



EDWARD T. SCHAFER, GOVERNOR
STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AFFAIRS

CHAIRMAN
JOHN J. MULLEN
McVILLE, NORTH DAKOTA

SECRETARY
PAUL S. AABERG
WILLISTON, NORTH DAKOTA

MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 17-18, 1995, MEETING OF THE
NORTH DAKOTA ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE
ON VETERANS AFFAIRS

LOCATION--COMFORT INN, BISMARCK, NORTH DAKOTA
CONVENED AT 1:15 P.M.

Kasy Schmaltz, President of the Veterans Coordinating Council opened the joint meeting with Pledge of Allegiance and moment of silent prayer for POW/MIA.

Roll call was taken of the Coordinating Council.

President Schmaltz introduced State Treasurer Kathi Gilmore, who reported on Veterans Post War Trust Fund. Kathi spoke in favor of having a Constitutional Amendment submitted to the voters to preserve the Trust Fund. General discussion on the source of funding to pay for cost of Constitutional Amendment, drafting, circulating petitions and advertising to educate voters on Trust Fund.

Recess from 2:30 to 2:45 P.M.

General Bjerke was introduced. He gave a report on Veterans Cemetery, 465 interments at the cemetery. Preparations had been made to continue with internments thru the winter months.

Gary Hoffman from job service was introduced, and reported on job service.

Meeting recessed at 3:15 so that Administrative Committee and Coordinating Council could meet separately.

Chairman Mullen convened Administrative Committee meeting at 3:20.

Roll call: All committee members present. Others in attendance were Commissioner Ray Harkema; Commandant Ken Anderson; Chuck Risch, Claims Officer; Gene Kouba, Bismarck Branch DVA; and LTC Thilmony.

SUBCOMMITTEE FOR
VETERANS AFFAIRS
JOHN J. O'BRIEN, SUB CHR
AEL VANDROVEC, VICE-SUB CHR
PAUL S. AABERG
RICHARD S. OLEK
LARRY DAKKEN
KENT ANDERSON
DONALD WEIBLE

RAY HARKEMA
COMMISSIONER
VETERANS AFFAIRS
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

KEN ANDERSON
COMMANDANT
VETERANS' HOME
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

SUBCOMMITTEE FOR
VETERANS' HOME
KENNETH EVENSON, SUB CHR
THOMAS RAINSBERRY, VICE-SUB CHR
JAMES A. CARLASCIO
KENNETH A. VATNE
DEAN BAYER
GARY HOFFMAN
JAMES JOHNSON

B/G KEITH D. BJERKE
ADJUTANT GENERAL

EX OFFICIO
DOUGLAS M. KENYON
VA CENTER DIRECTOR

GERALD BALZER
ND JOB SERVICE

ACOVA Minutes--continued

Page Two

November 17-18, 1995

LTC Thilmony reported on the progress of disbursements for the claims of Persian Gulf Veterans Bonus. Some of the veterans had not responded to letters regarding their claims. LTC Thilmony offered the possibility that the veteran felt he did not qualify or that he had moved and had not received the letter.

Tom Rainsberry reported for the Post War Trust Fund Committee. VietNam Vets Children's program, original request \$76,000, Pat Lindsey felt program could be completed for \$49,208. Gary Hoffman continued his request for \$103,000 for job training program. Commandant Anderson withdrew request for \$76,000. Commissioner continued request for \$22,824.

Recess at 4:00 so sub committees could meet.

Meeting reconvened 9:00 A.M. November 18, 1995.

Veterans Home sub committee Chairman Ken Evenson reported for his committee. Mike Vandrovec moved to accept the report. Rainsberry seconded, motion carried.

Veterans Affairs sub committee Chairman Joe O'Brien reported for his committee. Following discussion, it was moved by Tom Rainsberry that sub committee action on VietNam Veterans Children aid program, Job Service funding request and request to increase cap for Veterans Aid Loan Program operated by Department of Veterans Affairs be set aside and that the balance of the report be approved. Second by Jim Johnson, carried.

Rick Olek moved that VietNam Veterans Children's assistance program request for \$49,208, Job Service be allowed \$50,000 on their request; approve Department of Veterans Affairs request for \$22,824; and that the Veterans Aid Loan cap of \$2,000 be left as is. Second by Rainsberry, Roll call vote called for. Roll taken, all members voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Mike Vandrovec moved that a letter be written to Pat Lindsey, VietNam Veterans Program director, stating the Administrative Committee's strong objection to the use of the \$1,240 for out of state travel to National Symposium and that the money be used for additional adaptive equipment and service to additional families. Second by Rainsberry. Carried.

Jim Johnson moved that Administrative Committee remain neutral on proposed initiated measure regarding Veterans Homes in Stanley and Grafton. Second by James Carlascio. Following discussion, motion failed.

Rick Olek moved that a letter be sent to the 26 sponsors of Initiated Measure authorizing a Veterans Home in Stanley and Grafton stating that Administrative Committee favors a Veterans Home in Stanley but not in Grafton. Second by Rainsberry. Carried.

ACOVA Minutes--continued

Page Three

November 17-18, 1995

Gary Hoffman moved that a committee be formed to draft a letter to sponsoring members of Initiated Measure authorizing a Veterans Home in Stanley, ND, and at Cedar Grove, Grafton, ND, stating Administrative Committees position, outlining what our concerns are in the measure, furthermore we state that the Administrative Committee has been and will always be in favor of a Western North Dakota Veterans Home. This committee will be authorized to aggressively pursue response from the sponsoring members and report back to the full committee. Second by Rick Olek, Carried.

Following were appointed to the committee: Rick Olek, Gary Hoffman, Dean Bayer, Tom Rainsberry, and John Mullen.

Tentative date for next meeting, March 8-9, 1996, at Comfort Inn, Bismarck.

Meeting adjourned at 10:45 A.M. Chairman and sub committee Chairmen to report to Coordinating Council.

Submitted by
Paul S. Aaberg, Secretary

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November 29, 1995