

March 28, 2019

VETERANS SERVICE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Douglas County Board of Supervisors
Thursday, April 4, 2019, 1:00 p.m., Courthouse Room 207C,
1313 Belknap Street, Superior, Wisconsin

Please call the Chair or County Clerk's Office (715-395-1569) if you cannot attend.

MEMBERS: Marvin Finendale, Chair	Jill Fortin
Dennis Dalbec	Glen Erickson
Mary Lou Bergman	Ron Leino
Eual Moore	Clint Mattson, Alt.

A G E N D A

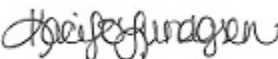
(Committee to maintain a two-hour meeting limit *or* take action to continue meeting beyond that time).

1. Roll call.
2. Approval of minutes from the December 6, 2018, meeting (attached).
3. Informational items:
 - a) Veterans Service Officer report (attached); and
 - b) Veteran village.
4. Future agenda items.
5. Adjournment.

cc: Ann Doucette Susan Sandvick Shelley Nelson (Telegram)
Brian Erickson County Board Supervisors Douglas County Website

NOTE: Attachments to agenda available in County Clerk's Office for viewing or copying. Action may be taken on items on the agenda. The County of Douglas complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. If you are in need of an accommodation to participate in the public meeting process, please contact the Douglas County Clerk's Office at (715) 395-1341 by 4:00 p.m. on the day prior to the scheduled meeting. Douglas County will attempt to accommodate any request depending on the amount of notice we receive. TDD (715) 395-7521.

Posted: Courthouse, Government Center, Telegram copied

	3-28-19
<hr/> Name	<hr/> Date

VETERANS SERVICE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Thursday, December 6, 2018, 1:00 p.m.
Room 207C, Douglas County Courthouse,
1313 Belknap Street, Superior, Wisconsin

Meeting called to order by Chair Marvin Finendale.

ROLL CALL: Present – Marvin Finendale, Dennis Dalbec, Jill Fortin, Eual Moore, Glen Erickson, Clint Mattson, Ron Leino. Absent – Mary Lou Bergman. Others present – Brian Erickson, Mark Liebaert, Kaci Lundgren, Committee Clerk.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion by Dalbec, second Leino, to approve minutes from the October 4, 2018, meeting. Motion carried.

INFORMATIONAL:

Veterans Service Officer Report: December 31, 2018 last day for veterans to use Douglas County van; revenue and expenditures down due to low use of van. 6.5% increase in veteran claims although population is declining.

Greenwood Cemetery, Soliders Square – Marking of Graves for Spouse of Veteran: 1989 cemetery policy for Soldiers Square has outdated requirements. Recommendation of cemetery policy amendments to commanders in veteran organizations will include flat bronze markers for both veteran and spouse, change of wording from “wife” to “spouse” and removal of wording “the veteran must pre-decease his wife”.

Northern Wisconsin Veteran Needs: “Veteran village” concept would provide homes and resources to veterans in need. Potential community could include independent living apartments, assisted living facility, skilled nursing facility, tiny houses, mental health/AODA inpatient facility, meeting rooms and a social/event hall. Village could service neighboring counties, including Minnesota, as well as provide jobs for residents. An estimated 17,201 veterans may benefit from village within the next 10 to 30 years. First step is to locate a parcel with at least 40 acres for location; Erickson to research city and county owned parcels further.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS: “Veteran village.”

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Erickson, second Moore, to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 2:35 p.m.

Submitted by,

Kaci Jo Lundgren, Committee Clerk



Douglas County

Veterans Service Officer

Brian L. Erickson

1316 N. 14th Street, Suite 385

Phone (715) 395-1332 Fax (715) 395-1373

March 28, 2019

VSO Update

What's Happening in the VSO:

Transportation Services – I continue to monitor the successful transfer of VSO Transportation Services to the DAV. Since the transfer on January 2, 2019 three passengers have been awarded travel vouchers for a total of six one way trips. I have been in contact with the cab company and the DAV with no known issues as of the end of February. I will be scheduling a meeting with the Groome Shuttle coordinator and DAV coordinators for later this month. Groome shuttle may also have additional services which may assist disabled veterans who need wheel chair equipped transportation.

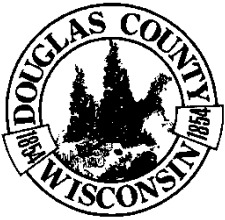
SSRF – The SSRF Policy & Procedure update was reviewed and approved by Health & Human Services Committee and received final approval by County Board.

