

VETERANS SERVICE COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Date: January 11, 2023 Time: 3:00 p.m.

Place: Courthouse County Board Room 101; 126 Cherry St; Phillips, WI

Meeting called to order by Douglas Moquin, Commission Chairperson at 3:00 p.m. Roll Call: Present: Brittany DeVries, Benjamin Greiner, Richard Lapp, Douglas Moquin, Gail Redmond, David Schmidt, Mitchell Surman. Also present: Tony Lueck, Debra Metzker

Items for discussion and possible action:

1. Public Comment and Communications: Tony received several veteran Christmas cards. Introduction of the two new members – Brittany DeVries and David Schmidt.
2. Meeting Minutes from September 7, 2022: Motion Greiner/Redmond to approve the minutes of the September 7, 2022 meeting as presented. Motion carried.
3. Transportation Policy: Motion Schmidt/Surman to approve the Transportation Policy as presented. Motion carried. Will be reviewed on an annual basis, unless needed otherwise.
4. Event Reports
 - a. Welcome Home Event: Turning over to American Legion and VFW. Commander Call scheduled for April 12th at 3pm.
 - b. Upcoming Veterans Events: Veterans Outreach Expo scheduled for July 20: 10am – 3pm at the Phillips Armory. To include reps from Tomah, Iron Mountain, WDVA, Price County service agencies. Need volunteer help.
5. County Veterans Service Office Updates: Reviewed requirements of non-service connected veteran to get into VA system. Aid to needy veteran is currently allowed three nights in a hotel. Discussion on additional need. Gave out \$200 in gas cards. Receiving \$9,350 CVSO grant. \$40 million in benefits to Price County Veterans in 2022.
 - a. Service to Neighboring Counties: Lincoln and Taylor Counties have new CVSOs. There has not been any overflow to the Price County office since then.
 - b. Price County Mental Health Services: Receiving \$14,288 grant to increase availability of services including Telehealth.
 - c. Office Staffing: Introduction of Debra Metzker as the Benefits Technician.
6. Blankets for Veterans (Clark County): No point of contact yet.
7. Skull Cap Donations: Supply was sent to the Milwaukee VA.
8. Women Veterans Christmas Baskets: Possible future project.
9. Commissioner Reports: Request for members to respond to emails.
10. Next meeting Date: March 8th, 3pm
11. Future Agenda Items: Nothing presented.
12. Meeting adjourned at 4:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Jean Gottwald, County Clerk