



North Dakota Veterans Coordinating Council

ROBERT EVANS, President
NEIL FRICKE, Vice President

15 NORTH BROADWAY
FARGO, NORTH DAKOTA
58102

MILTON W. KANE, Secretary
ELMER M. EKERN, Treasurer

VETERANS COORDINATING COUNCIL

ANNUAL ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

CHIEFTAIN MOTOR LODGE, CARRINGTON, ND

Elmer M. Ekern, Dept. Adj.
AMVETS
ND Veterans Coordinating Council
Barnes County Courthouse
Valley City, ND 58072

July, 23, 1987

The annual organizational meeting of the Veterans Coordinating Council was held at the Chieftain Motor Lodge, Carrington, July 23, 1987, starting at 1:00 p.m. All veterans organizations were represented as well as all other council and resource people with exception of a representative from VA Hospital.

Minutes of the last meeting were approved.

Treasurer's report: \$4,135.58 total all sources--March 13, 1987
\$3,316.36 total all sources--July 22, 1987

Complete audit report on file with the minutes at the Department of Veterans Affairs. Elmer Ekern expressed the desire to quit the job of treasurer. Bill Disher moved the report be approved, Joe O'Brien seconded, carried.

Audit Committee appointed: Jim Ziegler, Bob Hannah, Calvin Hall, Ray Stelmachuk, and Earl Redlin. Review books and report findings.

Old Business:

Introduction of new members and administrative announcements. Introduction of Commanders of the Carrington VFW and American Legion and Club Manager as well as representative of the City of Carrington.

The All Veterans Memorial model will be on display in Carrington during the meetings.

General Randish spoke on behalf of the National Guard. He spoke about the effort of the Bicentennial observance; placing a display of pamphlets in each county seat dealing with Centennial events.

AMERICAN LEGION

FLOYD SEMENKO, Dept. Cndr.
VERN USELDINGER, Dept. Adj.
EARL REDLIN, Council Rep.

DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS

VICTOR HASS, Dept. Cndr.
ROBERT HANNAH, Dept. Adj.
GREGORY A. SEURER, Council Rep.

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

KENT ANDERSON, Dept. Cndr.
RAYMOND STELMACHUK, Dept. Adj.
NEIL FRICKE, Council Rep.

AMVETS

TERRY RICHARDSON, Dept. Cndr.
ELMER M. EKERN, Dept. Adj.
JEROME A. FJELD, Council Rep.

VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA

TOM RAINSBERRY, State Pres.
ROBERT EVANS, State Secy.
DARYL KUHNHEIN, Council Rep.

MEMBERS AT LARGE

FLOYD HENDERSON, Veterans of World War I
MILTON SLETTEN, Pres. ND C.V.S.O. Assn.
MILTON W. KANE, Comr. Veterans Affairs
LEO SWENSON, Dir. Vet. Emp. & Tng.

BERNARD A. WAGNER, Chm. ND Admin. Comm.
JAMES WELDER, Commandant, Veterans Home
CHARLES D. BARSTAD, VFW Service Officer
DAVID M. SCHMIDT, Am. Legion Svce. Ofcr.

HARRY MOORE, Publicity Chairman
SLAVKO VASILJEVIC, ND American Ex-PON's Org.
M/G A.P. MACDONALD, Adjutant General
DAVID C. ENGSTROM, MD, VA Center Director

The membership reports were turned in and accepted by the Council. Bob Evans reported the VVA is growing and has just chartered a new Chapter in Fargo. Membership reports filed with the Secretary: DAV--3,997; AMVETS--1,997; VFW--14,127; American Legion--28,666; and VVA--753.

Report from Secretary of Council, Milton Kane, regarding stepping aside as secretary of the Council. Secretary Kane pointed out the reasons for stepping aside and read excerpts from the minutes of the Administrative Committee meeting supporting this change. Much discussion followed. Joe Appert made a motion that a committee be appointed, second by Bob Hannah, motion carried. Committee appointed was one member from each organization. The committee was instructed to meet in the evening and report back in the morning.

Jerome Berg was nominated for President of the Council for the 1987-1988 year. Earl Redlin was nominated Vice-President, Ray Stelmachuk was nominated treasurer. All officers were duly elected by the official body as officers to the Council for the coming year. The Secretary will be appointed by the President.

Jim Ebele spoke on the DAV Outreach Program for veterans assistance now in place at the VA Hospital. This program will offer assistance to veterans regardless of organization affiliation.

JULY 24, 1985 8:25 A.M.

President Jerome Berg presiding.

Council thanked Bob Evans for a job well done as President for 1986-1987.

Bob Hanson, State Treasurer, spoke on the Post War Trust Fund. Two million has been transferred to the general fund on July 21, 1987. The fund will stand at approximately 1.9 million when the DVA and Veterans Home complete the Biennium the fund will be down to about \$240,000. The budget money will not be transferred until needed and thereby gaining some interest earnings. Further decisions are forthcoming depending on Attorney General's opinion.

Leo Swenson and Gayle Syverson gave a very comprehensive legislation report. This report is on file. The report was passed out to the members of the council.

Commissioner asked if the Council wanted to pursue the issue of paying unpaid bonuses and check out the mechanics of expanding the Veterans Aid Loan Program to include coverage of second mortgages for veterans home buying. There was much discussion on the bonus issue.

President Jerome asked the Commissioner to come up with suggestions in writing to cover both issues. Vern Useldinger motioned and Jim Gorman seconded, carried. Vern Useldinger moved that the Commissioner come back with various veterans needs and restoration of Post War Trust Fund suggestions. Seconded by Ray Stelmachuk, carried.