

# Bay County Veteran Affairs

## Committee Meeting

Date: March 16, 2021

Subject: REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

Meeting called to order by the President of the Board , Vaughn Beqick at 3:00 pm.

Commissioners present were Mike Pergande, Troy Stewart, Marilyn Lazarz, And Tim Eckstein. Motion 2021-6 by Stewart 2<sup>nd</sup> by Lazarz to accept the Jan 2021 Organization Minutes. Motion 2021-7 by Lazarz 2<sup>nd</sup> by Stewart to accept the Jan Committee meeting Minutes.

### Citizens Input

Fred Zippler, Monday March 22<sup>nd</sup> the drivers will resume driving Veterans. Per Fred they have lost 4 drivers and are currently down to 4 drivers. They are working Monday through Thursday with a maximum of 8 passengers per day. Fred is asking That the drivers be paid \$10.00 per passenger, May of 2019 drivers were paid \$1.00 per Passenger, this was increased to \$3.00 from a 2018 motion, the \$3.00 rate took effect December 2019. The increase from \$1.00 to \$3.00 was expected to have an annual Increase of \$2,600. During this same conversation Memorial flags were addressed, Pergande stated in the past the Legion would purchase 17 gross, motion 2021-8 by Pergande 2<sup>nd</sup> by Stewart to increase that amount to 20 gross, motion passed. Fred Also stated that he has been purchasing masks for the drivers.

Bruce Douglass, His homeless shelter has provided 16 families with food and housing. He is asking for assistance with a \$5,000 utility bill that one of his residents (that he Ended up evicting) left him with. He stated that he also helped 13 veterans find employment. He has 160 Iraqi Freedom medals given to him from a veteran's estate, Bruce is giving these away to veterans that rate them.

### Petitions and Communications

Beqick, Stated Rep. Beson is looking into the Indigent Definition as it pertains to Veterans and the 1898 Relief bill. He is looking at legislation to change the Dollar Amount that defines an "indigent" I.E. \$10.00.

### Old Business

Kazmerick, Edwards out of Tawas can engrave the County memorial stone for about

\$200.00 per name. Mark is also waiting on the VA to proceed with several Agent Orange claims.

Lazarz, Brought up the possibility of a part time person to schedule the drivers, this Has been brought up before, and is something Fred may have to consider.

### **New Business**

Mark Kazmerick, The part time position in his office has been posted. There are Three new presumptive's for Agent Orange, contact the VA for more info.

Lazarz, Asked about having Amber review the 1899 bill prior to approving the indigent Financial form, Goulet will check into this.

Pergande, Asked to temporarily grant \$850.00 for the Service Officer and to vote so That this is no longer a temporary position.

Lazarz, Made a motion (2021-9) 2<sup>nd</sup> by Pergande to table the Rules and Regs till next Month, motion passed.

Swearing in of Tim Eckstein as the newest board member.

Beqick, The garden club will spruce up the opening to Vets park off Henry near Dr. Campo's office.

### **Miscellaneous**

Goulet, Stated he appreciates the relief language statement that the staff will not be Treated inappropriately being added to the Rules and Regs. Beqick "can Mark sit in On the interview process for the part time positon". Goulet will look into it.

### **Citizens Input**

Fred Zipler, asked if Kazmericks assistant can take over the phone service, over 50 Missed calls not returned all before midafternoon?

Bruce Douglas, asked about the pan handlers in monitor township, Stewart advised To check with the township ordnance.

Motion to adjourn by Pergande, seconded by Lazarz, motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 3:41 pm.