

Veteran's Service Committee Meeting Minutes

Buffalo County Veteran's Service Committee Meeting Tuesday, April 8, 2025 Board of Commissioner' Board Room, Kearney, NE

Vice-Chairperson Robert Harpst called the Regular Meeting of the Buffalo County Veteran's Service Committee Meeting to order on April 8, 2025 at 4:00 P.M. and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance. A copy of the Open Meetings Act was made available to the public for this meeting and posted at the back of the Board Room.

Roll Call-

Committee members present were Richard Bock, Stanley Brodine, Lisa Mitchell and Robert Harpst. Absent: Tom McCoy. Also in attendance were Commissioner Myron Kouba and Veteran's Service Officer Matthew Starkey, Veteran's Service Officer Kollin Forney, Veteran Office Manager Linda Jones, Buffalo County Office Clerk Katie VanSlyke and Buffalo County Clerk Heather Christensen.

Notice of Meeting-

Public Notice of this meeting was published on April 3, 2025, in the Kearney Hub and in accordance with Section 84-1412 of the Nebraska Revised Statutes and also available on the Buffalo County Veteran Services Website.

Approval of Minutes-

The minutes of the March 11, 2025 meeting were previously provided to the committee members for their review. Moved by Brodine and seconded by Bock to accept the March 11, 2025 minutes. Absent: McCoy. Upon vote, the motion passed.

Regular Agenda-

Veteran's Service Officer Starkey reviewed a request for aid for Veteran D.H. to the Committee and discussed the request for a total of \$2,793.72 (rent, insurance and dental). After discussion it was moved by Bock and seconded by Mitchell to approve the requested amount with an additional \$1,051.72 for a total of \$3,845.44 (rent, insurance and dental). Absent: McCoy. Upon vote, the motion passed.

The Veteran Committee asked County Veteran Service Officer Forney a series of questions regarding his recent training. County Veteran Service Officer Forney answered each question, discussion occurred.

Stanley Brodine left the meeting at 4:30 P.M.

County Veteran Service Officer Starkey shared a handout with the Committee that listed some of the statutes and costs associated with the metal flag holder markers for Veteran burial grave sites. Starkey pointed out the difficulty of marking newer graves with markers due to the many currently overlapping wars. Starkey requested the committee to decide how they would like to proceed with the metal markers on the graves in Buffalo County. After discussion it was moved by Bock and seconded by Mitchell to continue this agenda item to the May 13, 2025 meeting. Absent: Brodine and McCoy. Upon vote, the motion passed.

Discussion occurred regarding the recommendation for location for the June 2025 Veteran meeting. County Veteran Service Officer Starkey will call and confirm location availability and report back on the May 13, 2025 Veteran meeting.

County Veteran Service Officer Starkey shared an office update. Discussion occurred.

Mileage Claims-

The Committee was informed that mileage claims could be submitted for those committee members requesting reimbursement.

Public Comment Period/ Benefits Questions and Answers-

No one addressed the Committee.

Adjournment- Vice-Chairperson Harpst adjourned the meeting at 4:49 P.M. until Tuesday, May 13, 2025 at 4:00P.M.



Robert Harpst, Vice-Chairperson
Buffalo County Veterans Service Committee

4-14-2025
Date