

Oceana County Department of Veterans Affairs (OCDVA)
Relief and Business Meetings
Meeting Minutes February 3 2023

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, Gina Mead, Paul Dees Jr., Tracy Blamer

Members Absent: None

Guest Present: Sam Stitt, Ed Dodds

Public Comments: TD thanked the committee for his time of service.

SS explained a situation of a single mother that will be looking for housing in March. He asked the committee if there were any possible solutions that the committee may know of.

ED explained that he grew up in the Hart area and has returned. He is looking for ways that he can be able to assist the veteran population in the county.

Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve agenda by PD

Motion 2nd by TB

Voice vote, Yes 4 No 0

Motion approved

Motion to approve last meeting minutes GM

Motion 2nd by TB

Voice Vote Yes,4 No 0

Motion approved

Correspondence: None

Sub-Committee Reports

VSO (Veterans Support Officer) Report

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Spring training will be April 25-28. Topics covered will be life insurance, PACT Act as well as pensions.

There have been more food donations made to the pantry. The Hesperia American Legion as well as individual veterans have been donating funds to purchase additional food items.

There is a new grant to assist paralyzed veterans. There is also a new bill to pay for all emergency mental health needs.

The VSO is now accredited with the VFW, DAV, MVAA, AL and the NACVSO.

The VSO has completed all six courses for the year and is up to date with TMS training.

Tim Beggs will be the new County Commissioner liaison to the committee.

The VFW in Hart will be putting a food box in the hall and have already been contributing to the food pantry.

JS and DS will be out of the office on June 10th. During this time the Asparagus parade will held.

A zoom meeting will be held to discuss burn pit hazards.

Comfort quilts were provided by Marge Fell and the Friendship Ring Quilt Guild.

Budget and Finance Committee

2023 budget was approved as submitted.

4K was provided by the county for advertising.

Community Relations

Basecamp is being held in Ludington February 5th.

February 10th the Grand Rapids Griffins are giving away two tickets per veteran for the Friday night game.

February 9th USAJOBS is having a webinar on resume building.

Personnel Committee

DV is sitting down with the VSO to determine new year tempo.

Strategic planning committee will be working on 1,3 and five year plan.

Policy and Procedures

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The county commissioners will be presented with the change of committee members. This is on 23 February. The change will move from five members to seven.

County Commissioners Veterans Liaison

TB provided the committee with an update on the county board. The county is updating the website.

Old Business

The change of the by-laws has been completed.

Strategic planning committee will begin this month.

New Business

Annual report was presented to the committee by DV.

Community events calendar was provided by TB. This includes the Asparagus Festival, Oceana County Fair, Apple BBQ Festival, Hero's on the Dunes, Veterans Day Lunch, Veterans Day 5K.

RELIEF MEETING

The Oceana County Department of Veterans Affairs Business Meeting was called to order at 12:30 P.M. in the Oceana County Annex Room by Chairman Derik Van Baale

Roll Call: Derik Van Baale(DV), (GM) Paul Dees Jr. (PD), Tracy Blamer (TB)

Members Absent: Gina Mead (Excused)

Guest Present: None

Claims for Review and Considerations

Claim # 06-23 Spouse of a veteran is seeking assistance with a furnace.

After discussion there was no motion to move this claim forward.

Claim # 09-23 Veteran is seeking assistance with past due bills. These bills total \$3726.20.

DV makes a motion to pay \$1363.10

Motion 2nd by TB

Voice Vote 3 Yes, 0 No

Motion approved

Claim # 12-23 Veteran is seeking \$379.91 for propane.

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PD makes a motion to pay the \$379.91.

Motion 2nd by DV

Voice Vote 3 Yes, 0 No

Motion approved

Claim # 13-23 Veteran is seeking assistance with past rent as well as past medicine bills.

After discussion there was no motion to move this claim forward.

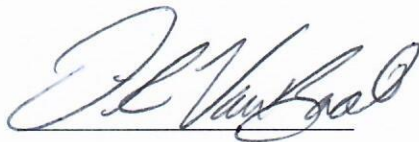
Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 1:07 by DV.

The next general meeting will be held on March 3rd, 2023, 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