

**POTTAWATTAMIE COUNTY
COMMISSION OF VETERAN AFFAIRS
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING**

Monday July 1, 2024 @ 3:00 pm

MPR Room Pottawattamie County Veteran Service Office
TEAMS MEETING Connect ID 268 690 512 48 Passcode: BqY467

<https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/microsoft-teams/join-a-meeting>

MINUTES

- Pledge of Allegiance
- Roll Call - Holly Collins, Chairwoman; David Hazelwood, Secretary; Mick Gutttau, Member; Lynn Grobe, Ex-Officio Member; Peggy Becker, Administrator; Paul Rosenberg, Caseworker, Sam Pettit, Caseworker, Rebekah Adair, Administrative Assistant
- Additions/Corrections - none
- BOS Updates - Brian Shea and Jeff Jorgensen - The county is still battling flooding issues. The governor will visit the area on Tuesday, July 2.
- Commissioner Updates

OLD BUSINESS

- Approval of Minutes - Regular Monthly Meeting June 8, 2024: (Holly) - Motion to approve made by David Hazlewood, Secretary. Motion seconded by Mick Gutttau, Member. All in favor 3 Aye, 0 Nay. Motion carries.
- Approval of Assistance given for 2024: No assistance provided
- Routine Office Reports (Budget Report/Closeout Information No change from the draft agenda) Contacts - We seem to be keeping track of contacts better. It is important to be out in the community at Carter Lake and Avoca so we have a presence throughout the county.
 - Budget 2023-2024: Should be 100%, we ended @ 86%: Commission reviewed the closeout budget, a discussion was held
 - Closeout Budget Summary: in regard to the amount being turned back in \$135,942.87 and how it is all services to Veterans.
 - Budget Worksheet 2024-2025 Commission was provided a copy of the budget worksheet
 - Facilities Update (Holly and Board Review) - We have not ordered chairs for the MPR yet. The company did not deliver an invoice to us before the end of the fiscal year, so we are looking at all of our options before moving forward with an order.
 - MPR Room: Routine Usage by VFW, County Departments and Community Agencies
 - Building Usage Applications were approved by the BOS on Tuesday 6/18/2024
 - VFW Car Show Saturday August 3rd 9:00 am to 3:00 pm
 - Website Usage: (Sam) - new webpage should be up by the end of the month, desktop more than mobile, current month comparative to previous months
 - Office Production Report: See Attachment - nothing changed.

• **Federal County Assistance report for June 2024**

	June 2024	Previous May 2024	FY 2024 Total	FY 2023 Totals
Walk Ins:	205	214	2479	2177
Calls:	369	468	4980	3999
Total:	574	682	7459	6355
Client Contacts:	533	601	New Clients 177	132

County		State		Federal	
New Clients	25	Driver License Application		Total Fed Forms	162
Pantry/Clothing	9	License Plate Application	5	Benefit Application	45
Grave Marker	2	Hunting/Fishing License		Intent to File	16
E/Mail I/O	146/127	MTE/DMTE	5	Home Loan Certificate	1
Appointments	80				

UNFINISHED/REPEAT BUSINESS

- Digitizing Grave Registration Books: (Peggy) - The Board of Supervisors has received a quote for document digitization. This option will not work for the VSO as our project requires data entry. Peggy Becker will contact Iowa Western to see what options we have for assistance.
- Relocation Allocation Application Approval VS# 16800 & VS#16805 (Holly and Board Review) - Both applications fit the criteria. David Hazlewood, Secretary, made a motion to approve. Mick Gutttau, member, seconded. All in favor 3 Aye, 0 Nay. Motion carries.
- Commission Openings: 'Job' posting for the open seats on the Commission posted on 6/20 and closed on 6/30. Three applications overall were submitted including the two commissioners that were expiring. Interviews will be held tomorrow and the final decision will be put to the Board of Supervisors on Tuesday, July 9.

NEW BUSINESS

- GDX Report Federal Numbers FY23 Pottawattamie County has an approximate Veteran population of 6,224 which is down from 6,351 in FY22 and brings in \$86,597,000 into the County which is up from \$83,261,000 in FY22. Unique patients seen at the VAH is 2,444 which is 12 more than the previous year. Pottawattamie County is 5th in the State for Veteran's Population, and 4th in the State for \$\$ being brought into the County. - Most numbers can be attributed to benefits offered by the county. We are currently fifth in the state for veteran population and fourth for dollars coming into county.
- Commission Public Access (Peggy) - A complaint made that there is no direct access to the commission without going through the office. The individual feels that this is inappropriate. The issue was discussed and it was decided that a commission email account will be created and the commissioners will check the inbox prior to the monthly meetings but any emails received will be discussed in open session.

Public Comment (3 min limit) - none

ADJOURN OPEN SESSION - 3:28pm

CLOSED SESSION AS ALLOWED PER CODE OF IOWA CHAPTER 21.5, 1(A) July ASSISTANCE REQUESTS

0 Requests for Assistance

ADJOURN CLOSED SESSION

Return to OPEN SESSION

ADJOURN MEETING:

NEXT MEETING: Monday August 12, 2024