distributed a report showing GDX figures of various VA benefits by county. This report shows how much the VA spends per benefit in Wisconsin counties. Unfortunately, this

report does not come out until after mid-year for previous year so not available at budget time. The veteran population is trending down. Winnebago County lost 287 veterans last year. With this trend, it will be hard to increase benefits each year but each year claims are getting more complicated and time consuming.

New Business: Tom Snider distributed handout on draft CVSO Bill (HEY19C33). This bill would give authority for the Secretary of the VA to award contracts and grants to states to promote health and wellness, prevent suicide, and improve outreach to veterans. Tom will be working closely with WI federal legislators on this bill.

The next meeting date is Monday, January 13, 2020 @ 1:00 p.m. at the County Administration Building, 3rd Floor Conference Room, 112 Otter Ave., Oshkosh, WI. Dale Witzke moved to adjourn, seconded by Lucy Burr. All ayes, motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Judy Steckbauer
Veterans Benefit Supervisor