Jim Hoessle
President

Victoria Olson
Commissioner

Phillip Grassa
Vice President

Mark Roberts
Commissioner

Jack Forster
Commissioner

Medina County Veterans Service Commission
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December 15, 2023

Minutes for the Medina County Veterans Service Commission Meeting December 14, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 4:01 p.m. by the President, Mr. Hoessle, who called for the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Forster, Ms. Olson and Mr. Roberts were present. Mr. Grassa was excused. One (1) guest was present.

At 4:06 p.m., Ms. Olson moved, and Mr. Roberts seconded a motion to enter executive session to discuss Veterans Service Commission personnel matters and discuss a financial assistance applicant.

Mr. Roberts Yes
Mr. Forster Yes
Ms. Olson Yes

At 4:28 p.m., executive session ended.

The minutes from the Nov. 9, 2023, regular meetings were read. Ms. Olson moved, and Mr. Forster seconded the motion to accept the minutes as read. Motion passed.

Operational bills were presented to the Commissioners in the amount of $66,446.82. Mr. Forster moved, and Ms. Olson seconded the motion to accept and pay the bills as presented; motion carried. *(Resolution #109-12-23)*

Demand operational bills paid prior to the board meeting in the amount of $8,598.64 were reviewed by the Commissioners. Ms. Olson moved, and Mr. Roberts seconded the motion to accept the paid bills as presented; motion carried. *(Resolution #110-12-23)*

Financial assistance investigations were conducted, and financial assistance was granted. There was a total of 17 cases. Ms. Olson moved, and Mr. Roberts seconded the motion to accept cases, pay bills, and process cash grants totaling $11,939.08; motion carried. *(Resolution #111-12-23)*

Demand financial assistance paid prior to the board meeting in the amount of $6,671.91 was reviewed by the Commissioners. Mr. Roberts moved, and Mr. Forster seconded the motion to accept the paid emergency assistance as presented; motion carried. *(Resolution #112-12-23)*

Procurement card invoice paid prior to the board meeting in the amount of $675.00 was presented to the board. Mr. Roberts moved, and Ms. Olson seconded the motion to accept the paid procurement card invoice as presented; motion carried. *(Resolution #114-12-23)*

RESOLUTIONS:

Ms. Olson moved and Mr. Forster seconded the motion to approve the 2024 MCVSO monthly board meeting dates as presented; motion carried. *(Resolution #113-12-23)*

Mr. Roberts moved and Mr. Forster seconded the motion to approve the Medina County Transit Contract for 2024; motion carried. *(Resolution #115-12-23)*

Ms. Olson moved and Mr. Roberts seconded the motion to approve purchasing CPUs, not to exceed $15,000.00; motion carried. *(Resolution #116-12-23)*

Mr. Roberts moved and Mr. Forster seconded the motion to approve purchasing IT equipment/software not to exceed $18,000.00; motion carried. *(Resolution # 117-12-23)*

Mr. Forster moved and Mr. Roberts seconded the motion to approve an update to the Employment Policy 3.8 to state that hourly employees will receive overtime, no compensation time; motion carried. *(Resolution #118-12-23)*

Ms. Olson moved and Mr. Roberts seconded the motion to approve the bid contract for the building expansion project; motion carried. *(Resolution #119-12-23)*

Mr. Roberts moved and Mr. Forster seconded the motion to pay $57,000.00 to Envelope Consulting for the bid contract for the building expansion project; motion carried. *(Resolution #120-12-23)*

Ms. Olson moved and Mr. Roberts seconded a motion to award a COLA increase to D. Sampson on January 1, 2024 and waive the probation period; motion carried. *(Resolution 121-12-23)*

SERVICE OFFICER'S REPORT

Client data for the month of November:

- 5 new applicants for financial assistance and 12 old cases for a total of 17 cases
- 0 ineligible financial assistance applications
- 74 Compensation and Pension claims filed with the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)
- 210 appointments
- 65 van riders

MCVSO, NACVSO, OSACVSO & OSACVSC

Future Trainings and Funding:

OSACVSC

- November 17-19, 2023 - Fall Conference (Olson, Roberts, Forster)

EVENTS

Past:

- Nov. 11, 2023 – Veteran's Day Market Place at Weymouth Church
- Nov. 14, 2023 – Veteran's Resource Fair at Medina Co. Library
- Nov. 15, 2023 – Veteran's Luncheon with Brunswick Chamber
- Nov. 15, 2023 – Veteran's Recognition Luncheon – NMCCA
- Nov. 15, 2023 – Local Gov't Expo at Akron Univ. Medina Campus
- Nov. 15, 2023 – County VSC & Coroner Meeting
- Nov. 16, 2023 – Parkinson's Support Group at Lifecare Medina
- Dec. 7, 2023 – Lodi Food Distribution at Hidden Hollow Camp
- Dec. 9, 2023 – Tank the Truck & Toys 4 Tots at MCVSO
- Dec. 14, 2023 – Brunswick Food Distribution at Willett's Middle School

Future:

- January 10, 2024 – Swearing in for John Lawrence – Medina Co. Courthouse
- January 10, 2024 – Jack Forster Fairwell party – Brown Derby

COMMISSIONERS ACTIVITY REPORT

American Legion Representative (Mr. Grassa): VSO: Monthly meeting. American Legion #202: Graded school essays about Veteran's Day. Had lunch with Claggett students for veteran's program. Award ceremony for Quilts for Veterans. Turkey raffle. School board meeting. Monthly meeting. Honor Guard veteran interment. Meeting with 5th district and women's auxiliary.

AMVETS Representative (Mr. Roberts): VSO: Monthly meeting, Commissioner training, helped with Tank the Truck. VFW: helped with Thanksgiving meal service. AMVETS: attended Christmas dinner.

Disabled American Veterans (DAV) Representative (Ms. Olson): VSO: Monthly meeting, Commissioner training.

Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Representative (Mr. Hoessle): American Legion Post #202 – Honor guard, monthly meeting, charities chair, & buckeye boys state. VFW Post #5137 – Honor guard, building and grounds maintenance, monthly meetings, service officer, and boy scout troop advisor, Chaplain (sub). VVA – Life member, Home Corp – Treasurer.

Vietnam Veterans of America (Mr. Forster): VSO – monthly meeting, Commissioner Training; VFW – meeting, IX Center meeting, celebration for WWII 80 years; VVA: Life member.

CORRESPONDENCE

- Letter from Judge Kimbler, electing John Lawrence as VVA representative for the MCVSO board.
- Letter from Tammy Sigman – BSC – VVA administrator (New)
- Letter from Knights of Columbus #3105– donated 50 scarves for veterans

OLD BUSINESS

- New Van tabled until July
- Building Phase II – bidding documents to be posted
- Gave out 42 turkeys, 100 bags of food & 192 holiday meat vouchers

NEW BUSINESS:

- Suicide data VA 2023
- John Lawrence's swearing in – Jan 10th at 2:30
- Discussions being held concerning Veteran's Court
- Meijer's food cards – could use them as a FA store

CLOSING

- Time sheets were checked and verified.
- The next regular meeting will be Thursday, January 11, 2024, at 4:00 p.m.
- At 5:10 p.m. there was no further business to come before the board. Mr. Forster moved, and Mr. Roberts seconded a motion to adjourn; motion carried.

PRESIDENT _____ 1-11-24

SECRETARY _____ 1/11/2024

CLERK Sue Boggs

DATE 1/11/2024