

COLUMBIA COUNTY VETERANS' SERVICE COMMISSION

Approved Meeting Minutes of

The Regular Meeting of September 2, 2016

Meeting called to order at 8:37 am.

Attendance was taken and those present were: Norm Bednarek, Chair; John Van Wie, Commissioner; Rich 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 Van Wie, seconded by Bednarek. 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 vouchers issued since the last regular meeting were reviewed. Approval of the expense report was motioned by Bednarek and seconded by Van Wie. Motion carried.

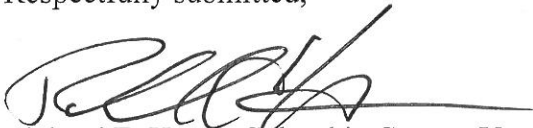
Hasse presented the Commissioners with a Columbia County CVSO Office Report Card for FY 2015 which he developed listing the amounts of veterans benefits brought into Columbia County by virtue of the service and assistance the office provides. The report card states the following facts: County Veteran Population: 4,917; County Veterans Using VA Healthcare: 1,375; Value of VA Healthcare Benefits: \$13,560,000; Compensation and Pension Benefits: \$12,283,000; Vocational Rehabilitation Benefits: \$1,341,000; Paid-Out Life Insurance Benefits: \$255,000; Total Federal VA Benefits: \$27,439,000.

Hasse provided to the Commissioners a copy of the recent article in the Capital Times regarding quality of care for residents at the King Veterans Home as well as letters from Sen Luther Olsen, The American Legion Department of Wisconsin and the Democratic Leadership of the WI Senate and Assembly. Lengthy discussion ensued amongst the commissioners on the issue. The Commissioners asked if we knew who from Columbia County was currently a resident of the King VH. Hasse produced a list of known Columbia County residents who currently reside at King VH that was provided to his office by the King VH admissions office. The Commissioners mentioned that it would be worthwhile and a good idea to all visit the King VH and do a welfare check on these former Columbia County residents and ensure they have no unaired or ignored complaints about the quality of their care. Hasse offered to coordinate such a trip for the Commissioners.

On motion by Bednarek, the next meeting date was scheduled for Wednesday, October 5, 2016 at 8:30 am. 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 8:55 am.

Respectfully submitted,



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