



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 September 16th, 2021 at 4:45p.m.

Location: Conference Room #110, Court House Annex, 109 West State Street, Algona, IA 50511 and Commissioner Bernhard via telecon.

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call; all present.
3. Guests: NONE
4. Review and Approval of previous monthly meeting minutes.
5. Old Business:
 - a. Number of Open Claims in System: 49, 5 for Winnebago, Co. There are 4 claims pending development and 0 awaiting final submission. To date tracking 975 records of veterans. There are 2 IA VET Trust fund applications pending submission and 1 (BVA review) caregiver application was submitted. Director Green explained why he received the 5 claims from the Winnebago Co. departing VSO and that he is billing the county for his services. The Commission also discussed why the IA VET Trust fund application was delayed for processing at Camp Dodge and if we can facilitate this without using USPS when an application's submission is time sensitive.
 - b. Update Directors Activities: Director Green updated the Commission on activities for AUG2021.
 - c. Budget Review: Director Green provided a handout on current expenditures. Director Green received the 10K in state grant monies.
 - d. Training Updates: Director Green provided a handout for the Commissioners on the highlights of the hybrid-format National Conference (a virtual event for Dan).
 - e. Mobile Medical Unit: The mobile medical unit on August 27th did not do as well as it did in July, but the Commission anticipates an increase in use for the November 19th unit since veterans may receive flu shots during this visit.

- f. Outreach Activities: Director Green
 - g. Director Green held an outreach activity at the Kossuth Co Fair August 1st -7th. He is also scheduled to assist with the VSO Booth CCF on September 18th in Spencer 9am-1pm.
 - h. Director Green notified the Commission that the new 2021 VA Benefits is available at <https://www.va.gov/welcome-kit/> and that the PAWS Act (Therapy dogs authorized by VA for veterans with PTSD) has been authorized with more information at <https://www.congress.gov/gill/117th-congress/house-bill/1448>.
 - i. Director Green completed registration for fall school for Commissioners and Director and the Commissioners their schedule and hotel information.
 - j. Director Green provided the following to the Commissioners; Veterans Information Services SEP21, AAR Notes from D5 Training in March, Email: VSO Legislation, VA Whole Health Info, VA HUD VASH Program Info, VA Masks at all facilities, Congress HR 1448, Running Awards and Stakeholders Report
6. New Business:
- a. Communication from the Commission: Commissioner's gave Director Green his mid-year feedback and reminded him that his self-assessment is due at the October meeting.
 - b. Next meeting is on October 21st due to Commissioner/VSO training.
 - c. Future plan for request to go from 3 to 5-person commission—to be discussed and approached during the annual planning session next Fiscal Year.
7. Motion to Adjourn. Motion by Commissioner Groesbeck and seconded by Commissioner Grandgenett to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

SIGNED:

DATE