Outreach Efforts: – Continuing with our outreach efforts with an attempt to find veterans and notify them of our office and what services we provide. Later this month on the weekend of March 29-31 we will once again be providing outreach at the Douglas County Fish & Game League show. I am currently working with the Veterans Non-Traditional Student Center on our upcoming 6th Annual Veterans Expo. Our speakers this year will be the new WDVA Secretary Mary Kolar and Mayor Jim Paine and UWS Chancellor Renee Wachter. The Expo will take place at the UWS Yellow Jacket Union On April 23 from 3-7 pm. In addition I have been working with the Bong Veterans Historical Center Director the WI National Guard and MACV on the planning for the upcoming Memorial Weekend 2nd Annual Veterans Kickoff to Summer Event. The Bong will be hosting the 2nd Boundary Waters Canoe Area Veterans Retreat to the BWCA Scheduled for the week of July 8, 2019. I also am working with the Western Lake Superior Trolling Association for the 2nd Annual Vets on the Lake scheduled for July 28th.

Veteran Advocate Group – A veteran has identified a need for a special veterans advocacy group to be established to help veterans who need assistance in special circumstances such as unfair business practices, legal advice etc....

VORP Office Lease – I contacted Brad Theien of the Superior City Assessors office and he informed me that the going lease rate for the office in which we currently are leasing to the WDVA VORP coordinator is \$100.00 per month. I forwarded this information to Ken Grant on February 8, 2019 and he will start working with DOA with regards to the terms of the follow on lease agreements for future submission to the county for approval.

Telehealth – A representative from VA came and discussed setting up a telehealth station here in the VSO office. We will continue moving forward to make it happen.



As of: March 2,, 2019

VSO Status

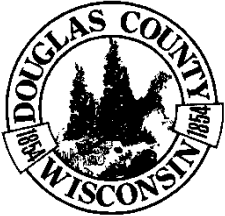
Vetrans Advisory Committee April 4, 2019

Veterans Service Office
Douglas County, WI

Brian Erickson
Veteran Service Officer
1316 N. 14th Street, Rm 385
Superior, WI 54880
715-395-1332
Brian.Erickson@douglascountywi.org

Douglas County Veteran Service Officer - Financial Management

As of: March 2, 2019

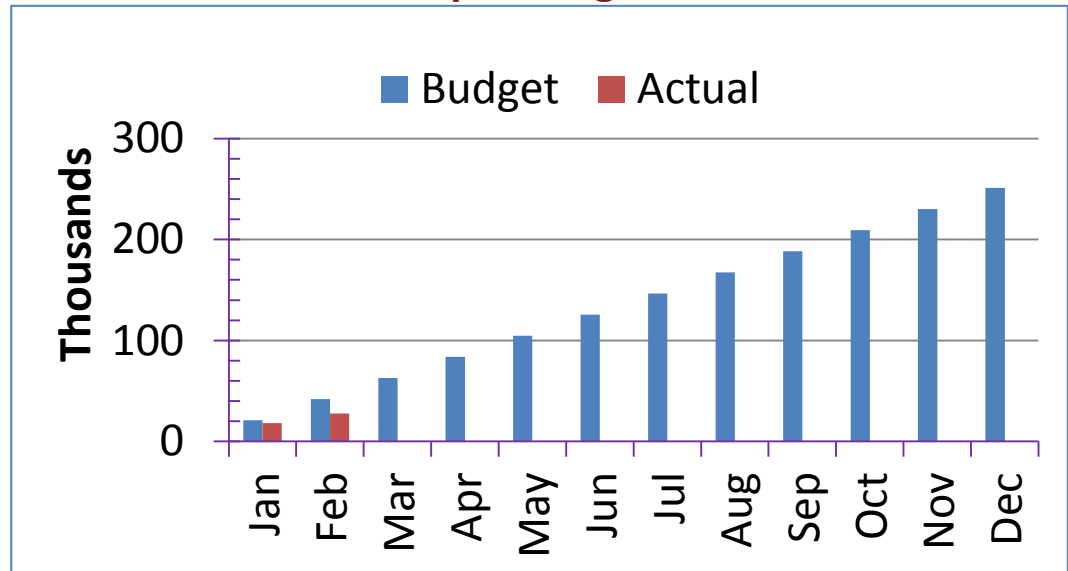


Owner:	Brian Erickson	Objective	The Douglas County VSO will: responsibly manage limited resources and ensure budgeted funds meet the needs and purpose of the Veteran Service Office.
Measure:	Financial Management	Key Initiatives:	To ensure we are within our target budget for CY19.

