

**MINUTES OF THE
CALUMET COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE COMMISSION
August 17, 2023 (10:00 A.M.)**

Pete Stier called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M.

1. The meeting was properly announced and posted, and a quorum of members was present.

2. ROLL CALL (Committee Member Attendance):

MEMBERS PRESENT: Pete Stier, Bill Grube, Joe Mueller, and CVSO Greg Brittnacher

ABSENT: N/A

OTHERS PRESENT: None

3. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

MOTION by J. Mueller and SECONDED by B. Grube to approve the agenda for August 17, 2023. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: (April 19, 2023 meeting)

MOTION by B. Grube and SECONDED by J. Mueller to approve the minutes from the January 25, 2023 meeting. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

6. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** – None

7. **REPORTS OF COMMISSION MEMBERS** – None

8. **COMMUNICATIONS** – None

9. **ITEMS FOR ACTION OR DISCUSSION** – Given by CVSO G. Brittnacher

- A. Action – Reviewed the Resolution Supporting Operation Green Light for Veterans of Calumet County. The Commission reviewed the resolution and provided no additional changes to the



document. The Commission wanted to proceed with the motion to approve the MOU upon review/edits provided by Calumet County Corporation Counsel, Finance Director, and County Administrator.

- I. MOTION by J. Meuller and SECONDED by B. Grube to approve the Resolution Supporting Operation Green Light for Veterans of Calumet County upon review/edits provided by Calumet County Corporation Counsel, Finance Director, and County Administrator. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
 - II. G. Brittnacher will initiate the review process to get resolution approval.
- B. Discussion – G. Brittnacher reviewed the proposed Calumet County Veterans Service Office 2023 budget. No major changes from the operational budget, besides a slight increase in travel.
 - C. Discussion – Discussed a Veterans Service Commission (VSC) assistance request our office received regarding an individual that doesn't meet the eligibility requirements established by Calumet County VSC Policy and Procedure manual for Administration of the Calumet County Veterans Commission Relief Fund. The Commission all concurred that no exceptions will be made to current policy and asked G. Brittnacher to follow up with that individual and provide other potential assistance options outside of the VSC program.

10. REPORT OF DEPARTMENT – Given by CVSO G. Brittnacher:

- A. We have had zero assistance requests since our last meeting.
- B. Year-to-date retroactive cash payouts for 2023 are currently at **\$667,990.57**. Our goal for 2023 is to reach \$1,250,000.
- C. Michelle and I engaged in a professional growth conference organized by the National Association County Veterans Service Officers (NACVSO). The conference delved into a wide spectrum of subjects, encompassing topics like Toxic Exposure Risk Activity (TERA), the Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics (PACT) Act, the Camp Lejeune Justice Act, suicide prevention, and many others. Additionally, I had the privilege of enrolling in the Certified Veterans Advocate (CVA) course. This advanced training is conducted by Katrina Eagle and Jim Radogna, both affiliated with the Veterans Law office of Katrina J. Eagle. This advanced course equips me with enhanced skills to effectively advocate for our Veterans.
- D. The Department of Veterans Affairs and the Wisconsin Department of Veterans extended an invitation to me to participate in an educational session at the EAA, aimed at informing veterans and their families about VA benefits.
- E. Our office expresses gratitude for the donation received from the Harrison Fire Department Auxiliary. These funds will be utilized to provide support to veterans in need within our community.

11. DISCUSS NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting will be TBA.

12. ADJOURNMENT

At 10: 27 A.M., MOTION by P. Stier and SECONDED by B. Grube to adjourn. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Greg Brittnacher, VSC Committee Member & Recording Secretary
APPROVED