

Calhoun County Veterans Affairs Committee Meeting

Minutes: March 9, 2016

Veterans Affairs Committee meeting called to order by Veterans Affairs Committee Vice-Chairman, Jack Hunn at 2:28 pm.

Pledge of Allegiance / Moment of Silence

Roll-call of committee members:

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| • | Chairman | Rodger Seidel | Present, by phone |
| • | Vice-Chair | Jack Hunn | Present |
| • | Secretary | Samuel Gray | Present |
| • | Member | George "Rob" Beam | Present |
| • | Member | Trena Philo | Present |

Calhoun County Veterans Affairs Office Staff:

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| • | Director | Aaron Edlefson | Present |
| • | Service Officer | Kristina S. Higgins | Present |
| • | Service Officer | M. Luann Cape | Present |
| • | Administrative Assistant | Heidi Case | Present |

Calhoun County Administration:

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| • | County Administrator/Controller, Kelli Scott | Present |
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Agenda Changes: None.

Citizens Time: None.

Correspondence: None.

Veterans Treatment Court Incentive Program:

A presentation was made by Rick Denney, Case Manager for the Veteran's Treatment Court.

- Director Edlefson serves on the Committee of Veterans Treatment Court.
- Service Officer Higgins redesigned the VTC brochure and our office paid for the first printing.
- The Veterans Affairs office provides incentives as Veterans complete different phases of the program.

Veteran's Relief Fund Applications:

Applicant 16-08: Request was for first months' rent in the amount of \$122.00. Request was approved by Director Edlefson prior to the meeting.

Applicant 16-09: Request was for help with partial rent payment in the amount of \$150.00. In addition, help was requested for a new battery for their moped in the amount of \$37.05. Both requests were approved.

Applicant 16-10: Request was for help with rent in the amount of \$426.00. Request was approved.

Applicant 16-11: Request was for assistance with back rent in the amount of \$1949.00. Request was approved.

Applicant 16-12: Request was for mortgage payment in the amount of \$1579.21. Also, help with propane bill in the amount of \$535.97. Both requests were approved.

Administrative Update:

- The Veterans Resource meeting was hosted by the CCVA office. There were over 30 attendees.
- Service Officer Higgins and Director Edlefson attended Michigan Works Job Fair in Homer.
- On Thursday, March 10th from 12:00 – 2:00 pm, the VAMC Art Competition takes place. Director Edlefson and Service Officers Higgins and Cape will all be in attendance.
- On Tuesday, March 29th from 10:00 am – 12:00 pm, is the VCAT meeting at KCC.
- The VAMC is hosting the 50th Anniversary Vietnam War Commemorative Event on Tuesday, March 29th, 2:00 – 3:00 pm.
- The CC Senior Fair at Marshall MS Gymnasium is April 7th from 10:00am – 1:30pm.
- The Silver Star Apartments will be hosting the Veterans Resource Team and conducting a tour on March 30th at 12:00 pm.

Minutes from February 10, 2016: Mr. Beam motioned to accept the minutes as given, Ms. Philo seconded the motion, all were in favor, motion approved.

Old Business: None.

New Business: Vice-chair Hunn had presented at the previous meeting, the possibility that policy be changed to include no war-time service required for eligibility for the CC Veterans Relief Fund. Director Edlefson presented the possible changes which also included his limit to approve emergent need funds from \$250.00 to \$500.00. Ms. Philo moved to approve the changes, Mr. Gray seconded the motion, all were in favor, motion passed.

County Controller Kelli Scott, presented information regarding Director Edlefson's Mini-Grant Program. She compared the Veterans millage to the Senior Services millage and explained that the Veterans millage is a little more limited in its scope.

Good of the Committee:

- The CCVA has a handout to refer Veterans for financial counseling.
- Mr. Gray mentioned the World's Longest Breakfast Table is coming up in June.
- Director Edlefson mentioned Service Officer Higgins and Cape will be attending the National County Counselors Training in Myrtle Beach, SC, May 14th – 21st.
- Mr. Gray announced the Annual Juneteenth celebration will be held at Claude Evans Park on June 18th.
- Chairman Seidel suggested that the CCVA office personnel set up a meeting with the new Base Commander at the Air National Guard Base.

Adjournment: Ms. Philo made a motion to adjourn, Mr. Gray seconded the motion. All were in favor, motion passed. Meeting adjourned 4:02 pm.

Jack Hunn, Vice-Chairman
Calhoun County Veterans' Affairs Committee

Aaron D. Edlefson, Director
Calhoun County Veterans' Affairs