

Putnam County Veterans Service Commission

6<sup>th</sup> November 2024 – Regular Meeting Minutes

The regular meeting of Putnam County Veterans Service Commission convened on the 6<sup>th</sup> day of November at 5:00pm with President Brian Siefker presiding. Vice president Stan Oren led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance. Five members were present as was Executive Director Matt Prenzlin, Service Officer Jonathan Balmer, and Administrative Assistant Jessica Stechschulte.

Secretary Lauren Gerten made a motion to approve the minutes of 8<sup>th</sup> October 2024 (regular meeting) and 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2024 (special meeting) as distributed, Vice President Stan Oren seconded the motion. Vote: Yea – 5 Nay - 0, **Motion Carried.**

Secretary Lauren Gerten motioned to go into executive session, Vice President Stan Oren seconded the motion. Roll call vote followed: Bernie Rau – Yes, Denny Hanneman – Yes, Stan Oren – Yes, Brian Siefker- Yes, Lauren Gerten – Yes; **Motion Carried.**

We returned to regular session after discussing financial assistance and office employees

Secretary Lauren Gerten made a motion to approve Andrew Moore's application for financial assistance (Medical \$1,184.43, Food Voucher \$350.00, and Mortgage \$1,407.96 – Total \$2,942.39), Vice President Stan Oren seconded the motion. Vote: Yea – 5 Nay – 0; **Motion Carried.**

Executive Director Matt Prenzlin reminded the board that the office will start handing out Holiday Food Vouchers on Tuesday November 12<sup>th</sup>. The office is ready and encourages the board to tell the local posts to bring in flyers to hand out to help increase post membership. He also informed the board the previous financial assistance (food voucher) was taken. He also reminded the board that there is Veteran Service Commissioner training November 22<sup>nd</sup> – November 24<sup>th</sup>.

Executive Director Matt Prenzlin informed the board that the Fair Board would like to talk to the Veterans Service Commissioners and just needs to find time to get together. He also informed the board that the new CVSO will be starting November 7<sup>th</sup>. He discussed transferring funds from Memorial Day Expenses (\$1,312.47) to PERS. He also wanted to transfer funds from Travel (\$5,000.00), Board (\$4,000.00), and Burial (\$2,000.00) to Staff. As well as transferring funds from Other (\$3,000.00), Outreach (\$3,000.00), and Transportation (\$1,500.00) to Medicare/Insurance. Secretary Lauren Gerten made a motion to transfer \$1,312.47 from Memorial Day Expenses to PERS; along with transferring \$5,000.00 from Travel, \$4,000.00 from Board, and \$2,000.00 from Burial to Staff; and transferring \$3,000.00 from Other, \$3,000.00 from Outreach, and \$1,500.00 from Transportation to Medicare/Insurance, Commission member Bernie Rau seconded the motion. Vote: Yea – 5 Nay – 0; **Motion Carried.**

Executive Director Matt Prenzlin informed the board that the Auditor is getting a new computer system and becoming more modern. He also discussed renting out a billboard to help with outreach which would rotate from Ottawa, Kalida, and Columbus Grove. He also informed the board that there was a fake complaint about Service Officer Jonathan Balmer. He did some

digging and found out that the person who complained wasn't from around the area and that they made up the complaint. He also discussed closing the office November 29<sup>th</sup> since they don't have people coming into the office because of it being Thanksgiving weekend. Commission member Bernie Rau made a motion to close the office November 29<sup>th</sup>, Vice President Stan Oren seconded the motion. Vote: Yea – 5 Nay – 0; **Motion Carried.**

Executive Director Matt Prenzlin informed the board that the budget looks good, but it doesn't include moving funds around or the Holiday Food Vouchers.

Secretary Lauren Gerten informed the board that she will have to step down as a Veterans Service Commissioner as of July 31<sup>st</sup> due to moving and getting married.

Old unfinished business:

1.

New business:

1.

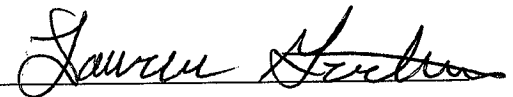
Next regular meeting will take place December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024.

With there being no further business to come before the board, Secretary Lauren Gerten motioned to adjourn the meeting, Commission member Denny Hanneman seconded the motion. Vote: Yea – 5 Nay – 0; **Motion Carried.**



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President



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Secretary