

Calhoun County Veterans Affairs Committee Meeting

Minutes: May 14, 2014

Veterans Affairs Committee meeting called to order by Veterans Affairs Committee Chairman Rodger Seidel at 2:30 P.M.

Pledge of Allegiance–Moment of Silence.

Roll-call of committee members:

Chairman,	Rodger Seidel,	Present
	Samuel Gray,	Present
	Jack Hunn,	Present
	George “Rob” Beam,	Present



Citizens’ Time:

None

Reading of the April 9, 2014 Calhoun County Veterans Affairs Committee Meeting Minutes:

Following review, Mr. Rob Beam made a motion to accept the April 9, 2014 Calhoun County Veterans Affairs Committee Meeting Minutes as presented, Mr. Samuel Gray seconded the motion. By a roll call vote of 4-0, the Calhoun County Veterans Affairs Committee Meeting Minutes were approved as presented.

Applications for Emergency Assistance from the Calhoun County Veterans’ Relief Fund:

None

Correspondence:

None

Old Business:

The Calhoun County Veterans Affairs office modification updates were presented by Mr. Samuel Gray and reiterated by Service Officer, Kristina Higgins. The Service Officer informed the Calhoun County Veterans Affairs Committee members that the carpets were cleaned, purchase orders have been approved for the additional workstation and filing cabinet which have both been ordered and the glass company was in the process of taking measurements for the sliding privacy window.

New Business:

The Calhoun County Veterans Affairs Committee, Calhoun County Veterans Affairs staff and Calhoun County Assistant Administrator Brad Wilcox completed the third (3rd) Strategic Planning session with Humanenergy. The Calhoun County Veterans Affairs office contracted with Humanenergy, a leadership training and coaching organization based in Marshall, Michigan to engage in the process of the 2014 Calhoun County Veterans Affairs Committee Strategic Planning. The Strategic Planning Process involves the members of the Calhoun County Veterans Affairs Committee, Calhoun County Veterans Affairs Office staff, Calhoun County Administration and Mr. Lance Satterthwaite, Humanenergy. Calhoun County recently passed a Veterans Millage which provides a consistent new source of funding to the Calhoun County Veterans Affairs office and to the support of veterans in Calhoun County. The Strategic Planning Process will address short term and long term allocation of the Veterans Millage funds and the delivery of Veteran's programs in Calhoun County. The goals of the strategic planning process are to create alignment regarding the identity and mission of the Calhoun County Veterans Affairs Committee.

Mr. Jack Hunn stated that he has been asked a number of times about the one (1) day of wartime service requirement that is written in the state statute in regards to the eligibility for the Soldiers/Sailors Relief Fund. Mr. Hunn stated that he is unsure if that statute expired when the Soldiers/Sailors Relief Fund was assumed by the Calhoun County Veterans Special Millage and that perhaps the statute could be looked at by the County. Mr. Hunn reported that he would do some research on the State Act and discuss the matter with Calhoun County Veterans Affairs Director, Scott C. Losey as this matter keeps being brought up. Chairman, Rodger Seidel requested that Director Scott C. Losey review the Act and present his findings at the June 11, 2014 Calhoun County Veterans Affairs Committee Meeting under Old Business.

Mr. Rob Beam inquired as to what the frequency of the Calhoun County Veterans Affairs Committee should be now that the first part of the Strategic Planning process has been completed. Calhoun County Veterans Affairs Committee Chairman, Rodger Seidel expressed that he would like to see the Calhoun County Veterans Affairs Committee meetings become more formalized. Colonel Seidel stated that he would like to see a series

of Power Point slides, an overview and agenda to include metrics. Colonel Seidel delineated that he would plan on presenting ideas for the Power Point presentations and then the Committee and staff could collaborate on tailoring the format.

Mr. Samuel Gray and Colonel Rodger Seidel both praised the methodology that the Calhoun County Veterans Affairs staff engages in when advocating on behalf of Veterans. Colonel Seidel cautioned the Calhoun County Veterans Affairs Committee members to stay positive throughout the Strategic Planning Process, especially as everyone is getting used to the new transition.

Good Of The Committee:

Mr. Jack Hunn stated that each of the members of the Calhoun County Veterans Affairs Committee are advocates for the Calhoun County Veterans Affairs office and Calhoun County Veterans. Colonel Seidel reiterated that the staff of the Calhoun County Veterans Affairs and the success rate that the staff has with advocating on behalf of Veteran's and their family members, is quite a gem and it is important to not lose sight of that fact.

Mr. Samuel Gray reminded the Calhoun County Veterans Affairs Committee about the Memorial Day presentation at Fort Custer National Cemetery.

Adjournment:

Mr. Rob Beam made a motion to adjourn the Calhoun County Veterans Affairs Committee meeting at or about 4:00PM. Mr. Samuel Gray seconded the motion. By a roll call vote of 4-0, the May 14, 2014 Calhoun County Veterans Affairs Committee meeting was adjourned.

Rodger Seidel
Chairman, Calhoun County Veterans' Affairs Committee

Scott C. Losey
Director, Calhoun County Veterans' Affairs