

Jasper County Commission of Veteran Affairs

County Annex Bldg., 115 N 2nd Ave E. Newton, IA 50208

Kurt M. Jackson VSO

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Commissioners: John Billingsley, Marta Ford, Susan Springer, Jerry Nelson, Jerome Gunderson

11 January 2017

Minutes

At 3:05PM, Marta Ford called the monthly meeting of the Jasper County Commission of Veteran Affairs to order. The commissioners which were in attendance were Marta Ford, Susan Springer and Jerry Nelson. Jerome Gunderson called in on speaker phone. Commissioner John Billingsley was absent. Others in attendance were Kurt Jackson, VSO and Keith Thorpe VA Clerk.

The minutes of the 14 December 2016 meeting were reviewed. With no additions or correction Marta Ford stated that the minutes would stand approved as presented.

Unfinished Business:

Flag Cases:

Samples of flag cases from OnLine Stores, Summer's Attic, Eagle Mountain, Norm's Custom Crafts and CSA Woodworking were on display for the commissioners to examine. At the time of the meeting, Iowa Prison Industries had not furnished a sample flag case. Jerome Gunderson made a motion that CSA Woodworking of Newton, Iowa would be our new vendor. Susan Springer seconds the motion. The motion was unanimously passed. Our first order of flag cases from CSA Woodworking will be in a quantity of ten. The current on hand supply of flag cases is adequate.

Korean Era Veterans Outreach (30 January 2017):

Kurt Jackson reported that this event is still on track. Kurt will be showing a video of the Iowa Veterans Home in Marshalltown. He has brochures to handout and talking points of the Iowa Veterans Home to share with the Korean Era Veterans. Also, Kurt will offer some time for a Q & A.

County Website:

Kurt Jackson stated that the county's new web site is still work in progress. VA agendas and minutes will eventually be posted on this site. Updated information on current commissioners is needed.

Honor Guard:

The Kellogg American Legion Post 355 and Newton American Legion Post 111 were the only two veteran's organization in Jasper County that responded to our inquiry about their involvement in performing Honor Guard Ceremonies for deceased veterans. Jerry Nelson made a motion to give the Kellogg Legion \$750.00 and the Newton Legion \$750.00 with the stipulation that this money was to be used to help defray the cost of uniform apparel needed for Honor Guard Ceremonies. Susan Springer seconds the motion. The motion was unanimously passed. Marta Ford said that this money would be taken from our 10,000.00 Grant. Jerry Nelson will be contacting the National Guard to set up Honor Guard training for the Kellogg Legion.

Flag Cases / Funeral Homes:

Keith Thorpe reported that the Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell would put a flag case in their display room and direct veterans families to our Newton Office to receive their flag case. Currently, funeral homes in Baxter, Colfax, Monroe, Prairie City, Newton and Sully are furnishing veterans families with our flag cases.

New Business:

December Budget and 2nd Quarter Report:

The December Budget and Second Quarter of Expenditures were presented to the commission.

GDX Data Sheet Iowa Jasper County:

Kurt Jackson provided the following information:

- Jasper County received \$15,761,000.00 FY15
- Jasper County Veteran Population 3,023

After a brief discussion about the accuracy of the number of Veterans that live in Jasper County ended, a motion to adjourn was made by Susan Springer and seconded by Jerry Nelson. Motion carried and the meeting was adjourned.

Confirm 3:00 PM Meeting for February 8, 2017.