Jim Hoessle
President

Curt Schwehm
Commissioner

Phillip Grassa
Vice President

Mark Roberts
Secretary

John Lawrence
Commissioner

Medina County Veterans Service Commission

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December 13, 2024

Minutes for the Medina County Veterans Service Commission Meeting December 12, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by the President, Mr. Hoessle, who called for the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Grassa, Mr. Schwehm, Mr. Lawrence and Mr. Roberts were present.

At 4:05 p.m., Mr. Hoessle moved, and Mr. Grassa seconded a motion to enter executive session to discuss confidential personnel matters and financial assistance for applicants. Motion carried.

Mr. Grassa Yes
Mr. Roberts Yes
Mr. Lawrence Yes
Mr. Schwehm Yes

At 4:19 p.m., executive session ended.

The minutes from the November 14, 2024, regular meeting were read. Mr. Grassa moved, and Mr. Schwehm seconded the motion to accept the minutes as read with a correction to Mr. Roberts' name. Motion passed.

Appeals presented to the Commission:

Name	Present	Granted	Resolution #
1. Daniel Rice (Cheryl)	No	Yes	107-12-12-24
2. Rachel Rowland	Yes	Yes	108-12-12-24

Operational bills were presented to the Commissioners in the amount of $17,350.46. Mr. Roberts moved, and Mr. Grassa seconded the motion to accept and pay the bills as presented; motion carried. *(Resolution #103-12-24)*

Demand operational bills paid prior to the board meeting in the amount of $15,380.02 were reviewed by the Commissioners. Mr. Grassa moved, and Mr. Schwehm seconded the motion to accept the paid bills as presented; motion carried. *(Resolution #104-12-24)*

Financial assistance investigations were conducted, and financial assistance was granted. There was a total of 24 cases. Mr. Schwehm moved, and Mr. Lawrence seconded the motion to accept cases, pay bills, and process cash grants totaling $16,442.52; motion carried. *(Resolution #105-12-24)*

Demand financial assistance paid prior to the board meeting in the amount of $9,545.83 were reviewed by the Commissioners. Mr. Lawrence moved, and Mr. Roberts seconded the motion to accept the paid emergency assistance as presented; motion carried. *(Resolution #106-12-24)*

RESOLUTIONS:

Mr. Grassa moved, and Mr. Schwehm seconded a motion to resolve that the Board of Commissioners provide and present to 1SG Ed Zackery a plaque in his name to be placed over the entryway of the new, now known as the 1SG U.S. Army Edward Zackery Community Room. Motion passed. *(Resolution #109-12-24)*

Mr. Grassa moved, and Mr. Schwehm seconded a motion to purchase 10 tickets to the Military Banquet. Motion passed. *(Resolution #110-12-24)*

SERVICE OFFICER'S REPORT

Client data for the month of November 2024:

- 9 new applicants for financial assistance and 15 old cases for a total of 24 cases
- 0 ineligible financial assistance applications
- 64 Compensation and Pension claims filed with the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)
- 189 appointments
- 73 van riders

MCVSO, NACVSO, OSACVSO & OSACVSC

Future Trainings and Funding: None at this time

EVENTS

Past:

- December 7, 2024 – Tank the Truck 10am – 2pm at MCVSO

Future:

- December 12, 2024 – Food distribution in Lodi
- December 17, 2024 – Christmas food bag giveaway at MCVSO
- December 18, 2024 – Food distribution in Wadsworth
- December 19, 2024 – Food distribution at Medina Fairgrounds
- May 16, 2025 – Merchant marine Plaque Dedication at Chippewa Lake

TRAVEL

- March 31- April 4, 2025 - NACVSO Leadership Summit

COMMISSIONERS ACTIVITY REPORT

American Legion Representative (Mr. Grassa): VSO: Monthly Meeting, delivered flags to VSO. American Legion: Monthly meeting, meeting with Commander for future planning. VFW: Monthly Meeting. Veterans Hall: Sign maintenance.
AMVETS Representative (Mr. Roberts): VSO: Monthly meeting, Tank the Truck.
Vietnam Veterans of America (VVA) Representative (Mr. Lawrence): VSO: Monthly meeting, benefits information at Veterans Hall. VVA #385: Life member, monthly meeting, fundraiser at Buehler's. VFW Post #5137: Life member, monthly meeting, Honor Guard, Honor Guard special events (Fenn Elementary School, Medina High School, Highland High School, Echelon assisted living. American Legion #202: Annual member.
Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Representative (Mr. Hoessle): American Legion Post #202: Honor guard, life member, monthly meeting, Buckeye Boys State. VFW Post #5137: Honor Guard, building and grounds maintenance, service officer, and boy scout troop advisor, monthly meeting, National Guard Family Readiness Group. VVA: Life member. Valor Court: Mentor, bi-weekly meetings. VSO: Monthly meeting, Tank the Truck.
Disabled American Veterans (DAV) Representative (Mr. Schwehm): DAV: Adjutant & Treasurer, Veterans Hall Holiday Open House, monthly meeting, holiday dinner. VSO: Monthly meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

- Mail: Letter from Wellday
- Email: Thank you from Veteran and wife for our help with financial assistance over the year. Apology from a Veteran and wife for misuse of food voucher.

OLD BUSINESS

- All furniture has been purchased and received
- Benches received and are outside of building
- Will order food warmer
- Security system issues corrected
- Salary discussion completed
- Building issues are being addressed
- Will start using Meijer food gift cards in January

NEW BUSINESS:

- Opioid Task Force – Ed is on the board
- Budget hearing – Thursday Dec. 19th at 3PM
- Travel 2025, still waiting on GSA rates
- Elections at next meeting, January 9, 2025
- Time to review SOP and Sunshine Laws
- State and County reports (2025)
- Working on 2025 handbook and pamphlets
- Discussed tracking how people hear about us
- Merchant Marine rock at Chippewa Lake
- Discussed what type of veteran events we may have in community room
- Vietnam Veterans Day – March 27, 2025

CLOSING

- Time sheets were checked and verified.
- The next regular meeting will be Thursday, January 9, 2025, at 4:00 p.m.
- At 5:06 p.m. there was no further business to come before the board. Mr. Grassa moved, and Mr. Hoessle seconded a motion to adjourn; motion carried.

PRESIDENT _____ 1-9-25

SECRETARY _____

CLERK Sue Boggs

DATE 01/09/2025