

COLUMBIA COUNTY VETERANS' SERVICE COMMISSION

Approved Meeting Minutes of

The Regular Meeting of July 5, 2017

Meeting called to order at 8:35 am.

Attendance was taken and those present were: Norm Bednarek, Chair; John Van Wie, Commissioner; Richard Hasse, CVSO & Executive Secretary. Absent: Keith Miller, Commissioner.

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 Bednarek, seconded by Van Wie. Motion carried.

The minutes from the last regular meeting were reviewed. The minutes were approved on motion by Bednarek, seconded by Van Wie. Motion carried.

The Commission's expense report since the last regular meeting was reviewed and no expenses had occurred or were documented since the last regular meeting. Approval of the report was motioned by Van Wie and seconded by Bednarek. Motions carried.

Hasse provided the Commissioners with a news article about the President having signed into law the VA Accountability Act. It is hoped this new law will help in the VA's process-streamlining effort and in expediting the dismissal of those employees found doing wrong.

Hasse also provided a news article about the State Legislature's effort to pass a bill to create the Veteran Farmer Assistance and Outreach Program. He also provided information from the Wisconsin Counties Association which requested modifications to WI Statutes to restore the CVSO Grant to its previous block grant configuration. This language change has been reported to have been incorporated into the budget proposal from the Joint Finance Committee; but, the entire budget is being delayed by other issues and the proposal would also still be subject to the veto of Governor Walker. Hasse also presented for viewing the plaque he has been working on to recognize the establishment of the Columbia County Veterans Service Office that also lists all the past CVSOs. Hasse mentioned that he will need to obtain permission from the Executive Committee to place anything on the walls of the new building, per the new building rules.

There was a motion by Van Wie, seconded by Bednarek, to go into closed session to consider a veterans confidential application and appearance before the Commissioners for financial assistance, as allowed in WI Statutes § 19.85 (1)(f). Motion carried. The Commission went into closed session at 8:43 am.

There was a motion by Bednarek, seconded by Van Wie, to resume the Veterans Service Commission meeting in open session. Motion carried. The Commission resumed open session at 9:29 am.

Hasse introduced to the Commissioners some information regarding available financial counseling services from the Wisconsin Consumer Credit organizations. Hasse suggested that the Commissioners may want to consider that certain applicants enroll in such a service as a contingent requirement for receiving Commission funds, particularly when financial management issues appear to be a strong contributing factor to the need for assistance.

The next meeting date was scheduled for Friday, August 4th, 2017 at 8:30 am. Motioned by Van Wie, seconded by Bednarek. Motion carried.

There being no other business before the commission at this time, Van Wie motioned to adjourn. Seconded by Bednarek. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 9:37 am.

Respectfully submitted,



Richard E. Hasse, Columbia County Veterans' Assistant Service Officer
and Executive Secretary, Columbia County Veterans' Service Commission