

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AFFAIRS

MINUTES
May 4, 2001

Veterans Home
Lisbon, North Dakota

Meeting called to order by Chairman Thomas Moe, Pledge of Allegiance, moment of silence for POW/MIA followed.

Roll Call, following members PRESENT.

Paul Aaberg	Kent Anderson	Gerald Balzer
Larry Dakken	Ken Evenson	Rudy Jenson
Joe Litzinger	Tom Rainsberry	Rick Ryan
Kasimir Schmaltz	Joe Schneider	Ken Vatne
Wilbert Wanner	Don Weible	Thomas Moe

No members ABSENT;

Others in Attendance:

Commissioner Ray Harkema	Commandant Ken Anderson
SFC Phil Miller- Veterans Cemetery	
Bob Olheiser- Deputy State Treasurer	

Chairman Tom Moe reviewed the agenda for the day.

With minutes of the previous meeting mailed, chairman Tom asked for approval. Gerald Balzer noted that he had made a motion at a previous meeting to send a letter to the Doug Kenyon to fill a position on the rating board. The letter had been drafted and the position filled before the letter was sent out. At the 21 March minutes to be approved, Gerald noted there was a motion was made to revoke previous action of sending a letter. He felt that when a motion is made where there is an action item such as this one that it be taken care of at as soon as possible as this letter could have reached the source before the position was filled. *Gerald made a motion to accept the minutes, seconded by Tom Rainsberry, motion carried.*

SFC Phil Miller reported on the activities at the veteran's cemetery. He noted that they gained one individual at the cemetery for the purpose of supporting the military funerals and also the change of Memorial Day Program to start at noon. Gerald Balzer complimented the Guard on the new 12.5 minute tape on the Veterans Cemetery that was shown at the recent CVSO Training session and suggested that it be shown to our group. SFC Phil said that would work and could show it at our scheduled July meeting.

Deputy State Treasurer Bob Olheiser passed out copies and gave a report on the Veterans Postwar Trust Fund. He made some suggestions and explained the Reserve Fund option. Discussion was held on this option vs principal growth. Chairman Moe complimented Bob on the new balance sheet format. Bob noted that he can make changes to suit our requests and would have no problem meeting with the committee on our regular quarterly meetings.

Breakout for Sub Committee Meetings and Lunch at the Veterans Home cafeteria. Full committee reconvened at 1:55 PM.

Bob Hanson passed out copies of the Final Disposition of the 2001 Veteran's Legislation tracked by Legislative Committee and reported and explained the outcome of the Bills.

Coordinating Council President Jim Ferstad reported on the Coordinating Council and showed an example of the new sticker they are getting made up. He requested \$1,700 from the Postwar Trust fund for production costs and profits from the donations for the stickers would go to the Veterans Cemetery Trust Fund. He also gave an update report on the license plate logo design change.

Sub Committee Chairman Paul Aaberg gave the Veterans Home Sub Committee report. Noted an action item on policies for honoring past committee members (noted below). *Motion by Paul to accept the sub committee report seconded by Larry Dakken, motion carried.*

Sub Committee Chairman Ken Evenson gave the Department of Veterans Affairs Sub Committee report. He noted several action items for Post War Trust Fund requests. (noted below). *Motion to adopt the report by Ken Evenson, seconded by Tom Rainsberry, motion carried.*

Discussion was held on options of plaques for recognizing past members on retirement from the committee or due to a death. It was noted that Ray's office presently does a certificate for retirees and cards for deaths with no further action taken.

Motion by Paul Aaberg to reappoint Ken Anderson as Commandant and to approve his evaluation, seconded by Tom Rainsberry. Roll call vote taken with 14 yes, zero no votes and 1 absent. Note proposal #1 on voting record.

Motion by Ken Evenson for Ray Harkema's reappointment for Commissioner for the next 2 years at the legislative mandated salary increases, seconded by Tom Rainsberry. Roll call vote taken with 14 yes, zero no votes, 1 absent. Note proposal #2 on voting record.

Chairman Tom reported on recommendations by legislators on meeting more regularly for the Veterans Home. Discussed options for member assignments on sub committees with thoughts of possible reestablishing committees after the reorganization meeting.

Held discussion on Appeals Process criteria. Ken Evenson proposed that committee members along with Ray Harkema come up with some ideas for the next meeting and at that time compile them for a written policy on this subject.

Reviewed the money requests from the Postwar Trust fund. Chairman Moe wrote the request on the board as follows; #1. Reserve Fund \$100,000. #2. Grants \$50,000. #3. Coordinating Council \$1,700. #4. Dept. Vet. Affairs proposal. *Motion by Gerald Balzer give \$50,000 to reactivate the Grant Program, seconded by Tom Rainsberry.* Roll call vote taken with 10 yes and 5 no votes. See proposal # 3 on the voting record.

Ken Evenson made a motion to give \$1,700 to the Coordinating Council, seconded by Willie Warner. Roll call vote taken with 15 yes and zero no votes. See proposal #4 on voting record.

Motion by Joe Litzinger to authorize Ray to use remainder of funds from 99-01 to start the 01-03 biennium, seconded by Tom Rainsberry, motion carried.

Held some more discussion on the newly proposed Reserve Fund and the possible doubling up the Rio Fund growth and increased growth of the Trust Fund. Chairman Moe appointed Rick Ryan and Rudy Jenson to meet with Bob Olheiser on this subject and come back to the July meeting with a recommendation.

Held discussion for time and place for next meeting. Motion by Tom Rainsberry to plan for Camp Grafton, for Friday and Saturday July 6th and 7th with authorization for chairman to make changes as needed, motion carried.

Chairman Moe reported on thoughts and input from legislators on our committee size. He asked that all members do a self evaluation and put together some thoughts on the makeup and possible streamlining of the committee.

Meeting Adjourned

Submitted by



Don Weible

Secretary