

**Mini Cassia Veteran's Advisory Board
Agenda for May 7, 2020**

Agenda Posted April 23, 2020 at VSO Office, Minidoka and Cassia Counties.

Directors: Ron Beedle, Secretary (Minidoka County), Larry Cottom (Minidoka County), Maury Staker, Chairman (Minidoka County), Don Gunderson (Cassia County), Alex Martinez (Cassia County) and Harold Blasius (Cassia County). Alternates Paul Henscheid (Minidoka County), Sue Kennedy (Minidoka County), and Dennis Dudley (Cassia County). Mini-Cassia Veterans Service Officer Chuck Driscoll. Cassia County Commissioner Robert Kunau and Minidoka County Commissioner Kent McClellan.

We will be holding our Quarterly meeting on May 7, 2020. The meeting will be held at the Minidoka County Commissioners Chambers at 7:00pm. Park in the South Parking lot and enter through the back door. We will still be able to keep social distancing.

Meeting called to order:

- **ACTION ITEM:** Approve the minutes of the February 6, 2019 meeting.
- Report from VSO:
- Quarterly Report, monthly report and Information.
- Report from County Commissioners or County correspondences.

Old Business:

- The need for van drivers.
- Community Activities See VSO report
- Approved By-Laws

New Business

- **ACTION ITEM:** All members review and sign code of ethics and Commitment Pledge. Voted and approved at Nov meeting. The one that have not done so at the Feb meeting.
- **ACTION ITEM:** Discuss and possible approval of Todd Mulestien for Cassia County as an alternate board member.
- **ACTION ITEM:** Discuss the budget for 2020-2021.
ACTION ITEM: Personnel Discussion. Introduce any new members to the board.
ACTION ITEM: Elections for chairman and vice chairman. Secretary is appointed by the New Chairman. Secretary has to be a Board Director.

Any Changes made to the agenda must be made to the MCVAB Secretary. It will be posted 48 hours prior to the meeting. Any changes prior to the 48 hours can be changed and reposted. Any change within the 48 hours, the agenda must be amended at the start of the meeting but no action may be taken unless an emergency exists. Any questions please contact MCVAB Secretary Ron Beedle at 208-312-0075.

Next Advisory Board meetings are as follows:

Aug 6, 2020
Nov 5, 2020

Maury Staker
Chairman

Mini Cassia Veterans Advisory Board

Minutes

February 6, 2020

Members in attendance were:

Cassia County Directors

Don Gunderson (Absent, Excused)

Harold Blasius

Alex Martinez

Cassia Alternates

Dennis Dudley (Absent, Excused)

Veterans Service Officer

Chuck Driscoll

Minidoka County Directors

Maury Staker

Ron Beedle

Larry Cottom

Minidoka Alternates

Paul Henscheid

Sue Kennedy

Travis Turner (Absent, Excused)

Commissioners

Kent McClellan (Minidoka County)

Bob Kunau (Cassia County)

7:00 pm Meeting called to order by Chairman Staker

Secretary Beedle took roll call of the members present.

Chairman Staker called for the minutes of the November 7, 2019 meeting. Motion by Cottom to accept minutes with some corrections made, seconded by Blasius and passed unanimously.

Chairman Staker asked for the VSO report. VSO Driscoll reported since November 7, 2019 he has had an increase in office visits, and letters sent. He had a decrease in office calls, new veteran enrollment and forms submitted compared to the last quarter. The change in the number as more steady or leveling out right now due to weather and the Mission Act being implemented more broadly. VSO Driscoll spoke on needing to get the word out to the veterans and their families on what benefits the VSO can help them apply for.

Chairman Staker called for Commissioner Reports. Bob Kunau (Cassia County) relayed that the VSO has the full support of Cassia County. They think he is doing a great job. Kent McClellan said that the VSO office situation is taken care of and will not move.

Old Business:

VSO Driscoll will lose his part time shuttle driver to Twin Falls due to being disqualified for medical reasons. The DAV/VA coordinator will reinstate as soon as his medical conditions pass the physical requirements. The other driver drives one day a week every other week if needed. Driscoll also spoke on possibly losing the DAV/VA vehicle stationed in Burley due to lack of use. It has to be used every week or every other week for the justification of leaving it here.

Old Business Cont.:

VSO Driscoll will be holding a Pre-Need Seminar with the local Funeral Homes to insure the veterans and their families are getting the full use of benefits. The state VSO will be in on that as well. Date has not yet been determined. A Veteran Outreach/Appreciation will be held in the spring. Board members are asked to participate if possible. 1st annual Mini-Cassia Vietnam veterans Appreciation Day will be held at the Rupert senior center on March 28, 2020 from 6-9 pm. This will coincide with the National Vietnam Veterans Day on March 29, 2020. Snake River National Veterans Cemetery will be holding their official opening on April 25, 2020 at 11:00am. Veterans and Spouses can be buried there at no cost. The spouse does not need to be a veteran.

VSO Driscoll is working on obtaining a copier for the office as he uses 1750 to 2250 copies a month and has worn out two printers. He had a surplus copier from Minidoka County which now the mother board is out. Cost to replace the board is over \$ 2000.00 plus labor and \$ 75.00 Month service contract. He is working to obtain one thru the counties that would be less costly to operate.

New Business:

It was brought up that the members need to reaffirm their Code of ethics and Commitment pledge to the board. All members present signed the rosters.

The Advisory Board By-Laws that was presented for approval by Cassia County were reviewed and approved as presented by Kerry McMurray. Motion by Beedle to approve changes, seconded by Blasius passed unanimously.

It was brought up about the next meeting being the budget meeting and election of officers for the Advisory board. Officers are Chairman and Vice Chairman. Secretary is appointed by the Chairman.

We would like to thank the Counties of Cassia and Minidoka for the continued support of our Veterans.

8:01pm Motion to adjourn by Cottom, seconded by Blasius passed unanimously. Chairman Staker closed the meeting and informed the board of the next meeting date of May 7, 2020, at the VSO Office.

Minutes prepared by Ron Beedle as Secretary of the Veterans Advisory Board.

Minutes approved as written by the Veterans Advisory Board at the **May 7, 2020** meeting.

Signed By: _____

Maury Staker, Chairman