

VETERANS COMMISSION
Thursday, June 23, 2016, 4:30 p.m.
Room 207C, Douglas County Courthouse,
1313 Belknap Street, Superior, Wisconsin

Meeting called to order by Chair John Robinson.

ROLL CALL: Present – John Robinson, Thomas “Butch” Liebaert, Jim Paine. Others present – Brian Erickson, Carolyn Pierce, Mark Liebaert, Kaci Lundgren, Committee Clerk.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion by Paine, second Liebaert, to approve minutes from the December 9, 2015, meeting. Motion carried.

ACTION ITEMS:

Douglas County Veterans Service Office Ordinance: Ordinance would allow donated funds to be allocated to Soliders and Sailors Relief Fund (only tax levy currently allowed).

ACTION (REFERRAL): Motion by Paine, second Liebaert, to recommend and refer to Health and Human Services Board. Motion by Paine, second Liebaert, to amend Section I to read, “The Commission shall consist of *at least* three residents of Douglas County...”. Motion carried. Motion by Paine, second Liebaert, to amend Section III and change *Administrator* to *Board Chair*. Motion carried. Motion to recommend as amended, carried.

Soliders and Sailors Relief Fund Policies and Procedures: To be regularly reviewed for changes, as necessary.

ACTION: Motion by Paine, second Liebaert, to approve, as presented. Motion carried.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS - DOUGLAS COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE OFFICE:

SSRF Fund Status: \$5,729.56 balance as of May 2016.

Veterans Transportation Review: Erickson reviewed other possibilities to combine van service, as usage is declining; other area services do not have reliable drivers. Douglas County van service to continue, with potential van replacement for safer transportation, and potential surcharge for specific riders.

Financial Status: Revenue is down due to lack of transportation grant; van usage revenue was over-estimated.

Outreach: Satellite offices located in Lake Nebagamon, Solon Springs and Dairyland for veterans to visit and discuss benefit options. Monthly red carpet event, weekly Q&A table set-up at clinic, Bong Center open house, Veterans Expo, WITC recruitment fair, North Country Independent Living Expo, Running for Our Heroes 5K Run/Walk, and

Military and Veterans Ball all beneficial outreach activities. Free education seminar on final life planning for veterans to be held in the future.

Veteran's Assistant Position LTE to FTE Status: Position necessary for outreach activities; 27% increase in claims filed.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Paine, second Liebaert, to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 5:28 p.m.

Submitted by,

Kaci Jo Lundgren, Committee Clerk