

COLUMBIA COUNTY VETERANS' SERVICE COMMISSION

Approved Meeting Minutes of

The Regular Meeting of August 5, 2016

Meeting called to order at 8:40 am.

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

The minutes from the last regular meeting and the closed meeting on July 8, 2016 were reviewed. The minutes were approved on motion by Van Wie, seconded by Miller. Motion carried.

The Commission's expense vouchers issued since the last regular meeting were reviewed. Approval of the expense report was motioned by Bednarek and seconded by Miller. Motion carried.

Hasse presented the Commissioners with copies of a news article that was posted on Military.com this morning which discussed three different federal legislative proposals regarding awarding veteran status to Guard and Reserve members who have not served on regular active-duty but have otherwise served honorably in their respective Guard/Reserve component. One of the proposals also suggests awarding the same Guard/Reserve personnel with veteran's preference in federal job hiring. The bill numbers are: HR1384, S743 and HR5526.

Hasse mentioned to the Commissioners that he attended the meeting of the Wisconsin Council on Veterans Programs and the Wisconsin Board of Veterans Affairs, which took place on July 20th at 11:00 am and 1:00 pm, respectfully, at the WI Veterans Home in King, WI. Hasse also presented the Commissioners with a Capital Times news article about the meetings and a copy of the prepared statement he personally read to the Board of Veterans Affairs and the WDVA Secretary during the public comment portion of the Board meeting. Hasse commented that during the Board meeting, the WDVA Secretary reiterated his support for regionalization of the Wisconsin CVSOs. Hasse mentioned that in the statement he read to the Board and the WDVA Secretary, he outlined and specifically cited the various factual errors in the WDVA Secretary's reasoning for regionalizing the CVSOs in Wisconsin. Hasse also provided the Commissioners with an article which he distributed to all of the WI Legislators on the Assembly and Senate veteran's affairs committees. The article mentions how, in spite of the fact that the WDVA Secretary continues to push for CVSO regionalization in Wisconsin, the Republican candidate for Vice-President, Indiana Governor Mike Pence, has in fact abolished their ineffective regionalized veterans service officer system and replaced it 72 County Veterans Service Officers; and have realized an enormous increase in effectiveness in veterans access to benefits and in outreach to Indiana veterans.

Hasse next distributed to the Commissioners information about a new book available for purchase titled, "Wisconsin & Korea's Forgotten Victory." The book was published by Gordon Faust of Waunakee and can be purchased with the enclosed order form for \$26.50 (tax & s/h included).

On motion by Bednarek, the next meeting date was scheduled for Friday, September 2, 2016 at 8:30 am. Seconded by Van Wie. Motion carried.

There being no other business before the commission at this time, Miller motioned to adjourn. Seconded by Van Wie. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 8:59 am.

Respectfully submitted,



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