



Kossuth County Commission of Veterans Affairs

Daniel D. Green, Director

109 West State Street, Algona, Iowa 50511

President: James Grandgenett

1st Chairwoman: Kim Groesbeck

Vice Chairwoman: Carole Bernhard

Subject: Minutes, Kossuth County Commission of Veterans Affairs Monthly Meeting February 9th, 2023 at 4:45 p.m.

Location: Conference Room #110, Court House Annex, 109 West State Street, Algona, IA 50511.

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call; All present for the meeting.
3. Guests: None
4. Review and Approval of previous monthly meeting minutes: Approved.
5. Old Business:

a. Number of Open Claims in System: 42; There are 8 claims pending development, and Ready for decision, 8. To date tracking 1120 records of veterans. There are 0 IA VET Trust fund applications pending submission from the previous month, 0 for the current month and 0 have been approved YTD. There is currently 1 VA caregiver application in process. Home Improvement Structured Alteration (HISA) grant(s) pending for 2022 is 0 and total YTD are 0. Director Green has mailed 1 Brushy Creek Honor Flight Applications mailed out. Director Green is working on 1 Iowa Veterans' Home Application. Director Green indicated that 45% of his current workload is a result of the new PACT Act.

b. Update Directors Activities: Director Green updated the Commission on activities for January 2023.

c. Budget Review: Director Green and the Commission reviewed the final 2023-2024 budget and the current budget expenditures to date. The funds were shifted --\$1K from Burial to a separate line item: Grave Markers/Flags to ensure what he spends from Iowa State Grant monies is distinct from other funds. Director Green's salary was included in the final budget.

d. Reports: Director Green informed the Commission that he was awaiting changes from his evaluation of the VETPRO program; Director Green provided a thorough review and vital input on their program. The company has indicated a delay in implementing any recommendations until February 2023:

e. Training: Director Green informed the Commission on the following training items: Dan is researching HIPAA training for Commissioners. The video in conference room may be available for a CBT training session. Hamilton Co. VSO has been hired and Director Green will

assist in training on 17 February 2023. The Palo Alto VSO is training with Director Green in his office on 10 February 2023. IACCVSO Spring School is set for 11-13 April 2023 at the Holiday Inn by the Airport. Director Green advised the Commission that CEU submission was the individual's responsibility. Finally, Fall School Dates are set for October 10-12 with Commissioner training anticipated for the 10th; the location is TBD. NACVSO Training (Nationals) is in Wisconsin 4-8 June 2023 and Director Green is attending in person.

f. Outreach Activities: IDVA Trust Fund insolvent. Governor allocated 400k only to approved applications from March 2022 to November 2022. No new applications accepted. The Commission discussed an outreach effort to inform the Veterans of Kossuth County about the PACT Act and how it may apply to them. Commissioner Bernhard agreed to consult with the Bancroft American Legion Post 377 to host this outreach effort for the Northern half of the County.

g. Cost Analysis Update: None scheduled.

h. Information: Director Green provided the following: What Every Veteran Should Know FEB 2023, Running Awards by County, Chapter 35.1 Veterans Affairs Draft Legislative Changes, Chapter 35A Dept of VA Draft Overview, Chapter 35B Draft, NACVSO Proposed by-Law Change regarding membership.

i. Due Out: HIPPA/PII Training for Commissioners, answers for budget increase in the account line 03000 2626 21, and review back brief template to BOS for monthly briefing.

6. New Business:

a. Communication from the Commission:

(1) Discussion/Decision new commissioner hire, advertising ad, PSA KLGA and selection process, screening, interviews (develop plan). New hires in place 1 July 2023.

(2) Discussion, Part time assistance—VA Office (tabled—work in progress)

(3) County Binders Estimate for Book 4 is still forthcoming—Director Green to follow-up with vendor.

b. Commissioner Remarks: Commissioners sent thank you to the BOS for support of VSO Department and Budget.

7. Motion to Adjourn. Motion by Commissioner Groesbeck and seconded by Commissioner Grandgenett to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

SIGNED:

DATE