

Winnebago County Veterans Service Commission

Meeting Minutes

Date: May 11, 2015

Present: Bob Warnke, Dale Witzke, Jim Romnek, Joe Maehl, Tom Snider, Joe Aulik, and Judy Steckbauer

Absent: None

Others Present: None

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

Bob Warnke requested a motion to go into closed session. Joe Maehl so moved at 1:01 p.m., second by Jim Romnek. Roll Call – Bob Warnke –aye, Dale Witzke – aye, Jim Romnek – aye, Tom Snider – aye, Joe Maehl - aye. All ayes, motion 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. Dale Witzke so moved at 9:05 a.m., second by Jim Romnek. Roll call – Bob Warnke – aye, Dale Witzke – aye, Jim Romnek – aye, Tom Snider – aye, Joe Maehl - aye. All ayes, motion carried.

Bob Warnke called for Public Comments. As none, minutes of the April 13, 2015 meeting were read. Bob Warnke requested a motion for the acceptance of the meeting minutes. Jim Romnek so moved, second by Joe Maehl. All ayes, motion carried. Bob Warnke requested a motion for acceptance of the May 11, 2015 financial report. Dale Witzke so moved, second by Jim Romnek. All ayes, motion carried. Joe may clean up report to make it more understandable.

Old Business: A letter was distributed regarding the Neenah Office closing and consolidation with Oshkosh. The Neenah office will be closed by 6/8/15. All Neenah files will be moved to Oshkosh. Joe will request funds in the 2016 for scanning of all files into the new database. The new database will make it much easier to work off station. Appointments are being emphasized and if a veteran from the Neenah/Menasha area can not come to Oshkosh for an appointment, arrangements will be made in the Neenah Human Service Bldg. The county requires the office space and having 2 offices is inefficient for support staff needs in the Neenah office and real time training of the Benefit Specialist. Joe detailed office changes and also potential move to Administration Building within the next 18 months.

Copy of Wisconsin State Statute 45.84 Burial allowance distributed. This statute addresses the issue of veterans who dies not leaving sufficient means to defray the necessary expenses of a

decent burial or under circumstances that would cause financial distress to the person's family. They payment may not be less than \$300.00.

New Business: New Veterans Service Commission (VSC) Policy distributed and reviewed against old VSC Guidelines. Changes and additions pointed out and clean copy will be distributed next month.

Discussion regarding transfer of funds repaid so that they may benefit other veterans. Currently they are just going back to the general fund. Joe will check on what has to be done to accomplish this and it will be put on the agenda for October. A motion to approve the transfer will be done at that point.

Veteran Service Commission Annual Report was distributed. After several minor changes and adding Bob Warnke's signature, it will be sent to the County Clerk's office to be put in the County Board packets.

Hand out on TEPP Program. This is a program for free phones for the hearing impaired. This program is not just for veterans but for all citizens in WI. The cost of this program is already on everyone's phone bill. A new phone is available every 2 years.

Joe also commented on the creation of a Face Book page, Veterans and Veterans Organization e-mail lists to communicate with veterans in the community.

The next meeting will be **on Friday, June 12 at 9:00 a.m.** at the Orrin King Building, 1st floor conference room, 448 Algoma Blvd., Oshkosh, WI.

Jim Romnek moved to adjourn, seconded by Dale Witzke. All ayes, motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Judy Steckbauer