

**Calhoun County Veterans Affairs
Committee Meeting
Minutes: September 12, 2017**

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

Pledge of Allegiance / Moment of Silence

Mr. Gray asked that the family of Mr. Jack Hunn be kept in thoughts and prayers following his passing. Services will be held at Ft. Custer National Cemetery on Friday, September 15, at 11:30 A.M.

Roll-call of committee members:

• Chairman	Sam Gray	Present
• Vice-Chairman	George “Rob” Beam	Present
• Secretary	Trena Philo	Excused Absence
• Committee Member	Charles Baker	Present
• Committee Member	Ronald Cady	Absent

Calhoun County Veterans Affairs Office Staff:

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

Other Calhoun County Representation:

• Assistant Administrator	Brad Wilcox	Present
• Comm. Development Director	Jen Bomba	Present

Agenda Changes: None

Citizens Time: None

Correspondence: Thank you note was received from Dr. Yvette Petti, Women Veterans Program Manager at the VAMC, for spreading the word to our women veterans.

VRF Monthly Budget: Director Edlefson gave a year-to-date budget review for the Veterans Relief Fund and the projections for the remainder of the year.

Veteran's Relief Fund Applications:

Applicant 17-111

Semco: \$189.36

Granger: \$45.30

Decision: Approved for Semco
Denied for Granger

Applicant 17-112

Rent: \$50.00

Decision: Approved

Applicant 17-115

Propane: \$379.11

Decision: Approved

Applicant 17-102

Mortgage: \$7772.07

Decision: Denied

Applicant 17-107

Partial Rent: \$900.79

Decision: Approved

Applicant 17-108

Rent: \$1610.00

Decision: Denied

Applicant 17-109

Rent: \$2118.93

Decision: Approved

Applicant 17-110

Consumers: \$1110.15

Decision: Approved;

Dependent upon security deposit paid

Applicant 17-116

Semi Repairs: \$3678.00

Decision: Approved

Applicant 17-117

Water: \$160.88

Consumers: \$450.67

Medical Bills: \$177.35

Decision: Partial approval for water in the amount of \$125.88

Denied for Consumers and medical bills

Administrative Update:

- Director Edlefson presented the 2018 Budget. This included past history of 2016, projected and actual for 2017 and request amounts for 2018. It also incorporated a breakdown of all revenues and expenses.
- Assistant Administrator Wilcox gave input on some of these breakdowns. Discussion ensued.

Old Business: Mr. Beam received his letter of approval from the Board of Commissioners for his reappointment as a Calhoun County Committee member.

New Business:

- Director Edlefson mentioned many upcoming events:
 - Veterans Job Fair & Education Resource Fair, Thursday, September 14th at the Kool Family Center from 1:00 P.M. – 3:00 P.M. Administrative Assistant Case will be attending.
 - Veteran Town Hall, Thursday, September 28th at the Battle Creek VA Medical Center from 10:00 A.M. - 11:00 A.M. Director Edlefson will be attending.
 - Calhoun County Caregiver Retreat, Wednesday, September 27th at the First Congregational Church from 9:00 A.M. – 2:00 P.M. Office staff will be attending.
 - VA Stand Down, Friday, October 20th 2017 at Full Blast from 9:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M. Office staff will be attending. Veteran, Mr. Michael Butterworth will be singing the National Anthem.

Minutes from August 9, 2017: Mr. Baker motioned to accept the minutes as given. Mr. Beam seconded the motion, all were in favor, motion approved.

Good of the Committee:

- Mr. Beam mentioned the 50th Anniversary for Vietnam Veterans pinning event being held at the Air National Guard Base on Friday, October 27th.
- Ms. Bomba commented on recently receiving a grant from MDOT for the underserved population for transportation. The grant is still in the planning process.
- Ms. Bomba mentioned that Director Edlefson will be assisting the Solid Waste Department on Strategic planning.
- Mr. Gray mentioned the Habitat for Humanity will be having their “Habi Hour” fundraiser on Tuesday, September 26th at the McCamly Plaza Hotel from 5:01 P.M. – 8:00 P.M.
- Mr. Gray mentioned the NAACP Freedom Fund Dinner on Friday, October 27th at the McCamly Plaza Hotel at 5:30 P.M.
- Director Edlefson mentioned that Service Officer Cape’s husband will be retiring from the National Guard after 34 years of service. The celebration is Sunday, September 17th.

Adjournment: Mr. Beam made a motion to adjourn, Mr. Baker seconded the motion. All were in favor, motion passed. Meeting adjourned 3:39 P.M.

Sam Gray, Chairman
Calhoun County Veterans’ Affairs Committee

Aaron D. Edlefson, Director
Calhoun County Veterans’ Affairs