

**GREEN LAKE COUNTY
VETERANS SERVICE COMMISSION
January 5, 2016**

The following are the open minutes of the Quarterly Meeting of the Green Lake County Veterans Service Commission held in the Veterans Service Office at the Government Center, Green Lake, WI, at 10:30 A.M. on January 5, 2016

Members present: Victor Shrock, Robert Burdick, Tony Soda, and Jon Vandeyacht, Secretary.

Certification of Open Meeting Law: The requirements of the Open Meeting Law have been met.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 10:30 A.M. by Chairman Shrock.

Pledge of Allegiance: The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was recited.

Approval of Agenda: After discussion, Burdick made a motion to approve the agenda. Second by Soda. All ayes. Motion carried.

Action on Minutes: During discussion of the minutes, it was identified that a change was necessary. Mr. Shrock was mentioned as needing to be reappointed when it was actually Tony Soda., Burdick made a motion to approve the corrected minutes of the October 13, 2015 meeting. Second by Soda. All ayes. Motion carried.

Appearances & Correspondence: Bill Marshall was in attendance.

Old Business: Vandeyacht reported that Tony Soda was reappointed by the county board for a three year term.

Vandeyacht reported that the 2016 Service Commission budget has been approved as submitted. The Budget was the same as approved for the previous year.

Vandeyacht reported that the 2015 year transportation budget finished as expected. The plans to adjust the transportation policy has been completed but needed advice/approval on planned rates. Final policy will be ready for approval at the next meeting.

New Business: Vandeyacht reported that the 2016 Student Government Day will take place the week following the next service commission meeting in April. Planning was in the early stages and it was asked if any of the service commissioners had suggestions or ideas on this year's speaker.

Vandeyacht reported that the WDVA Transportation Grant was approved and received. The first half of the 2016 WDVA CVSO Reimbursement Grant had been submitted. There has been some communication with the WDVA with requests for more details. This grant has been changed to a new reimbursement grant. This is a first time

submission for all CVSO's in the state and the rules are still being clarified. Discussion followed.

Service Office Report: Vandeyacht reported that for 2015: contacts were up 26%, mail was up 42.1% and VA hospital trips are up 4.7% as compared to 2014.

Vandeyacht reported that he attended the WICVSOA fall conference in Baraboo from October 6-9. The training was mostly on Federal VA programs and benefits and is required for him to maintain accreditation. The spring 2016 conference is in Kenosha during the first week of April and the fall 2016 conference will be here in Green Lake County in October.

Vandeyacht reported that due to the reduced price in fuel that there is no COLA for 2016 and the 2016 reimbursement rate for mileage has been reduced to \$0.54.

Vandeyacht reported that there has been a lot of confusion and phone calls from veterans about a letter that is being mailed to veterans in the VA healthcare system. New for 2015 is the requirement to prove that individuals have had healthcare that meets the Federal Minimum Health Care Standard. This letter is proof of coverage and needs to be filed with the veteran's taxes.

Vandeyacht reported that he will be asking for an increase in Transportation Fees at the April Transportation Committee and the H & HS Committee meeting in May. If approved: Unless the veteran qualifies, the new rates would be 55% of what the VA would pay if the veteran qualified for the VA transportation reimbursement. The new rates would take effect on July 1st 2016.

Vandeyacht reported that there have been 59 veterans' deaths in county for 2015 as of 15 December.

Financial Report: After discussion, Burdick made a motion to approve the Financial Report as submitted. Second by Soda. All ayes. Motion carried.

Future Meeting Date: The date for the next meeting will be Monday, April 12, 2016 at 10:30

Closed Session per Wis Stats 19.85(1)(c): None required.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 11:30 A.M. on a motion by Soda. Second by Burdick. All ayes. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted:



Jon D. Vandeyacht
Secretary, Veterans Service Commission