

**GREEN LAKE COUNTY
VETERANS SERVICE COMMISSION
APRIL 12, 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 April 12, 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: After discussion, Soda made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 5, 2016 meeting. Second by Burdick. All ayes. Motion carried.

Appearances & Correspondence: None

Old Business: Vandeyacht reported that the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs annual grant was changed to a reimbursement with the last state budget bill. There has been very little communication as to the rules, directives, instructions or procedures from WDVA. The reimbursement breaks the year into two separate parts. Green Lake County's application for first half 2016 was completely denied as was reportedly 60% of the other counties in the state.

During the Spring Conference it was discovered that WDVA granted some items for some counties and denied those very same items with different counties. There was no logical explanation as to how, who or why. The Wisconsin Association of CVSO's is working on the problem and hopes to have a solution sometime this year. We will reapply for the 2nd half in June with a deadline of June 30, 2016.

Vandeyacht reported that the 2016 Student Government Day was successful again this year. He had talked to several students and they appreciate the program and learned quite a bit about 'how' county government works. There will be some minor changes for 2017 based on discussion with different departments in the county, but, those will all be on the back side with planning and will only improve the program.

New Business: Vandeyacht reported that the Green Lake County Fair is quickly approaching. The booth has been paid for and there are plans to update the layout of the booth.

Service Office Report: Vandeyacht reported that contacts for 2016 have decreased 12% from last year. Veteran appointments requiring transportation was down 22% but the weather had prompted many appointment cancellations.

Vandeyacht reported that he attended the WICVSOA spring conference in Kenosha from April 4-8. The training was mostly on Federal VA programs and benefits and is required for him to maintain accreditation.

Vandeyacht reported that there were 10 veteran's deaths in the County for the year which is down 8 from 2015.

Vandeyacht reported that since the last meeting that there was a bill proposed at the state congress which would have made it an option for counties to have a CVSO. It would have allowed the position to be filled by a non-veteran and as a part time or additional duty position. The bill was quickly and quietly moved along the process and left many officials minimal time to react. It was dead on the floor when certain facts were revealed to the general body of elected officials. It does not benefit Wisconsin veterans and we should expect to see it again in a different form when the new congress resumes.

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 Tuesday 12 July, 2016, at 10:30 A.M.

Closed Session per Wis Stats 19.85(1)(c): not required.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 11:450 A.M. on a motion by Burdick. Second by Soda. All ayes. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted:



Jon D. Vandeyacht
Secretary, Veterans Service Commission