

COLUMBIA COUNTY VETERANS' SERVICE COMMISSION

Approved Meeting Minutes of The Regular Meeting of November 2, 2018

Meeting called to order at 8:30 am.

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

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

The Commission's expense report since the last regular meeting was reviewed. No additional expenditures had occurred since the last meeting. Approval of the report was motioned by Miller and seconded by Bednarek. Motion carried.

Commissioner Van Wie's term is set to expire December 1, 2018. Motion was made by Bednarek and seconded by Miller to reappoint Van Wie to another three year term as commissioner. Motion carried.

No change has been made in CVSO office staff and as of today, Cary is still acting CVSO.

Cary discussed the new look back period the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has implements when a veteran or surviving spouse applies for Non-Service Connected Disability Pension or Survivors Pension.

The question of eligibility for VA Healthcare was asked. A discussion was had about the specific criteria that would qualify a veteran for eligibility. If a veteran does not meet one of those specific criteria, eligibility is based on gross annual income from wages and / or net income from a business, farm, or ranch. Once eligibility is established, enrollment will be maintained as long as the veteran uses the services, however, the copays required to be paid out of pocket may be adjusted according to income.

Cary stated she had a meeting with Veterans Outreach & Recovery Program regional coordinator. The program is geared toward veterans who are homeless or in danger of becoming homeless.

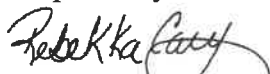
Cary said she had received a visit from a Poynette citizen who wondered if there was any assistance to help pay for two government headstones to be set for two indigent veterans. The commission agreed to pay for the setting out of the money that was donated for flag holders. She also discussed the flag holders that had not yet been picked up.

A discussion was had about the donated funds for the veterans' relief fund. The office will work on getting the word out about the funds and ensure they are readily available.

The next meeting date was scheduled for Friday, December 7, 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, Bednarek motioned to adjourn. Seconded by Miller. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 9:25 am.

Respectfully submitted,



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