

COLUMBIA COUNTY VETERANS' SERVICE COMMISSION

Approved Meeting Minutes of The Regular Meeting of February 12, 2021

Meeting called to order at 8:35 am.

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

It was certified that the agenda was properly posted and the meeting properly noticed. There were no changes to the agenda. The agenda was approved on motion by Miller, seconded by Bednarek. Motion carried.

The minutes from the last regular meeting were reviewed. The minutes were approved on motion by Miller, seconded by Bauman. Motion carried.

There were no expenses since the last meeting.

Cary has completed and submitted the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs CVSO grant application.

Bednarek wanted to know if the VA Medical Center is administering the COVID vaccine to all veterans. Cary stated that as far as she knew, they are only giving it to enrolled veterans over the age of 65.

Miller discussed the current attrition rate of the military. He said that about 35% of those currently serving are in the process of filing for retirement. Because of that there is a large backlog and processing the paperwork is taking a longer time than usual.

Bednarek discussed a meeting that was held on February 11th to discuss the Columbia County Cabin at Camp American Legion. Tom Borgkvist is the chairman of the committee. Due to COVID, the camp will only be at half capacity this summer so more construction can take place than originally anticipated. Columbia County has some money already raised so they may fast-track to get theirs done. There is a possibility that demolition can take place over the summer and building could start in the fall. The goal of the committee is to raise \$85,000. They currently have \$45,000 designated for the building. They have not held any fundraisers to date but will be starting to do so as well solicit funds. The committee estimates they could possibly raise up to \$130,000. A construction company out of Coloma has offered to transport the building which will be built here in Columbia County to the camp.

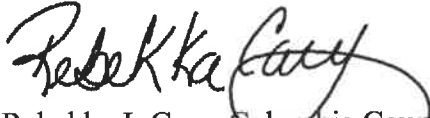
The American Legion Columbia County Council meetings will begin taking place again in May 2021. They will be held at American Legion Headquarters where there is room to social distance.

The American Legion Midwinter Conference was postponed in January and will now be held in May at Ho-Chunk.

The next meeting date was scheduled for Friday, March 12, 2021 at 8:30 am.

There being no other business before the commission at this time, Miller motioned to adjourn.
Second by Bauman. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 8:58 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.

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