

# *Calhoun County Veterans Affairs Committee Meeting*

**Minutes: January 11, 2017**

Veterans Affairs Committee meeting called to order by Veterans Affairs Committee Chairman, Sam Gray at 2:31 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance / Moment of Silence

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

- |                 |                   |         |
|-----------------|-------------------|---------|
| • Chairman      | Sam Gray          | Present |
| • Vice-Chairman | George “Rob” Beam | Present |
| • Secretary     | 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:**

- |                     |                 |         |
|---------------------|-----------------|---------|
| • Finance Director  | Michele Johnson | Present |
| • Corporate Counsel | Jim Dyer        | Present |

**Agenda Changes:** None.

## **New Business:**

- Director Edlefson discussed the possible changes to the bylaws for the Calhoun County Veterans Affairs Committee (“CCVAC”). He also mentioned the status of committee applications.
- Election of CCVA Officers:
  - Chairman: Sam Gray
  - Vice-Chair: George “Rob” Beam
  - Secretary: Trena Philo
    - Mr. Beam motioned to accept the appointments as given. Ms. Philo seconded the motion, all were in favor, motion approved.

**Citizens Time:** A guest attending the meeting commented on how nice it was that we did the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Correspondence:** Service Officer Cape mentioned a recent veteran thanking our office and sharing their positive experience that they had at the Battle Creek VA Medical Center.

**Additional Topics:** Director Edlefson shared a video in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

**Veteran's Relief Fund Applications of Those Present:** See below for complete list of decisions.

**Administrative Update:**

- Director Edlefson discussed the number of veterans visiting the CCVA office was slightly down in December.
- Director Edlefson congratulated the new Community Development Director, Jen Bomba, and expressed excitement in upcoming changes.

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

**Old Business:**

- Finance Director Michele Johnson discussed year end budget review for 2016. Discussion ensued.

**New Business:**

- Establishment of dates for 2017 committee meetings. All agreed to keep with current dates; every 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month at 2:30pm.
- Director Edlefson presented an addendum to Veteran Relief. Committee members examined and reviewed ideas. Discussion ensued.
- Director Edlefson discussed possible changes to the CCVAC By-Laws and new bus pass procedures.

**Veteran's Relief Fund Applications:**

Applicant 16-159: Request was for help with rent in the amount of \$326.92. Request was denied.

Applicant 16-160: Request was for assistance with vehicle impound cost in the amount of \$180.00. Request was denied.

Applicant 16-161: Requests were for help with a DOT physical in the amount of \$95.00 and CDL endorsement in the amount of \$25.00. Both requests were approved.

Applicant 16-162: Requests were for assistance with Consumers in the amount of \$1542.29, Semco in the amount of \$185.39 and water for \$143.40. All requests were denied.

Applicant 16-163: Request was for help with rent in the amount of \$419.00. Request was denied.

Applicant 16-164: Request was for assistance with rent in the amount of \$550.00. Request was denied.

Applicant 17-01: Request was for help with a hotel in the amount of \$700.00. Request was approved.

Applicant 17-02: Request was for assistance with rent in the amount of \$2044.50. Request was denied.

Applicant 17-03: Request was for assistance with car repairs in the amount of \$2023.06. Request was approved.

Applicant 17-04: Request was for help with delinquent property taxes in the amount of \$3344.86. Request was denied.

Applicant 17-05: Request was for assistance with rent in the amount of \$1289.98. Request was approved.

Applicant 17-06: Request was for help with rent in the amount of \$456.00. Request was approved.

Applicant 17-07: Request was for assistance with rent in the amount of \$1180.00. Request was denied.

Applicant 17-08: Request was for help with rent in the amount of \$60.00. Request was approved.

**Good of the Committee:**

- Mr. Gray announced various Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. celebrations taking place throughout the month.
- Mr. Beam mentioned the 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary for Healing Waters taking place at the VAMC on January 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Adjournment:** Mr. Beam made a motion to adjourn, Ms. Philo seconded the motion. All were in favor, motion passed. Meeting adjourned 5:05 pm.

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Sam Gray, Chairman  
Calhoun County Veterans' Affairs Committee

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Aaron D. Edlefsen, Director  
Calhoun County Veterans' Affairs