

Veterans Service Committee Regular Meeting
20 September 2018

Meeting called to order at 6:58 p.m.

Present: Alan Strouf chairman, Fred Kozak, Richard Strain, Ronald Corbett and Lyle Bartels. Forrest Doyle CVSO / Secretary, No County Commissioner and No people from public.

Doyle reminded those present of the open meetings law posted at the back of the room.

Fred Kozak moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Richard Strain. Voting aye: 5, nays: none motion carried.

Doyle read the minutes of the 17 May, 2018 regular meeting. Kozak made motion to approve the minutes as read Seconded by Strain. Voting aye: 5, nays: none motion carried.

Doyle read the report of what the office has done as to seeing veterans and dependents for claims and help from the office. From the Federal VA 5 new claims and 1 completed and 8 requests to increase Service connected claims, and 2 completed and No new Non service connected claims. 0 requests for school, 5 for Discharges from the National Archives, 4 requests for health care and 5 appointments requested. And reported to the VA and the state of Nebraska 11 Veterans have passed away and 7 spouses and, for the office 10 Veterans, 6 Spouses passed away for the office files. For widows 2 requests for compensation or pensions for Widows, 5 burial benefits and 1 completed 5 headstones or markers. 3 requests for Senators Office help and, No Requests for Homestead exemption letters.

Nebraska and Saline County Help from the office discharges 5 from state and 6 from the county, 2 hunting and Fishing permit, 0 State Veterans Home applications and one Pending. And 25 request for transportation for health care and only completing 15 of these trips due to canceling the appointment or due to bad weather and road conditions. Office has provided 4 county markers. Nebraska Veterans Aid has paid from last report 2 New claims for aid \$3069.00 with 2 denied for \$1579.47. County Aid fund started at \$ 3016.72 and had 0 requests for County Aid Checking fund is \$3016.72 with a reserve fund for \$ 4329.00. The Fed VA Healthcare System is starting a new Veterans Transportation Service (VTS) which should be picking veterans up at their homes and taking them to Lincoln or Omaha appointment provided a pamphlet to committee just not sure as to when it will start or how far these will go to pick up veterans. Supportive Services for Veterans Families (SSVF) has had some changes made SSVF Program and we keep up on what new changes happen as it pertains to Saline County.

Veterans Memorial Budget started at \$15467 and expended \$479.23 on walkways' bricks and still has \$14987.77 and I am the only one entering information in the Kiosk and I may spend an hour each week Entering information and Pictures most from the newspaper obituaries. Will need to get Bernice Weber to report on the other accounts amounts

Reported on the states computer system Vetera Spec. This office has had 126 reported interactions with the Vetera Spec system

Went over the budget reported on budget for 2018, at this time there are no problems with Office budget. Office budget will adda Lineitem to help pay for the County Government Day meal for the kids, set the limit at \$750.00. Committee was given the choice of set the COLA at either 2% or 2.5 % and settled on 2.5 % Motion by Kozak second by Corbett Voting aye: 4, nays: none motion carried.

Report on Outreach at Crete Veterans and Friends (VFW) will start going only every other week and may look in to trying to do it in the afternoon instead of the mornings. Reported on the VA will be starting a new transportation system call VTS it is said to be able to pick up people at there home and take them in to Lincoln or Omaha after it gets started

There was No Citizens

The next regular scheduled meeting will be Thursday 17 January 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in the courthouse assembly room. With no further business to come before the committee Kozak moved for Adjournment and seconded by Strain Voting aye: 5, nays: none, motion carried.

Alan Strouf adjourned the meeting at 8:160 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Forrest A. Doyle, Secretary