



Kossuth County Commission of Veterans Affairs

Daniel D. Green, Director

109 West State Street, Algona, Iowa 50511

Commissioner President: James Grandgenett
Commissioner Vice Chairwoman/Secretary: Carole Bernhard
Commissioner Kevin Molsberry
Commissioner Troy Brandt
Commissioner Gary Forsythe

Subject: Minutes, Kossuth County Commission of Veterans Affairs Monthly Meeting 14 March 2024 at 4:45p.m.

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

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance and moment of silence for POW/MIA.
3. Roll Call. Present: Commissioners Grandgenett, Molsberry, Brandt and Forsythe. Absent: Commissioner Bernhard—illness.
4. Guests: James Hartshorn, Ret Veteran
5. Review and Approval of previous monthly meeting minutes. Deferred until next meeting.
6. Old Business: METRICS:
 - a. Number of Open Claims in System: Open 44, Pending Development 13, Ready for decision 6, Secondary RFD 0, Rating Decision Complete 0, Ready for Work 0
Number of Veteran Records: 1205
Number IA VET Trust Fund Applications previous month: 0
Number IA VET Trust Fund Applications current month: 1
Number IA VET Trust fund approved YTD: 0
Number IA VET Trust fund disapproved YTD: 0
Number of VA Caregiver applications submitted previous month: 0
Number of VA Caregiver applications submitted current month: 0
Number of VA Caregiver applications approved YTD: 0
Home Improvement Structured Alterations (HISA) Grant YTD: 0
Home Improvement Structured Alterations Grant Pending: 0
Brushy Creek Honor Flight Applications mailed out 0
Iowa Veterans Home Application 0 YTD
Veterans tracked in the Iowa Veterans Home 2
* We had 1 IVH Application which was withdrawn as of 13MAR2024.
 - b. ACTIVITIES: Update – Review Directors Activities for FEB2024 (Handout).
Review of Activities 5 Year Rollup is pending.
 - c. BUDGET: Review of Monthly Expense Summary FEB2024. Dan updated the Commission on budget adjustments.

- d. VETPRO UPDATES: *VETPRO Reports are a work in Progress (Not 100% accurate due to limit report features) Director Green provided a snapshot of VetPro reports:

- Interactions/Utilization Reports Summary: FEB2024
- Forms created/submitted 64
- Completed claims w/Decision FEB2024* Monthly award: \$0 Retro: \$0
- Completed claims w/Decision YTD* Monthly award: \$171.23 Retro: \$688.99
- AD HOC Reports developed (Works in Progress). Numbers will be adjusted based upon transfers in and out of the county, deaths of veterans and new claims adjudicated and recorded in the program.

SPOUSE DIC \$33,434.33 RETRO: \$190,883.20

SPOUSE Survivor Pension \$10,481.00 RETRO: \$23,678.00

VETERAN Compensation \$49,039.30 RETRO: \$1,749,219.00

VETERAN Pension \$7,261.15 RETRO: \$87,537.75

VETERAN Burials Service Connected: \$28,000.00

VETERAN Burials Non-Service Connected: Burial: \$4,179.00 Plot Allowance: \$5,285.00

VETERANS Rated IU: 11

VETERANS Rated Total and Permanent 100% 45

ACCRUED BENEFITS/Month of death etc: \$136,051.60 * Dan added this metric to reflect monies owed to the veteran at the time of their passing whether it was compensation, travel, clothing allowance etc. Payments are usually made to the surviving spouse of executor of the estate.

- e. TRAINING: Director Green is reserved Spring Conference 16-18 April 2024 in Des Moines. Reserved for NACVSO School 11-17MAY2024 in Denver, CO. Continues to work on Office SOP and updating it with changes to address donations, gift cards, etc.
- f. OUTREACH: Director Green is scheduled for St. Patrick's Day Activities in Emmetsburg, Algona and Whitemore with American Legion.
- g. DUE OUTS: Director Green is continuing to work on the department shirts for personnel. Dan presented the Commission the agreement for review. All present agreed that this document was a great start however Kevin and Troy proposed to specify a time constraint as to when a claim would be suspended after no activity. It was agreed by all present to set the time frame to 90 days after which if there was no response from the claimant the claim will be suspended due to lack of activity or involvement/follow-up from the claimant.
- h. INFORMATION/Handouts: Director Green provided the following: What Every Veteran Should know: MAR24, VA Expansion Healthcare for Toxic Exposed Veterans, IVJ Expanding

Capacity, Donation List to IVH, HF 2345 county Compensation Board, HF 2259 Open records request, Q&A on IACCVSO Legislation 10K Allocation.

7. New Business:

- a. Communication to/from the Commission. Director Green will reach out again to County Binders on an estimated for grave records scanning Book 4 and the Count Veterans War Binder (still awaiting estimate).
- b. James Hartshorn (Guest) announced to the Commission that Dan was selected as the American Legion Veteran Service Office of the Year and is to attend the Department Summer Conference 14-17JUL2024. More information to follow.

8. Motion to Adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

SIGNED:

DATE