

**JEFFERSON COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE
COMMISSION MINUTES**

October 26, 2018

Jefferson County Courthouse
311 S. Center Ave., Rm 112
Jefferson, WI 53549

Commission Members:

Michael Clish, Timothy Finn, Joseph Naylor, Jim Seidl, Augie Tietz

1. **Call to Order**
Meeting was called to order by Commission Chairperson Timothy Finn at 12:35 p.m.
2. **Roll Call**
Veterans Service Commission Members present were
Timothy Finn, Joseph Naylor, Jim Seidl, Augie Tietz

Absent: Michael Clish

Others Present: Yvonne Dueterhoeft, Veterans Service Officer; Ben Wehmeier, County Administrator and J. Blair Ward, Corporation Counsel.
3. **Certification of compliance with Open Meeting Law**
County Administrator Ben Wehmeier certified compliance with the Open Meetings Law.
4. **Review of Agenda**
Items #10 and #14 were moved to the beginning of the agenda to accommodate staff.
5. **Public Comment**
None
6. **Approval of minutes from December 27, 2017 commission meeting**
Minutes were provided for review.

Motion by Naylor/Finn to approve the December 27, 2017 meeting minutes as presented. Motion passed 3-0. Tietz – Abstained.
7. **Communications**
None
8. **Review of Veterans Service Commission charter and aid policy**
A copy of the charter and aid policy was provided for review. This will be discussed at the next meeting. No action taken.
9. **Review of 2018 and proposed 2019 Veterans Service Commission Budget**
A copy of the 2019 Recommended Veterans Service Commission budget was provided for review. No action taken.
10. **Discussion and possible action on establishing a Veterans Service Loan Guarantee Program**
A copy of a resolution was provided for review. Seidl and Dueterhoeft discussed the Veterans Service Loan Guarantee Program. Donations, fees and fundraising will fund this program. Written guidelines will be established for this program. The Commission suggested changes to the resolution.

Motion by Tietz/Seidl to approve the amended resolution establishing a Veterans Service Loan Guarantee Program and forward to the County Board for their consideration. Motion passed 4-0.

Motion by Finn/Naylor to reconsider and rescind the motion for establishing a Veterans Service Loan Guarantee Program and continue discussion at the next Veterans Service Commission meeting with the intent to forward to the County Board in January for action. Motion passed 4-0

11. **Review of Aid Granted to date and discussion of potential exceptions to policy**

Financial Reports were provided for review. Aid granted to date is \$6,587.19.

Motion by Tietz/Seidl to approve payment of \$350 to the Lamp Post Inn with the expectation that the veteran will pay the balance. Motion passed 4-0.

12. **Discussion of Veterans events/private donations**

Current donations to date are approximately \$1,400. A formal presentation of a donation from the 10th Annual Naylor Classic will take place at the next County Board meeting. The commissioners support the idea of participating in the Lake Mills Market Round-Up at the Lake Mills Market in Lake Mills. No action taken.

13. **Discussion of volunteers to assist elderly/disabled Veterans with home improvements for safety**

Cornerstone has offered assistance for elderly and disabled veteran's home improvements.

14. **Discussion of temporary housing solutions for homeless veterans**

Duesterhoeft talked about the homeless veteran situation in Jefferson County. She met with Cornerstone who proposed the idea of building tiny homes. There may be county owned tax foreclosed properties available as well. Staff and commission members will reach out to the City of Jefferson and similar organizations in Racine and Dane Counties to gather more information on tiny houses and further discuss at the next meeting. No action taken.

15. **Discussion and possible action on establishing a Veterans Foundation**

Wehmeier suggested creating a 501(c)(3) for this foundation. Ward and Wehmeier will start this process. It was suggested that all of the fiscal items would be under this 501c3. A resolution will be presented at the next Veterans Service Commission meeting for their consideration. The goal is to forward this resolution to the County Board in January. No action taken.

16. **Set Commission's meeting date and discuss potential items for future agendas:** The next meeting is scheduled for December 6th at 3:00 p.m. and the Annual Meeting is scheduled for December 27th at 3:00 p.m.

17. **Adjourn**

Motion by Tietz/Seidl to adjourn at 2:57 p.m. Motion approved 4-0.