Veterans Service Committee Regular Meeting April 30 2015

Meeting called to order at 7:04 p.m.

Present: Alan Strouf chairman, Fred Kozak, Richard Strain, Lyle Bartels, Ronald Corbett Forrest Doyle CVSO / Secretary, Stephanie Krivohlavek County Commissioner.

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

Strouf moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Bartels. Voting aye: 5, nays: none motion carried.

Doyle read the minutes of the January 22, 2015 regular meeting Kozak motion to approve the minutes as read, seconded by Bartels. Voting aye: 5, nay: 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 3 new claims and 4 requests to increase Service connected claims, and 1 new Non service connected claims. Two requests for school, 3 for Discharges from the National Archives, 5 requests for health care and appointments, and requested. And reported to the VA and the state of Nebraska 5 Veterans have passed away and 13 spouses and, for the office 5 Veterans, 13 Spouses passed away for the office files. For widows 2 request for Compensation or pensions for Widows, burial benefits, 5 headstones or markers. Three requests for Senators Office help and, 18 requests for Homestead exemption letters. Have talked to 10 veterans about the New Veterans Choice Card and the rule change.

Nebraska and Saline County Help from the office discharges 11 from state and 5 from the county, 5 hunting and Fishing permits, No State Veterans Home application. And 18 request for transportation for health care and only completing 12 of these trips due to canceling the appointment or due to bad weather and road conditions. Office has provided 5 county markers for veterans' and. Veteran on Drivers License's for 10 veterans. Had 3 requests for Nebraska Veterans Aid with 2 partly approved for \$708 and denied \$1250. Had 3 requests for help from county aid which was denied due to request where no able to due to request did not meet the statue, and 2 requests from non-veterans and dependents. County Aid fund is at \$ 3092.35

The Veterans Memorial committee is stilling entering Information on Kiosk and the screen was leaking and it has been replaced and installed and it is working well.

Reported on the states computer system Vetera Spec as the Commissioners approved the Memorandum of Understanding agreement and request the payment of \$399.00 for use of this system as it is a cloud based system as the state will be putting more of their forms on it was paid. I have started using the system and still not use to it but working with it more daily and getting better at using it. Reported on the County Car used by the office have a temporary use of an old sheriff car and a new 2015 Grand Caravan had been ordered under a state of Nebraska contract as per attached order confirmation with a delivery date of June or July and the expected cost of \$21,145.00 and Office should get sign made for the Van as per the committee.

Other New Information from the Regional Office and the VA Health Care system, Report of the rule change for the VA Choice Card has now been made to 40 miles as a person drives to nearest VA clinic in a straight line. Reported on the 2015 Legislation that will effect Veterans from tax exemption for Social Security to retired military pay, License plates, Game & Parks and, memorials

Went over the preliminary budget worksheets, which has a cost of living increase of 2.5 % but it is not known what the county board will have it set for, committee increased the printing and publishing line by \$300 to pay to have the County newspaper's start run articles on new update from the VA and the Veterans Office.

No further business to come before the committee the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

The next regular scheduled meeting will be Thursday September 17, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. in the courthouse assembly room

Respectfully submitted

Forrest A. Doyle, Secretary