

# Calhoun County Veterans Affairs Committee Meeting

**Minutes: October 12, 2016**

Veterans Affairs Committee meeting called to order by Veterans Affairs Committee Chairman, Roger Seidel at 2:34 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance / Moment of Silence

## **Roll-call of committee members:**

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

- |                                            |         |
|--------------------------------------------|---------|
| • County Finance Director, Michele Johnson | Present |
|--------------------------------------------|---------|

**Agenda Changes:** None.

**Citizens Time:** Discussion at end of meeting.

**Correspondence:** None.

## **Additional Topics:**

- Director Edlefson played a video in honor of the Navy's 241<sup>st</sup> Birthday.
- Director Edlefson mentioned a chili cook off at KCC tomorrow; proceeds going to the United Way

**Veteran's Relief Fund Applications:**

Applicant 16-106: Request was for help with tires in the amount of \$500.00. Request was approved.

Applicant 16-107: Requests were for assistance with old hotel bill in the amount of \$310.73 and gasoline in the amount of \$100.00. Both requests were denied.

Applicant 16-108: Request was for help with Consumers Energy in the amount of \$454.85. Request was approved.

Applicant 16-109: Request was for assistance with Consumers Energy in the amount of \$500.00. Request was approved.

Applicant 16-112: Request was for help with bus fare and hotel in the amount of approximately \$120.00. Request was approved.

Applicant 16-113: Request was for assistance with Consumers Energy in the amount of \$407.66. Request was approved.

Applicant 16-115: Requests were for help with electrical work in the amount of \$2100.00, Consumers Energy in the amount of \$508.82, and taxes in the amount of \$2024.96. All requests were denied.

Applicant 16-116: Requests were for assistance with medical bills in the amount of \$2103.56 and 2 mortgage payments in the amount of \$1170.44. The request for medical bills was denied. The request for mortgage was approved for partial (\$585.22).

Applicant 16-117: Request was for assistance with Consumers Energy in the amount of \$716.49. Request was approved.

Applicant 16-118: Request was for help with rent in the amount of \$76.00. Request was approved.

Applicant 16-119: Request was for assistance with rent in the amount of \$50.00. Request was approved.

Applicant 16-120: Request was for help with Semco Energy in the amount of \$270.01. Request was approved.

Applicant 16-121: Request was for assistance with partial exterminator bill in the amount of \$80.00. Request was denied.

Applicant 16-122: Request was for help with rent in the amount of \$312.00. Request was approved.

Applicant 16-123: Requests were for assistance with Consumers Energy in the amount of \$445.44, Semco Energy in the amount of \$210.58, and water in the amount of \$511.83. Requests were all approved with conditions. The State Trust fund ended up approving first.

Applicant 16-124: Request was for help with rent in the amount of \$328.00. Request was approved.

Applicant 16-125: Request was for assistance with rent in the amount of \$971.21. Request was approved for partial (\$791.21).

Applicant 16-126: Requests were for help with propane in the amount of \$599.60, car insurance in the amount of \$547.61, and car repairs in the amount of \$1231.06. Request for car repairs was denied. Requests for propane and car insurance were approved partial (\$332.59 for propane and \$145.29 for car insurance).

Applicant 16-127: Request was for assistance with Consumers Energy in the amount of \$651.34. Request was approved partial (\$264.70).

**Administrative Update:**

- Director Edlefson presented the number of Veterans visiting the office last month.
- Director Edlefson mentioned the compliments made about the Calhoun County Veterans office by a Kalamazoo Commissioner during a Kalamazoo Commissioner Meeting.
- Director Edlefson presented the Budget Performance Report. Ms. Johnson gave input on this topic. Discussion ensued.

**Minutes from September 14, 2016:** Ms. Philo motioned to accept the minutes as given. Mr. Beam seconded the motion, all were in favor, motion approved.

**Old Business:** None.

**New Business:** Director Edlefson tabled Strategic Plan Review and VetraSpec Demo until next month's meeting.

**Good of the Committee:** Director Edlefson recommended a new book for Veterans and the possibility of getting them donated.

**Citizens' Time:** KCC Student, Aaron Hunter, presented his idea for a Service Learning Class. His goal is to have the Veterans Bridge on Emmett Street decorated for Veterans. Committee members discussed ideas for Mr. Hunter to get local support for this project.

**Adjournment:** Ms. Philo made a motion to adjourn, Mr. Gray seconded the motion. All were in favor, motion passed. Meeting adjourned 4:47 pm.

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Rodger Seidel, Chairman  
Calhoun County Veterans' Affairs Committee

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Aaron D. Edlefson, Director  
Calhoun County Veterans' Affairs