Date	2019 Budget	Actual Monthly
Jan	\$20,931.00	\$18,163.44
Feb	\$20,931.00	\$9,414.95~
Mar	\$20,931.00	
Apr	\$20,931.00	
May	\$20,931.00	
Jun	\$20,931.00	
Jul	\$20,931.00	
Aug	\$20,931.00	
Sep	\$20,931.00	
Oct	\$20,931.00	
Nov	\$20,931.00	
Dec	\$20,939.00	

~ Pending 2019 Feb final updates

VSO Operating Costs

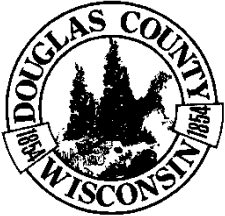


Operating Expenses

Target = \$41,862.00
 Actual = \$27,578.39~
 Variance = \$14,283.61~

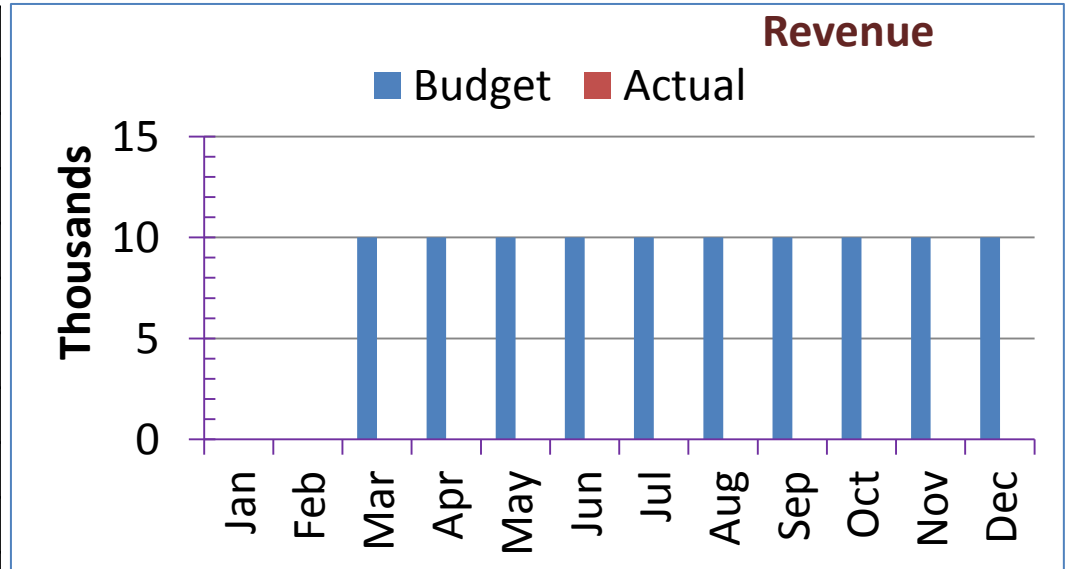
Douglas County Veteran Service Officer - Financial Management

As of: March 2, 2019



Owner:	Brian Erickson	Objective	The Douglas County VSO will: responsibly manage limited resources and ensure budgeted funds meet the needs and purpose of the Veteran Service Office.
Measure:	Financial Management	Key Initiatives:	To ensure we are within our target Revenue for CY19.

Date	2019 Budget	Actual Monthly
Jan	\$0	\$0
Feb	\$0	\$0~
Mar	\$10,000	
Apr	\$0	
May	\$0	
Jun	\$0	
Jul	\$0	
Aug	\$0	
Sep	\$0	
Oct	\$0	
Nov	\$0	
Dec	\$0	

