

Oceana County Department of Veterans Affairs (OCDVA)
Relief and Business Meetings
Meeting Minutes October 7, 2022

Business Meeting

The Oceana County Department of Veterans Affairs Business Meeting was called to order at 11:30 A.M. in the Oceana County Annex Room meeting room by Chairman Derik Van Baale.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: Derik Van Baale, Terry Dykema, Gina Mead, Paul Dees Jr., Tracy Blamer

Members Absent: None

Guest Present: Sam Stitt, Tracy Byard County Administrator (CA)

Public Comments: The county administrator is currently working on county employee health insurance. Along with this there are a number of financial issues that she is working on the save the county money. The CA also provided the committee with a contact that may assist with the purchase of a vehicle.

Sam Stitt is currently working on housing for veterans in need that may not have a family or other community to rely on.

Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve agenda by PD

Motion 2nd by TB

Voice vote, Yes 5, No 0

Motion approved

Motion to approve last meeting minutes DV

Motion 2nd by TB

Voice Vote, Yes, 5 No, 0

Motion approved

Correspondence:

Sub-Committee Reports

VSO (Veterans Support Officer) Report

The Bay City training went very well along with the Higgins Lake training.

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The FY 22 Grant packet was submitted on 10/4/22.

Food boxes have been placed at Hansen's Food, Christy's Pour House and the Hesperia American Legion for donations.

Dani has completed two veterans' spotlight for the Facebook page. One will be published in October and November.

Office tracking since April of 2022 the VSO office has brought in \$221,729 to Oceana County veterans. This number does not include healthcare cost or ongoing compensation pay or specialty adapted vehicles.

The VSO provided the committee with a new law from Gary Peters regarding Veteran burial benefits when veterans pass at home and not in a VA facility.

Budget and Finance Committee

Quarter 4 of the MVAA grant has been completed and submitted.

Community Relations

A pajama drive will be held at UAW Whitehall office. Date is TBD.

Personnel Committee

No report

Policy and Procedures

No report.

County Commissioners Veterans Liaison

The county commissioners are currently working on the next budget.

Old Business

Veterans Day parade, United Way. It was decided that Oceana County will not have a parade this year due to Oceana having a number of other activities scheduled.

People's Fund Grant is due on the 15th of this month. TB is currently working on the budget. Purchasing a vehicle will be the focus of this grant.

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The Veterans Day 5K will start and end at Getty Park. Run sign up will be handling the finances for this event. If needed there will be same day registration along with donation locations. \$3K is the goal of this event to cover the cost of the event as well as money toward a vehicle.

The FT23 strategic plan includes a vehicle. The one year to three year plan is to work with other counties VA committees. The five year mark is to be in a new building. This would house the food pantry as well as a location to have classes for veterans.

New Business

A motion was made by DV to approve \$50 to keep the MACVC membership current.

Motion 2nd by TB

Voice Vote 5, No 0

Motion Approved

RELIEF MEETING

The Oceana County Department of Veterans Affairs Business Meeting was called to order at 12:40 P.M. in the Oceana County Annex Room by Chairman Derik Van Baale.

Roll Call: Derik Van Baale (DV), Gina Mead, (GM) Paul Dees Jr. (PD) Terry Dykema (TD), Tracy Blamer (TB)

Members Absent:

Guest Present:

Claims for Review and Considerations

Claim # 45-22 Veteran is seeking assistance in the purchase of heating pellets for his home.

GM makes a motion to not pay this claim.

Motion 2nd by TB

4 Yes, 1 No

Motion approved.

Claim # 47-22 Veteran is asking for assistance with a vehicle repair. There are two quotes, \$4821.32 and \$5484.99.

TB makes a motion to ask Dad's automotive to price match at \$4821.32. If they are willing to meet this price the committee will pay the total.

Motion 2nd by DV

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Voice Vote 5 Yes, 0 No

Motion Approved

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 1:03 by DV

The next general meeting will be held on November 4th, 2022, in the County Annex Conference Room.

11:30 AM Veterans Affairs Business Meeting

12:30 PM Veterans Affairs Relief Meeting



Derik Van Baale Chairman



Paul Dees Jr Secretary