

Committee Meeting Minutes

March 13, 2019

Veterans Affairs Committee meeting called to order by Veterans Affairs Committee Chair, Sam Gray, at 2:30 P.M.

Pledge of Allegiance / Moment of Silence

Roll-Call of Committee Members

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------|
| ▪ Sam Gray, Chair | Present |
| ▪ George “Rob” Beam, Vice-Chair | Present |
| ▪ Trena Philo, Secretary | Present |
| ▪ Charles Baker, Committee Member | Excused |
| ▪ Ronald Cady, Committee Member | Present |

Calhoun County Veterans Affairs Staff

- | | |
|--|---------|
| ▪ Aaron Edlefson, Director | Present |
| ▪ Kristina Higgins, Service Officer | Present |
| ▪ M. Luann Cape, Service Officer | Present |
| ▪ Heidi Case, Administrative Assistant | Present |

Additional County Staff

- | | |
|---|---------|
| ▪ Jen Bomba, Community Development Director | Present |
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Western Michigan University Staff

- | | |
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| ▪ Steve Avram, Military Advocate | Present |
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Citizens Time

- None

Old Business

- Director Edlefson discussed the updates to the Michigan Veteran Affairs Agency (MVAA) County Veterans Service Fund Grant. The update includes services to veterans attending the Marian E. Burch Adult Day Care. The new services are pending final approval from MVAA.
- Director Edlefson noted that the script for the increased awareness initiative has been approved.

New Business

- Director Edlefson presented the Eligibility, Procedures, and Best Practices for the Home and Vehicle Repairs Grant that is funded through the MVAA County Veteran Service Fund Grant. Committee members reviewed and discussed.
 - Vice-Chair Beam motioned to accept the document as given. Secretary Philo seconded the motion. All were in favor, motion approved.

Administrative Update

- Director Edlefson presented the year-to-date budget.

Veterans Relief Fund Applications

Application 19-17

Consumers: \$388.54

Decision: Approved

Application 19-6

Rent: \$1,818.45

Decision: Partial approval for \$547.00 with stipulations

Application 19-19

Consumers: \$168.32

Semco: \$209.38

Decision: Denied

Application 19-20

Rent: \$742.52

Decision: Denied

Application 19-21

Rent: \$885.00

Decision: Denied

Application 19-22

Propane: \$677.85

Decision: Approved

VSH Application 19-1

Well: \$3,750.50

Decision: Partial approval for \$1,375.25 with stipulations

VSH Application 19-2

Electrical: \$2,035.00

Decision: Denied

VSH Application 19-4

Basement: \$17,586.00

Decision: Application tabled until more information received

VSH Application 19-5

Bathroom: \$200.00

Electrical: \$328.00

Decision: Approved

Minutes from February 13, 2019

- Secretary Philo motioned to accept the minutes as given. Mr. Cady seconded the motion. All were in favor, motion approved.

Good of the Committee

- Director Edlefson discussed the upcoming events:
 - Calhoun County Senior Fair will be held at the Marshall Middle School from 10:00 A.M. – 1:30 P.M. on Thursday, April 4, 2019. Calhoun County Veterans Affairs will have a table at the event.
 - Calhoun County Veterans Affairs, along with Brad Wilcox, Jen Bomba, Ron Cady, and Charles Baker, attended the National Veterans Creative Arts Competition held at the Battle Creek VA Medical Center on February 28th.
 - The National Veterans Creative Arts competition will be held in Kalamazoo this fall.
- Vice-Chair Beam discussed an article he recently read about a new taxi company that is now available for residents.
- Community Development Director Bomba provided further information regarding this new company.

Adjournment

- Vice-Chair Beam made a motion to adjourn, Secretary Philo seconded the motion. All were in favor, motion passed. Meeting adjourned 3:43 P.M.

Sam Gray, Chair
Calhoun County Veterans Affairs Committee

Aaron D. Edlefson, Director
Calhoun County Veterans Affairs