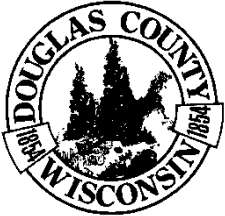


Revenues to Date
 Target = \$0
 Actual = \$0~
 Variance = 0~

WDVA, CVSO Grant
 ~ Pending Feb final Updates

Douglas County Veteran Service Officer - Financial Management

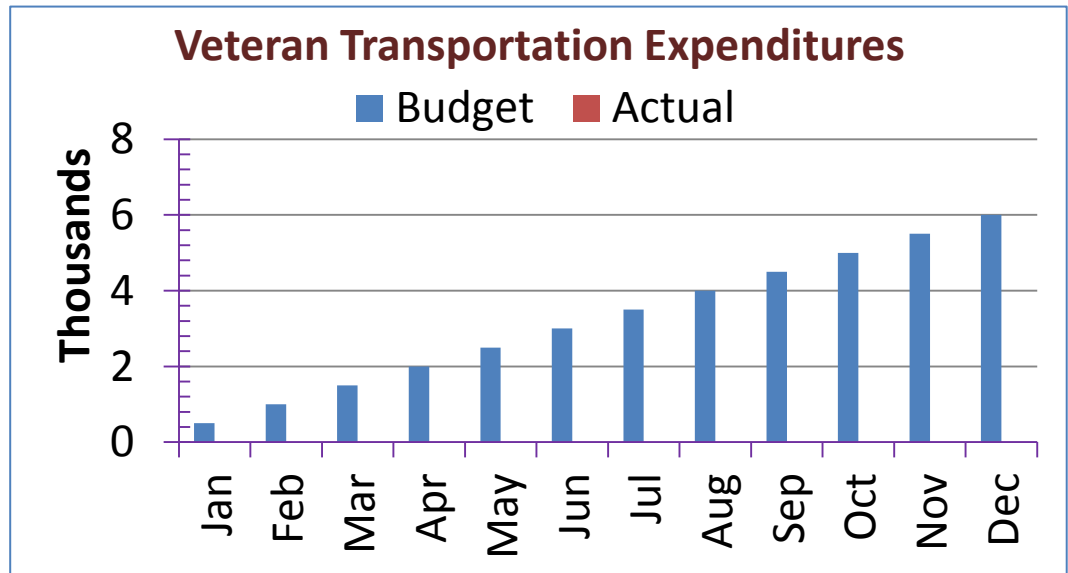
As of: March 2, 2019



Owner:	Brian Erickson	Objective	The Douglas County VSO will: responsibly manage limited resources and ensure budgeted funds meet the needs and purpose of the Veteran Service Office.
Measure:	Financial Management	Key Initiatives:	Monitor Transportation costs for CY19.

Date	2019 Budget	Actual Monthly
Jan	\$500.00	\$0
Feb	\$500.00	\$0
Mar	\$500.00	
Apr	\$500.00	
May	\$500.00	
Jun	\$500.00	
Jul	\$500.00	
Aug	\$500.00	
Sep	\$500.00	
Oct	\$500.00	
Nov	\$500.00	
Dec	\$500.00	

~ Pending Feb 2019 final Updates



Expenses to Date
 Target = \$1000
 Actual = \$0~
 Variance = \$0~

Douglas County Veteran Service Officer – Veteran Contact

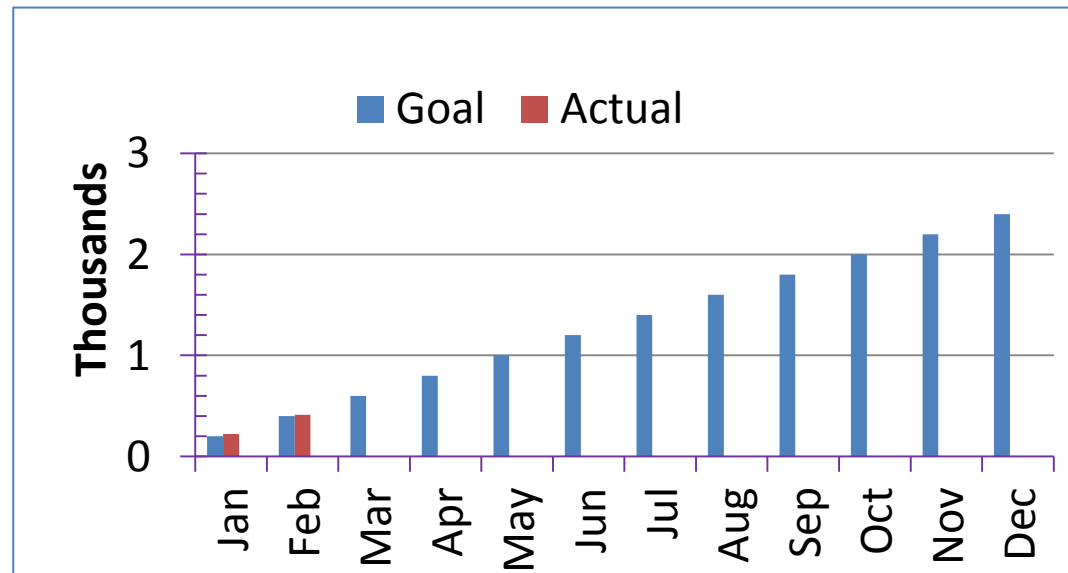
As of: February 2019



Owner:	Brian Erickson	Objective	Conduct Outreach in order to serve the nearly 3700 veterans in the county and ensure Claims for Benefits are being provided to those that are eligible.
Measure:	Veteran Contact	Key Initiatives:	Monitor monthly Veteran Service Office Contacts Along with Compensation claims filed.

Date	2019 Goal	Actual Vets Contacted
Jan	200	222
Feb	200	190
Mar	200	
Apr	200	
May	200	
Jun	200	
Jul	200	
Aug	200	
Sep	200	
Oct	200	
Nov	200	
Dec	200	

Number of Veterans Contacted



Total New Veterans Contacted 2019 = 26

Total Veteran Contacts in 2019 = 412

Claims decrease from 2018 = 16%