

The meeting of the Dodge County Veterans Service Commission (VSC) was called to order by Chairperson Caine at 9:01 A.M. August 26, 2014, room 253 of the Dodge County Administration building, located at 127 East Oak St, Juneau WI followed by the pledge of allegiance being recited by all.

Members present: Chairperson Chester Caine (Lowell), Robert Patrouille (Waupun), and Dennis Johnson (Watertown)

Members absent: None

Others present: Mark Grams, Dodge County Veterans Service Officer & VSC secretary

Inquiry was made by Caine if Johnson wanted to remain on the VSC for another three year term. Johnson does want another three year term. Caine will communicate that to the County Board Chair before the December 2014 meeting.

Elections were held with Caine being reelected chair and Patrouille being reelected vice chair both were by acclamation.

It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes of the VSC meeting of August 13, 2013 and approved unanimously.

The proposed 2015 VSC budget was briefed by Grams. After discussion and all questions that VSC members had were answered to their satisfaction a motion was made and seconded and passed unanimously with a roll call vote to approve the VSC budget as proposed. The budgeted amount is \$6000. With no balance applied.

Grams briefed the proposed Veterans Service Office (VSO) 2015 budget to include the increase of the administrative secretary II position from 30 hours per week (.75) to 32 hours per week (.80). The entire VSC was in full support of the proposed VSO budget.

Grams read and passed around to all members a thank you card received from a veteran in Fox Lake that had received assistance with a grant from the VSC.

Upon a motion duly made and carried, the VSC convened in closed session at 9:39 A.M. for the purpose of review and consideration of personal, financial medical and social history information over which the VSC has jurisdiction and exercises responsibility in accordance with Section 19.85(1)(f) of the Wisconsin Statutes, (Report of distribution of VSC funds to include denials were distributed and then collected from all VSC members).

The VSC reconvened in open session at 10:13 A.M.

Grams distributed a letter from John F. Corey Dodge County Corporation Counsel in response to the request from Grams for an explanation for the reason there is a special bonding requirement for the VSC member as opposed to utilizing a blanket bond. The state statutes require the bonding and don't prohibit the use of the county blanket bonding, but the insurance provider declines to include the VSC member in the blanket bond.

Under agenda item of commission members matters not subject to adoption:

Patrouille asked for an explanation of who gets to use the veterans' nursing homes and who is exempt from payment in those facilities and community nursing homes. Grams explained that the three state VA nursing homes located in King, Union Grove and Chippewa Falls and VA contracted nursing homes allow a veteran that is 70 per cent service connected disabled or higher to be a resident at no cost because the federal VA pays the costs.

It was also discussed at length the theft of the veteran grave flag holders. Grams informed the VSC that Dodge County was now going to be providing plastic flag holders to reduce the chance of them being stolen for the purpose selling them to recyclers for money.

There was no public present for any comments.

The VSC adjourned at 11:10 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mark H. Grams" followed by a horizontal flourish line.

Mark H. Grams

Dodge County Veterans Service Commission Secretary