

VETERANS SERVICE COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Date: February 23, 2022

Time: 3:00 p.m.

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

Meeting called to order by Jean Gottwald, County Clerk at 3:00 p.m. Roll Call: Present: Benjamin Greiner, Richard Lapp, Douglas Moquin, Gayle Redmond. Excused: Deric Bilgrien, Mitchell Surman.

Absent: Ted Harvey. Also present: Tony Lueck, Lisa Nagro

Items for discussion and possible action:

1. Elect Chairperson: Lapp nominated Doug Moquin for chairperson. No further nominations. Motion Greiner/Lapp to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Doug Moquin for chairperson. Motion carried. Mr. Moquin took over running of the meeting.
2. Elect Vice-chairperson: Lapp nominated Mitchell Surman for vice-chairperson. No further nominations. Motion Greiner/Lapp to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Mitchell Surman as vice-chairperson. Motion carried.
3. Public Comment and Communications: None.
4. Amended By-Laws: Addition of language for approving disbursements from the Aid to Needy Veterans Fund and change in committee member per diem. Motion Greiner/Lapp to approve the by-laws as amended. Motion carried.
5. County Veterans Service Office Updates: Update to new management system, MicroPact. Claims can be done remotely. Tracks communications. There is a supply of \$20 gas cards for veteran use. Eliminated petty cash in the office. DAV will not provide transportation in the Price County area due to van coming from southern Wisconsin. Monthly newsletter has been well received. Coffee with Veterans every other week, rotating between Prentice, Phillips and Park Falls. Transportation charge for veterans is currently \$.25 per mile. Ability to do appeal hearings remotely. May do remote counseling sessions. Have been unable to get a counselor into Price County.
6. Needy Veteran Lodging: Language added to the bylaws indicating two members would be contacted to approve up to three night's lodging for a veteran in need, in the even the County Administrator would not be available to approve the disbursement.
7. Upcoming Veterans Events: Have not had a Welcome Home Old Abe 1972 Vietnam memorial ride for two years. VA and hospitals have not returned to doing outreach projects.
8. Next meeting date: June 8th 3pm.
9. Future Agenda Items: Transportation policy review. Customer surveys. Welcome Home.
10. Meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Jean Gottwald, County Clerk