## GREEN LAKE COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE COMMISSION October 8, 2024

The following are the open minutes of the Quarterly Meeting of the Green Lake County Veterans Service Commission held in the Veterans Service Office at the Government Center, Green Lake, WI, at 10:30 A.M. on October 8, 2024

Members present: Victor Shrock, Robert Burdick, Raymond Hudzinski and Jon Vandeyacht, Secretary.

<u>Certification of Open Meeting Law:</u> The requirements of the Open Meeting Law have been met.

<u>Call to Order:</u> The meeting was called to order at 10:30 A.M. by Chairman Shrock.

**<u>Pledge of Allegiance:</u>** The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was recited.

**Approval of Agenda:** After discussion, Burdick made a motion to approve the agenda. Second by Shrock. All ayes. Motion carried.

<u>Action on Minutes:</u> After discussion, Burdick made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 9, 2024 meeting. Second by Shrock. All ayes. Motion carried.

## **Appearances & Correspondence:** None

Old Business: Vandeyacht reported that the Fall CVSO conference was up in Keshena. He stated that it was the end of the term for the current president who happens to be a TVSO or Tribal Veteran Service officer and that was the first time in the Nation's history that a tribal member held that kind of position. He will continue to be the State of Wisconsin CVSO association's IT committee chair. The conferences always bring a wealth of knowledge to the table and with it, new ideas on difficult disability claims.

Vandeyacht reported that the CVSO budget was submitted with the same values as this year, though the totals in certain lines changed slightly in order to reflect expected purchases in 25. The county needs to slim the total county budget some, but was informed that the CVSO office, being so little, shouldn't be asked to cut any and then was told there was a cut to the budget anyway.

Vandeyacht reported that the outreach at the EAA in conjunction with the Vet Center was really good. Having met Veterans from all over the nation and 8 other countries was informative. From that event, he has helped Veterans from 4 other states with some disability claims work in which those veterans were unable to get help locally to where they live. He plans on trying to return to the EAA with the Vet Center in 2025.

Vandeacht reported that the WDVA shared ARPA grant has been used a little, there is still most of it to be spend by the end of the year. He has plans in place to get auto door openers installed on two doors for the mobility impaired Veterans and dependents as well as other advertising material. He expects to have all of the grant funds expended by the deadline of 31 Dec 2024

Vandeyacht reported that there is a new driver volunteer going thru the verification process and one other person interested. Local reporter Tony Dailey published an article in the local papers about the need and that was what led to interested volunteers.

<u>New Business:</u> Vandeyacht reported that the 2025 Transportation grant has been opened up last month and was submitted to WDVA. He stated that WDVA has created a new web portal for benefit application submission, and it greatly streamlined the process.

Vandeyacht reported that the WDVA/CVSO grant should be published later this year. 2025 will be the same as 2024. He expects it to be published soon with a deadline in late January.

Vandeyacht reported that the 2025 conferences will take place in Superior for the spring and the fall conference location hasn't been announced yet. He will be in attendance for both with the Deputy CVSO attending one of them.

Vandeyacht identified that the Service Commission position appointed to Robert Mosolf and temporarily filled by Raymond Hudzinski is up for reappointment. Robert will not be returning and Raymond Hudzinski has expressed interest in being appointed for the next 3 year term.

Service Office Report: Vandeyacht reported that contacts are still high. The passage of the new PACT act has kept all CVSO offices across the state at record levels of contacts for 2023 and 2024, though down a little. VetPro has made paperless claims much more simple and easier for Veterans that cant get to the office in person to be able to sign the claims. The direct submit tool has greatly increased the speed at which claims and documents get into the VA system and started. Transportation to VA appointments are steady and the requests for transportation is starting to increase. It will be easier to increase the transportation program once the new driver or two are set up and driving.

**<u>Financial Report:</u>** After discussion, Burdick made a motion to approve the Financial Report as submitted. Second by Shrock. All ayes. Motion carried.

**Future Meeting Date:** The date for the next meeting will be Tuesday, Jan 14, 2025 at 10:30

**Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 11:09 A.M. by Shrock.

Respectfully submitted:

Jon D. Vandeyacht

Secretary, Veterans Service Commission

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