

# COLUMBIA COUNTY VETERANS' SERVICE COMMISSION

## Approved Meeting Minutes of

### The Regular Meeting of July 6, 2018

Meeting called to order at 8:32 am.

Attendance was taken and those present were: Norm Bednarek, Chair; John Van Wie, Commissioner; Keith Miller, Commissioner; Richard Hasse, 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 Van Wie, seconded by Miller. Motion carried.

The Commission's expense report since the last regular meeting was reviewed. Hasse reiterated the information provided at the last meeting on how the Commission fund is being utilized as a conduit expenditure account to disburse funds that have been donated to the CVSO Office to needy veterans. Approval of the report was motioned by Bednarek and seconded by Miller. Motion carried.

Hasse next distributed materials and discussed with the Commissioners the following federal veterans' benefits issues:

- a. The VA Hospital is looking for veterans of the Gulf War during 1990 to 1991 to volunteer for research tests.
- b. VA Medical Services now has an internet app that allows veterans to participate in video health care service.
- c. Citizen Soldier for Life (CSFL) is reaching out to Reserve and Guard veterans to understand their benefits.
- d. The VA Mission Act, signed by the President on June 6, 2018, will eventually bring caregiver support services to the veterans from pre-9/11 generations of military service after funding and regulations are completed.
- e. The House of Representatives passed HR299 to provide Agent Orange benefits to Blue Water Navy veterans.

Hasse next provided the Commissioners with a copy of the proposal from the WDVA Secretary to reconfigure the funding formula for the CVSO Grants from the WDVA. The Secretary's proposal was developed after he received and reviewed Hasse's original proposal which changed the formula based each county's on veteran population density instead of the general population size of each county. The Secretary added an additional formula for Equalized Assessed Property Value and a Weighted Rank formula. The proposal is also constructed with six different possible funding base amounts and the distribution that would result from the formulation for each of those base funding base amounts. This proposal will likely be included in the WDVA's next biennial state budget request.

Hasse also provided the Commissioners with a Walmart flyer announcing hiring at their Beaver Dam distribution center in positions with starting wages at \$17.00 to \$18.70 per hour (and \$1.10 per hour more in incentives).

Hasse provided the Commissioners with an update on the Barker Monument feasibility study. He mentioned that he is still awaiting Mr Reinke's estimate from his granite company in Oshkosh on the manpower, materials and costs associated with moving the monument.

The next meeting date was scheduled for Friday, August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2018 at 8:30 am, Motioned by Miller, seconded by Van Wie. 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 9:05 am.

Respectfully submitted,



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