

COLUMBIA COUNTY VETERANS' SERVICE COMMISSION

Approved Meeting Minutes of The Regular Meeting of February 11, 2022

Meeting called to order at 8:00 am.

Attendance was taken and those present were: Keith Miller, Chairman; Janis Bauman, Commissioner; Norman Bednarek, Commissioner, and Rebekka Cary, CVSO & Executive Secretary

It was certified that the agenda was properly posted and the meeting properly noticed. Motion by Miller to approve the agenda. Second by Bauman. Motion carried.

The minutes from the last regular meeting were reviewed. Motion to approve the minutes by Miller, second by Bauman. Motion carried.

There were no expenditures to approve.

Pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes Section 19.85 (1) (f), motion by Bednarek to go to closed session to review Veterans Service Commission Fund Applications. Second by Miller. Motion carried by roll call vote. The Veterans' Service Commission went into closed session at 9:01 a.m. with Miller, Bauman, Bednarek, and Cary attending.

Motion by Miller to return to open session. Second by Bednarek. Motion Carried. The Commission returned to open session at 9:21 am.

Approval of paying \$761.00 for medical bills providing Medicare and VA will not pay it motioned by Miller. Second by Bednarek. Cary will verify with VA and Medicare. Motion carried.

Approval of paying \$1600.00 for bank rent providing the veteran is currently working motioned by Bednarek. Second by Miller. Cary will verify employment status. Motion carried.

Motion by Bednarek to purchase ten \$25 Kwik Trip gas cards for needy veterans. Second by Miller. Motion carried.

The 2022 WDVA CVSO grant application has been completed and submitted to WDVA.

Miller asked about law change for the property tax credit. Cary relayed that the talk amongst the CVSO community is that it will be approved, but she has not seen anything official as of yet. She stated she heard the lowered threshold will be staggered. Once the law passes, if it does, the first year the threshold would be lowered to 90% the first year, then 80% the following year, and 70% the year after that.

The American Legion Mid-Winter meeting was held in January at Ho-Chunk casino. It had many good training opportunities.

All-Phase, LLC is giving one furnace in February and one in September to a veteran who is need of a replacement. The recipient will be a veteran who continues to serve their community in some form or fashion. The grant of the furnace is not income based.

Habitat for Humanity also has grant programs to assist veterans in making sure their homes are safe and habitable. They will be doing a fix for a female veteran in Columbus in April. It is part of their "She Served" program.

Hogs for Heroes also gives a Harley Davidson Motorcycle to service-connected disabled veterans who meet their criteria and have their application selected. They have gifted 22 motorcycles to veterans as of now.

The Columbia County Council of the American Legion will meet February 16 at 7:00 pm in Wisconsin Dells.

Cary will be meeting with the current coalition and Adam Howarth from the Suicide Prevention Program at the VA Medical Center on February 25 at 1:00 pm at the ADRC building. He will be discussing ideas on how to build the Columbia County Prevent Suicide Coalition. Anyone interested is welcome to attend the meeting.

The next meeting date was scheduled for Friday, March 11, 2022 at 9:00 am.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rebekka Cary". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping flourish at the end of the name.

Rebekka L Cary, Columbia County Veterans' Service Officer
and Executive Secretary, Columbia County Veterans' Service Commission