

Livingston County Veterans' Committee

Meeting Minutes

December 5, 2017

I. Call to Order

Hansel Keene called to order the meeting of the Livingston County Veteran's Committee at 6:00 pm on November 7, 2017 at Livingston County Veteran Services.

II. Roll Call

Hansel Keene conducted a roll call. The following persons were present: Bruce Hundley, Jim Wallace, Kevin Nagle, Joe Riker. Also present, Joshua Parrish, Andrea Hodges and Adam Smiddy.

- III. Approval of Minutes:** For the minutes dated November 7th 2017, Joe Riker asked that "special" be struck from Call to Order, Bruce Hundley asked to correct "lean" to lien" for case 17-094, and to add 10 hours of bread distribution to New Business paragraph 3, Kevin Nagle asked to correct New Business paragraph 2 to reflect Committee evidence for employee flexibility under new initiatives being based upon employee interactions. Bruce Hundley requested that the fact the "Administrative Aid was allowed to deliver bread for 10 hours a week" be added.

For the minutes dated November 16th 2017, Hansel Keene stated that any discussion that took place after the quorum was lost did not occur and should be struck. Motion to approve: Kevin Nagle. Second: Joe Riker. Discussion, None. Motion voted upon, 5 yeas: Minutes Approved.

- IV. Call to Public:** Chair recognized Joshua Parish, VCAT Region 9 Coordinator MVAA. Mr. Parish briefed the Committee on the release of the County Incentive Grant and suggested a use for the office of the grant money to cover a new hire and document scanning for a total of \$20,000.00. Motion to pursue an application for a \$15,000 Grant for a new Veterans Service Officer and \$5,000 for technology upgrades, subject to the approval of the County Administrator: Joe Riker. Second: Kevin Nagle. Motion Voted upon, 4 yeas, Abstention; Jim Wallace: Motion Approved.

Chair recognized Joshua Parish as a Livingston County citizen. Mr. Parish expressed concern based on a veteran report that procedures that Livingston County Veterans' Services is using to deliver relief to Veterans such that he perceives the procedures to be more buerautic than previously.

V. Applications for Relief:

17-104: \$10,805.38 for Rent and Other Debts. The Committee expressed concern over the current child support situation, income tax adjustment, loss of income due to injury in the household as well as legal fees and loans. The Committee also expressed concern with family being in difficult situation during the coming winter weather. Motion to approve the application: Jim Wallace. Second: Kevin Nagle, 3 yeas, 2 opposed Hundley and Riker. Application Approved.

17-052: \$117,595.00 for Termite Repair. The Committee expressed concern over the cost of the repair and the extent of repair needed compared with the home value. The Committee mentioned the possibility of the family pursuing other avenues for mending their situation including personal bankruptcy, other litigation and home condemnation. Motion to Deny the Application: Joe Riker, Second: Bruce Hundley, 3 yeas, Abstention; Jim Wallace, Kevin Nagle. Application Denied.

VI. Old business

VII. New business

The Director addressed concerns raised by Mr. Parish and that Veterans receive relief fund assistance and directions to receive State assistance such that no Veteran goes unserved.

The Director updated the committee on state of the current budget with actual expenditures of \$173,418.96 for 2017 and an available budget of \$138,581.04. Productivity for the department totaled 117 office appointments, 75 transportation appointments and 11 applications for relief to include 3 for eviction diversion during November. The committee asked questions about the transportation schedule to include hours the Driver has worked and the volunteers have worked. The Committee asked if there is still a need for a second part-time driver, the Director affirmed the need. The Committee also asked about the purchasing of another vehicle with a wider ramp, the Director responded that the need exist for safety reasons and any purchase would have to occur in FY '18. Motion to hire another part-time 19 hr. Driver; Joseph Riker, Second; Kevin Nagle, 5 yeas. Motion Approved. Motion to authorize the Director to purchase another vehicle for no more than \$45,000.00; Joe Riker, Second; Kevin Nagle, 5 yeas. Motion Approved.

The Director presented a quote for transportation coordination software provided by PCTrans. The Committee questioned the need for the investment in the software package given the scope of the department. Based upon the need and the costs the Committee rejected the need for the software.

The Director updated the Committee on November events including habding our Turkey dinners, Jockey clothing donation, Tanger Outlet sponsoring a family for the holiday,

WHMI interview, Two Men and a Truck donation and the Annual Report given to the Board of Commissioners. The Committee asked what could fix some issues identified in the report and made corrections to personal information in the report. The Committee also questioned the Directors request to expand the Committee to include younger Veterans or a female Veteran such that they affirm every Veteran is treated fairly without concern for their demographic.

Joe Riker presented to the Committee and the Director a working document to office policy and procedures for scrutiny. Some members of the Committee expressed concern over the level of detail needed which the shared by the Director. The Director indicated that some issues presented should align with existing County policy as it related to personnel files and expressed concern over the purpose or functions of the Committee and the handling of County employees. The Committee asked that their ability to view personnel files, their ability to terminate employees and evaluate employees be clarified by County Counsel. The Committee indicated that the presented procedure changes would be an ongoing effort until a final document could be adopted.

VIII. Good of the Order

The Veterans Treatment Court will be having a holiday party on December 19th and the Department has been invited.

IX. Adjournment

Kevin Nagle motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:10 pm, Joe Riker seconds. 5 yeas,
Meeting Adjourned

Minutes submitted by: Adam Smiddy