

## **COLUMBIA COUNTY VETERANS' SERVICE COMMISSION**

### **Approved Meeting Minutes of The Regular Meeting of September 13, 2019**

Meeting called to order at 8:30 am.

Attendance was taken and those present were: Norm Bednarek, Chair; Keith Miller, Commissioner; Jon Van Wie, Commissioner; Rebekka Cary, CVSO & Executive Secretary, and Tamra Brueggeman, Assistant CVSO.

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. One correction needed to be to include the attendees and time of the previous meeting's closed session. The minutes with that correction were approved on motion by Van Wie, seconded by Miller. Motion carried.

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

Pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes Section 19.85 (1) (f), motion by Miller to go to closed session to review Veterans Service Commission Fund Applications. Second by Bednarek. Motion carried. The Veteran's Service Commission went into closed session at 8:37 a.m. with Bednarek, Miller, Van Wie, Cary, and Brueggeman attending.

Motion by Miller to return to open session. Second by Van Wie. Motion Carried. The Commission returned to open session at 8:54 a.m.

Approval of application for \$1257.88 for assistance motioned by Van Wie. Second by Bednarek.

Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2019 is final.

The American Legion Act is final. There are no exclusion service dates.

The CVSO grant from WDVA is still being looked at, but nothing passed at this point.

Cary discussed the benefits from WI Department of Natural Resources; \$7.00 Recreation Card and \$3.00 Fishing License for veterans who have a service-connected disability rating of 50% or higher, and a free state park pass for veterans with rating of 70% or higher. Veterans with any rating can also get a free National Park Pass. The National Park pass is also good for 3 of the WI state parks including Devils Lake.

A motion to approve the revised Operating Procedures for Columbia County Veterans Service Commission was made by Bednarek. Second by Miller. Motion carried. Miller would like to verify with Corp Council whether or not they also need to approve them.

Cary shared the proposed budget for 2020 as well as the balance of the donated fund account. Part of the funds in the donation account were earmarked to move the Barker monument. That project has been cut from the CVSO's consideration. Those funds will remain in the account for a possible future veteran's monument on the new Columbia County campus.

Cary recently learned of a program through Habitat for Humanity to assist veterans is repairing or replacing a roof or making other house repair. If you know of anyone who needs assistance, please contact the CVSO office.

Miller wanted to know if we had a set of flags to be used by the VSOs. We only have the set in the display, which he can use. Cary will research the cost of a portable set.

The Grand Opening of the new sports complex in Fall River will be September 21. All branches will be represented to assist in the ceremony.

The meeting of the state officers for the American Legion is October 17-18.

A veterans fair will take place at Alliant Energy Center on November 19.

The Salute to Veterans Badger game is October 5.

The next meeting date was scheduled for Friday, October 4, 2019 at 8:30 am.

There being no other business before the commission at this time, Van Wie motioned to adjourn. Second by Bednarek. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 9:30 am.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rebekka Cary". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

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