

MINUTES OF THE July 9 & 10, 1993, MEETING OF THE
NORTH DAKOTA ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE
ON VETERANS AFFAIRS

LOCATION--Chieftain Motor Lodge, Carrington, NORTH DAKOTA
CONVENED AT 1:05 pm.

Joint meeting with Veterans Coordinating Council. Chairman Earl Redlin of Veterans Coordinating Council presiding. Chairman Redlin called meeting to order at 1:05 pm. Meeting opened with Pledge of Allegiance and silent prayer for POW/MIA.

Chairman Redlin asked that those in attendance introduce themselves and indicate organization and committee or council they represent.

Bill Williamson was introduced and asked to give remarks. Bill commented on the past years failure in achieving legislative goals. He explained functions and duties of the Coordinating Council and Administrative Committee.

Recess at 2:05 pm. Reconvened at 2:20 pm.

Doug Kenyon, Administrator of VA at Fargo was introduced for remarks. He commented on construction of regional offices in Fargo, and the Budget for Fargo Offices for 93-94. Said it looked fair but would be a make do budget.

Gerald Balzer, Director of ND Job Services, was introduced for remarks. He stated job services would provide a service to veterans and would continue to work for veterans preference in job placement.

Rick Ryan--Veterans Employment was introduced for remarks. He commented on training programs for veterans.

General Macdonald was introduced for remarks. He commented on strength of the Guard and the fiscal impact of having the Guard in North Dakota. He stated the Guard could be called on a seven day notice and be attached to 82nd Air Borne. They needed recruits to maintain strength and asked for help in getting recruits. He gave an update on Veterans Cemetery and appealed for money to provide a fund so that the cemetery could be maintained without having to go to legislature for funding.

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Jim Fuglie, Medora Foundation introduced for remarks. Jim commented on possibility of Veterans Memorial at Medora. Veterans organizations could sponsor a handicapped seating area at amphitheater.

Joint meeting recessed at 3:30 pm so Administrative Committee and Coordinating Council could meet separately, to reconvene at 10:00 am July 10.

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Chairman Mullen called meeting at 3:45 pm.

Chairman Mullen welcomed new members to the Committee.

Roll call taken, present: John Mullen, John Pence, Victor Hass, James Ziegler, Joe Novak, Kent Anderson, Suzanne Kime, Al Huber, Ken Evenson, Michael Vandrovec, Paul Aaberg. Absent: Lynn Moerke, Robert Gilmour, Donald Weible, Thomas Rainsberry. Also present were: Milt Kane, Commissioner; and Ken Anderson, Commandant.

Assignment of sub committees was made.

Veterans Home sub committee: John Pence, Lynn Moerke, James Ziegler, Joe Novak, Suzanne Kime, Robert Gilmour, and Thomas Rainsberry.

Veterans Affairs sub committee: Victor Hass, Kent Anderson, Al Huber, Ken Evenson, Michael Vandrovec, Paul Aaberg, and Donald Weible.

Moved by Joe Novak to do business of full Administrative Committee today and sub committee meet at 7:00 am July 10. Second by James Ziegler. Carried.

Ken Anderson, Commandant of the Veterans Home gave his report. He stated he assumed position of Commandant May 13, 1993. Ken also reported that Nursing section was full with 43 on waiting list. Basic care was also full.

Milt Kane, Commissioner of Veterans Affairs gave his report. For benefit of new members he gave a short review of Department of Veterans Affairs and some of the changes in his office. Milt stated that first application under the new grant program has been received and reviewed and ready to be approved. Milt also announced that the National Convention of State Directors of Veterans Affairs would be held in Bismarck, ND, September 11-15. He invited committee members if they could make part of convention.

Recess at 5:00 pm.

Sub committees met at 7:15 am, July 10.

Administrative Committee reconvened at 10:00 am with the Coordinating Council.

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Chairman Mullen called on Veterans Home sub committee Chairman James Ziegler for his report. Chairman ziegler reported on the need for additional beds for nursing care for veterans. He also stated that there was a need for a storage facility at the Home. The Home would be celebrating its 100th anniversary August 7 and 8, 1993, and invited members of Administrative Committee and Coordinating Council. Moved by Ken Evenson to approve Veterans Home report. Second by Vandrovec. After discussion, motion carried.

Sub committee Chairman Al Huber for Department of Veterans Affairs was called on for his report. Al reported on and explained Emergency Hardship Grant program. He also reported on transportation program and that a request for funding had been received. Moved by Huber that Commissioner Kane research and bring back a plan to disburse funds allocated to the transportation program to next Administrative Committee meeting. Second by Ziegler. Carried.

Moved by Novak to approve sub committee on Veterans Affairs report. Second by Kime. Carried.

Discussion on question of moving Commissioner of Veterans Affairs office to Bismarck. Moved by Joe Novak that Commissioner Kane get an attorney General's opinion on section of law 37-18-08 to determine if Administrative Committee has the authority to move Commissioners office to Bismarck. Second by Hass. Carried.

Chairman Mullen stated he would write letters to the optometric Association, Dental Association and Audiologist Associations, telling about the Emergency Hardship Grant program for veterans.

Discussion on how to celebrate the anniversary of ending of World War II. Suggested that members bring back ideas to next meeting.

Vandrovec moved that plaques or certificates be presented to retired members of Administrative Committee. Second by Kime. Carried.

Chairman Mullen requested that Adjutants of each veterans organizations provide him with a calendar of dates for events to avoid conflicts in setting dates for Administrative Committee meetings.

Novak moved to adjourn. Second by Evenson. Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 11:20 am.

Submitted by
Paul S. Aaberg, Secretary

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July 21, 1993