

ND VETERANS COORDINATING COUNCIL
JULY 18, 1997
ND VETERANS HOME, LISBON, ND

The meeting was called to order by President Kasy Schmaltz. Roll call of organizations was taken and introduction of all council and administrative committee members was done. Minutes of the previous meeting were approved as printed with a motion from Rudy Jenson, 2nd by Ted Will, passed.

Secretary/Treasurer Evans presented the treasurers report. All in attendance reviewed the report and a motion by Jerry Salvesson to accept, 2nd by Rudy Jenson, passed. Ken Anderson made some announcements on the social and the breaks for the day. Allen Ruzicka representing the Association of Counties explained their concerns on veterans preference relative to a resolution presented to their association. Questions were fielded and views presented on our stand on veterans preference. It was decided that representatives of the council would meet with the association's committee sometime in Sept. To get more detail on their concerns. They will keep us informed.

Doug Kenyon Fargo VAM/ROC Director reported on the actions at Fargo. They are trying to recruit more doctors there. Grafton- patient numbers are down, they are trying to fine tune patient scheduling. Minot- trying to obtain new doctors there also. Bismarck- putting final touches on clinic contracts, hope to open in 1998.

Dennis Boknecht ND Job Service- read letter from Rick Ryan DOL-VETS informing of new grant available for ND \$459,000 hope to increase DVOP, LVER in North Dakota. Arnold Maier gave a report on the veterans license plate program. Committee is meeting with DOT regularly. Bob Hanson reminded everyone that state lobbyist fees are to be paid annually. We must register. License plate is projected to be going by Nov 11th. DOT is changing their system which may cause some delays. Discussion was held on pro and con of using veterans organizations emblems on license plates. Motion by Evans, 2nd by Schmidt, that we use the military emblems on plates first, while applying for authorization for veterans organization emblems second. Motion passed.

Pat Lindsay, Vietnam Veterans Children Assistance Program presented a final report on the program run through the disabilities center at Minot, he went over a case history with those present. Pat presented the Administrative committee with a check for \$2200 leftover from the \$49,000 grant from the PWTF.

Kathie Gilmore State treasurer- reported on the PWTF balance and individual investments, she stressed the administrative committees need to work with the treasurer in looking at broader range of investments, re-balance portfolio for more growth and to cover inflation. Bill Haug- presentation on investing for growth in the future. MG Keith Bjerke- Natl. Guard, Cemetery has 725 internments reported that \$10,000 was received off last letter campaign. He discussed stone placement and ways to protect the stones already in place. Guard retention and recruitment- how tuition waiver is paid out to individuals. Pay on credit completed at the end of semester. Individual must apply for Federal financial aid

first. Deadlines to apply for waiver, widely publicized within guard.

Page 2

Elmer Ekern- started the new member orientation with history of the Council, constitution and bylaws.

John Mullen- provided background on administrative committee. Gentlemen agreement on term limits. Stressed honest reporting of expenditures of PWTF spending. Felt it was wrong to use PWTF for expansion of Vets Home, funding Dept office. Should not have one day meetings. Portrayal of knowledge to the state legislature. We need to issue a letter of legislative intent.

Joe Novak- gave detailed agenda of committee duties and council duties.

Dave Schmidt- urged more sharing of information between groups.

John Mullen motion for leg. Comm. be registered with secretary of state during interim session.

2nd by Rudy Jenson, passed.

Arnold Maier motion that if we use organization emblems on license plates we sue all or none.

2nd by Ted Will, passed.

NEW BUSINESS: Joe Smith was nominated and elected president of the council.

John Mullen was nominated and elected vice-president of the council.

Robert Evans was nominated and elected secretary/treasurer.

A recommendation was made to setup the agenda with items to be discussed on the first day and voted on the second day. Request the AG to notify Adjutants when the advisory board meets.

Motion by John Mullen that the next council meeting start at 1:00pm with a social that evening and the business completed on the following day as needed. 2nd by Arnold Maier, passed.

It was noted that the address for sending donations for the Cemetery Fund is as follows:

Veterans Cemetery Trust Fund

State Investment Board

PO Box 7100

Bismarck, ND 58507-7100

Motion by Dave Schmidt to have Mark Swartz replace Gerald Balzer on ad hoc administrative committee with relations with Natl. Guard., 2nd Jim Clifford, passed.

Administrative Committee reported that all they could complete was to authorize spending of PWTF interest as follows:

\$224,000 being authorized : FTE- grant program
Grant program
Veterans Preference
Commissioners travel
Administrative Committee travel

Next meeting is scheduled for Sept. 12-13, 1997 in Bismarck area.

Meeting adjourned.