



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 October 19th, 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 except Commissioner Bernhard.
3. Guests: None
4. Review and Approval of previous monthly meeting minutes: Approved.
5. Old Business:

a. Number of Open Claims in System: 45; There are 22 claims pending development, ready for decision 4, secondary ready for decision claims 1 and ready for work 0. To date tracking 1185 records of veterans. There are 0 IA VET Trust fund applications pending submission from the previous month, 1 withdrawn, and 0 have been approved YTD. There are currently 0 VA caregiver applications in process. Home Improvement Structured Alteration (HISA) grant(s) pending for 2023 is 1 and total granted YTD are 0. Director Green has mailed 1 Brushy Creek Honor Flight Applications mailed out. Director Green completed on 1 Iowa Veterans' Home Application.

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

c. Budget Review: Director Green and the Commission reviewed the monthly expense summary for SEP and reviewed and unanimously approved the expenditures department quarterly report for JUL-SEP2023.

d. Reports: Director Green informed the Commission on the following VETPRO Reports continue to be a work in progress and are not 100% accurate due to the limited report features. He provided a screenshot of the Ad Hoc reports he is developing. Reports: the interactions/utilization reports summary; forms created/submitted for September 2023, 79; completed claims w/decision September 2023 monthly award is \$6,476.93 and retro award is \$4,104.46; completed claims w/decision YTD—monthly award is \$37,326.48 and retro award is \$81,450.03, completed claims w/decision since using VETPRO June 2022—monthly award is

\$40,590.01 and retro award is \$90,436.73. ADHOC reports to date: Spouse DIC is \$22,727.38. Spouse Survivor Pension is \$8413.00, Veteran Compensation is \$431,028.57 and Retro is \$1,443,412.87. Veteran Pension \$19,823.15, Retro is \$102,945.48. Veteran Burials Service Connected is \$18,000.00 and Veteran Burials non-Service Connected is \$1.107.00. Veterans rated IU is 11. Veterans Rated Total and Permanent 100% is 43.

e. Training: Director Green completed IACCVSO Fall School training. He completed the following self-development CBT courses: Gulf War Particulate Matter Exposure Claims 1.5 hours, Camp Lejeune Claims Development 2.0 hours, Benefits Delivery at Discharge Development 1.5 hours, and Bookmarking Services Treatment Records 30 minutes. He has two additional CBT modules pending completion. He continues to mentor Hancock VSO, and is scheduling a day for training by mid-November in Garner, IA. Director Green is drafting changes to the Office SOP and updating with changes to address donations, gift cards etc. A draft should be available for review in January 2024.

f. Outreach Activities: Director Green attended Clay Co Fair VSO Booth 14 September 2023. Is volunteering at Legion Post of Deb and Jeff Hansen Foundation Pork Loins for Veterans Day and Veteran Sweatshirts. Dan has referred this activity to his Legion post and encouraged all present to reach out to their local service organizations on this opportunity as well.

g. Cost Analysis Update: None scheduled.

h. Information: Director Green provided the following: What Every Veteran Should Know OCT 2023, Legion post of Deb and Jeff Hansen Foundation Pork Loins for Veterans Day and Veteran Sweatshirts. Chapter 35C.1 IA Code Appointments, Hero Haven Info, October VA Activities, Thank You Card.

6. New Business:

a. Communication from the Commission:

(1) Discuss/Review of Commissioner Training Altoona 9 October 2023 After/Action
Dan will consolidate feedback from the Commissioners next week via email and submit to the leadership team Dan asked to Commissioners to provide input on what they liked, what they did not like and How to make things better.
Commissioner Molsberry mentioned that he would like the slides from training so that he could review. Dan will send out what has been received to the Commissioners.

(2) Review/Submission of Expenses and receipts. All expenses received were submitted.

(2) Working on Department Shirts WIP

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

(4) Director Green's Self-Assessment: provided assessment and last year's evaluation.

b. Commissioner Remarks:

(1) Commissioner Molsberry asked about HIPPA and PII Training. Dan will email out a slide packet for review and self-development.

(2) Commissioners present related that the recent training received was very positive and encouraging.

(3) Commissioner Brandt and Commissioners Molsberry and Forsythe echoed their appreciation for the work being done on behalf of our veterans in Kossuth Co.

c. Director Green requested to participate in an initiative to improve internet access to veterans.

7. Motion to Adjourn. Motion by Commissioner Molsberry and seconded by Commissioner Grandgenett, Meeting adjourned at 5:49pm.

SIGNED:

DATE