



**MINUTES**  
**Board of Commissioners Chambers**  
**219 East Paw Paw Street**

**February 8, 2022 1:00 PM**

**Commissioners**

Gail Patterson-Gladney, District 1  
Kurt Doroh, District 2  
Richard Godfrey, District 3  
Mike Chappell, District 4  
Randall Peat, District 5  
Donald Hanson, District 6  
Paul Schincariol, District 7

**Veterans Services Committee Meeting**

1. **Call to Order**  
Committee members present: Commissioner Mike Chappell, Commissioner Don Hanson, Commissioner Richard Godfrey (standing in for Commissioner Randy Peat)  
  
Others in attendance: Commissioner Kurt Doroh, County Administrator Frank Hardester, Veterans Services Director David Krzycki, Stoney Summey, Sherry Swartz, Veterans Services Officer Dennis Urquart
2. **Recital of the Pledge of Allegiance**
3. **Additions/Deletions to the Agenda**  
None
4. **Approval of Agenda**  
Motion to approve the agenda as presented by Commissioner Hanson; Supported by Commissioner Godfrey; Motion: Carried.
5. **Approval of Minutes**
  - A. **12/14/2021 Veterans Services Committee Meeting Minutes**  
Motion to approve the 12/14/2021 Veterans Services Committee Meeting Minutes as presented by Commissioner Godfrey; Supported by Commissioner Hanson; Motion: Carried.
6. **Public Comment**  
None
7. **Agenda Items**
  - A. **Veterans Services Update**  
David Krzycki presented the Veterans Services update including:
    - Received MVAA grant in the amount of \$12,086
    - Introduced Mike, the Veterans Services emotional support animal, discussed the cost associated with the animals and the application process for a veteran to receive one of their own.
    - Both David and Dennis have been issued their PIV cards.

- Presented certificates of appreciation to Stoney Summey and Sherry Swartz, of St. Joseph County, for their help in developing our current Veterans Services Department.
- Veterans Services has secured a table at the Youth Fair July 18 - 23.
- Benefits Services and Coffee - they are starting an informational campaign from March through April to inform the public about the services they offer at local coffee shops throughout the county.
- The county has its first Veterans Services Coin.

No action needed.

**B. Veterans Services Statistics**

Dennis Urquart reviewed the statistics for Veterans Services for the months of December 2021 and January 2022. No action needed.

**C. Approval for Additional MVAA Funds**

David Krzycki reported that they were awarded a supplemental grant in the amount of \$12,086.00. Approximately \$10,000 will be used for the horticulture program for building a greenhouse. The remaining funds will be used towards Veterans Services promotional items.

Motion to approve the grant and for the Board Chair to sign on the Board's behalf and to expedite this item to today's COW and BOC to meet deadlines by Commissioner Godfrey; Supported by Commissioner Hanson; Motion: Carried.

**D. Policy to Authorize the VSD or VSO to Approve Burial Relief Funds**

David Krzycki presented his request to approve a policy to authorize the Veterans Services Director and Officer to approve burial relief funds. Administrator Hardester added that this is already spelled out by statute. However, traditionally, it has been brought before the Soldiers & Sailors Relief Fund Commission for approval. Therefore, this policy would make the stopping of that tradition official.

Motion to approve the policy authorizing the Veterans Services Director and Officer to approve burial relief funds and move this to the 2/22/2022 COW and the 3/8/2022 BOC by Commissioner Hanson; Supported by Commissioner Godfrey; Motion: Carried

**8. Public Comment**

Veterans Services Director David Krzycki presented St. Joseph County's Veterans Services Director Stoney Summey and Veterans Services Officer Sherry Swartz with certificates of appreciation for their hard work in helping develop the Veterans Services office. Their hard work and dedication is appreciated.

**9. Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Commissioner Hanson; Supported by Commissioner Godfrey; Motion: Carried.

Meeting adjourned: 1:35 PM