

Calhoun County Veterans Affairs Committee Meeting

Minutes: June 8, 2016

Veterans Affairs Committee meeting called to order by Veterans Affairs Committee Chairman, Roger Seidel at 2:29 pm.

Pledge of Allegiance / Moment of Silence

Roll-call of committee members:

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

Calhoun County Veterans Affairs Office Staff:

- | | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------|---------|
| • 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 Assistant Administrator, Brad Wilcox | Present |
| • County Finance Director, Michele Johnson | Present |

Agenda Changes: Introduce Recreational therapy first.

Citizens Time: Sharalyn Walkons-Davis, Creative Arts Therapist from VAMC introduced two Veterans who participate in the recreational Veterans program. Tiles were presented to be displayed in the CCVA conference room and artwork from one of the Veterans will be displayed on the Veterans Art wall in the CCVA office. Ms. Davis also discussed the program.

Correspondence: None..

Veteran's Relief Fund Applications:

Applicant 16-46: Request was for help with car payment in the amount of \$380.97. Request was denied.

Applicant 16-47: Requests were for purchase of a vehicle in the amount \$2194.20 and auto insurance in the amount of \$1630.00. Both requests were denied.

Applicant 16-48: Requests were for assistance with rent in the amount of \$1172.00, auto insurance in the amount of \$378.54, telephone for \$72.00 and cable for \$81.98. All requests were approved.

Applicant 16-49: Request was for help with storage unit rent in the amount of \$74.00. Request was denied.

Applicant 16-50: Requests were for assistance with phone bill in the amount of \$446.00, car insurance in the amount of \$639.44, and two car payments for \$700.12 and \$704.60. All requests were denied.

Applicant 16-51: Request was for help with hearing aids in the amount of \$1500.00. Request was denied.

Applicant 16-52: Request was for assistance with back rent in the amount of \$621.08. Request was approved.

Applicant 16-53: Requests were for help with roof repairs in the amount of \$6650.00 and eye glasses for \$78.00. Both requests were approved.

Applicant 16-54: Request was for assistance with roof repairs in the amount of \$8875.69. Request was denied.

Applicant 16-55: Requests were for help with property taxes in the amount of \$1654.60, Consumers for \$238.00, Granger in the amount of \$77.25, Comcast for \$209.72, car payment for \$219.23 and car insurance in the amount of \$226.29. Request for property taxes was denied. All other requests were approved with a partial for Comcast (\$42.62).

Administrative Update:

- Assistant Administrator Wilcox mentioned that Administration is continuing to work with legislature regarding current Veterans legislation.
- Director Edlefson discussed the continued increase in Veterans visiting the office.
- Director Edlefson presented Veteran Relief funds comparison of what funds have been used for in 2015 and 2016.
- Service Officer Cape attended the NACVSO Conference in South Carolina May 16th - 20th. Service Officer Cape discussed the training and also is now Nationally Accredited.
- Director Edlefson discussed an update on the State Trust Fund. Mr. Baker's last day was May 31st. Mary Kay Robinson and Director Lindell Holmes from the State Trust Fund were both here in the office.

- On Saturday, June 11th, Director Edlefson, Service Officers Higgins and Administrative Assistant Case will be participating in the Cereal City Festival.

Minutes from May 11, 2016: Mr. Hunn motioned to accept the minutes as given, Ms. Philo seconded the motion, all were in favor, motion approved.

Old Business: None.

New Business: None.

Good of the Committee:

- Mr. Gray announced that the Juneteenth Festival will be on Saturday June 18th.
- Service Officer Cape mentioned the Talons Out Honor Flight that she attended on Saturday June 4th. She gave high accolades about the Honor Flight crew and mentioned some of the Veterans monuments and memorials that were visited.
- Mr. Hunn asked for a breakout of VRF assistance for wartime and non-wartime veterans.

Adjournment: Mr. Hunn made a motion to adjourn, Mr. Gray seconded the motion. All were in favor, motion passed. Meeting adjourned 3:56 pm.

Rodger Seidel, Chairman
Calhoun County Veterans' Affairs Committee

Aaron D. Edlefson, Director
Calhoun County Veterans' Affairs