

Bay County Veteran Affairs

Committee Meeting

Date: July 20, 2021

Subject: REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

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

Commissioners present were Vaughn Beqick, Troy Stewart, Marilyn Lazarz and Tim Eckstein. Mike Pergande was excused. Motion by Stewart 2nd by Eclstein to accept the June 2021 Committee Minutes.

Citizens Input

Fred Zipler, Stated that he has been waiting close to a year for a decision on his Driver increase of \$3.00 per Veteran to \$10.00 and now between \$7.00 and \$10.00 Per Veteran. Stewart responded to clear the record that the fee from \$1.00 to \$3.00 Per Veteran was approved during the June 2019 meeting. The request to increase From \$3.00 to \$10.00 was first brought to the board during the public comment time During the March of 2021 meeting, during the June 2021 Meeting Commissioner Pergande recommended \$5.00 per trip. It has been 4 months since the initial request. Stewart asked Zipler the average amount of "trips" a volunteer driver makes per day And Zipler's response was 3 to 4.

Petitions and Communications

Motion by Stewart Second by Lazarz to except the 2022 Budget. All in favor. .

Service Officer report:

Kazmareck Stated the Service Officer grant was worked on by Goulet while he Was supposed to be on vacation. Kazmerick thanked him for his work.

The engraver is prepping to engrave the Plaque for the County Monument.

Old Business

Stewart made a motion to pay the volunteer drivers \$5.00 per trip, which will be Monitored for the next 4 to 6 months on its effectiveness. With the average day Consisting of 3 to 4 trips the drivers will have \$15.00 to \$20.00 to spend on Lunch and drinks. Stewart reminded that this is not a paid position and that the

Minimal fee that was provided was to allow the drivers to not have to pay out of Pocket for lunch, pop and/or water. The motion passed with 3 Yea's and 1 Nea.

Bowersock asked if the VA Hospital canteen would give discounted meals to the drivers , Stewart said he would check on that.

Zipler thanked Stewart and the Marine Corps League for doing many Memorial Day Services at several of the Counties cemeteries and County Bldg.

The driver phone dispatch is getting turned over to Bowersock, we are just waiting to Hear from Amber on a policy. Amber was not able to make today's meeting.

Goulet, He has applied for the MVAA grant for the fourth year running, there is no Definitive timeline this year. Goulet stated that he may be able to use some of the Leftover monies for a flag/cemetery coordinator position.

New Business

Beqick, There will be a celebration of life service this Saturday (July 24th) for passed American Legion member Bill Neiman.

Lazarz, There will be a Toys 4 Tots event next Saturday July 31st at the PLAV. The times Will be 1:00 pm to 6:00 pm. They will be serving Chicken and Pulled Pork. The meal Costs \$10.00 and they are also accepting new toys.

Beqick, Mrs. Dole is doing a presentation on Veterans care givers.

Goulet, Recognized Kamerick and Bowersock on a job well done.

Miscellaneous

Begick; He is still doing VA physicals, he is seeing a lot of Sleep Apnea and PTSD..

Kazmareck; Burn Pit compensation claims have been submitted. Begick added That Gulf War Syndrome claims are also being submitted.

Citizens Input

Motion to adjourn by Eckstein, seconded by Lazarz.

Meeting adjourned at 3:24 pm.