

MINI-CASSIA VETERANS' ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

August 1, 2024

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Mini-Cassia Veterans' Service Officer----Chuck Driscoll

FROM CASSIA COUNTY

Directors:

George Sherblom, Vice Chairman

Alternates:

Ron Lynch

Marschell Wayment

County Commissioners:

Bob Kunau

FROM MINIDOKA COUNTY

Travis Turner, Chairman

Kathy Gray, Secretary

Dave Norby

Jim Metzger

Dan Schaeffer

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 pm by Travis Turner, Chairman. It was moved by George Sherblom that Alternates: Ron Lynch, Dave Norby, and Marschel Wayment be allowed to fill in as Directors for this meeting due to absences. The motion was seconded by Jim Metzger and approved.

A motion was made by Dave Norby to approve the minutes of the last Advisory Board Meeting. It was approved.

VSO REPORT:

The VSO, Chuck Driscoll, reported that he will be gone for training from August 7th to August 9th. His office will be opened on Monday and Tuesday only of that week. The following week, the VSO will have a booth at the Cassia County Fair. His office will be opened on Monday only (August 12th) of that week; however, any veterans who need to talk to him are welcome to stop by his booth at the fair for help. Chuck asked for help with the booth, specifically, help in setting it up and help on Saturday since he may be out of town on that day.

VSO Activities for the next quarter are as follows:

1. Distributing Christmas stockings and visiting the veterans in local nursing homes.
2. Preparing and distributing Christmas baskets for those in need.
3. Continuing the task of digitalizing the veterans' records in the VSO office
4. Continuing to be on Zeb Bell's radio show every Tuesday at 9:30 am to speak about Veterans' concerns.
5. Training for IDVS in Boise.

6. Manning the VSO booth at the Cassia County Fair.
7. Attending the Veterans' Breakfast at the Elk's in November

Concerns: Veterans who receive a VA check monthly may not get a check in September due to budget shortfalls.

Needs: The VSO could use a standard size refrigerator for the Veterans' Food Pantry which he runs out of the office.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS:

Commissioner Dan Schaeffer reported that the VSO's budget has been approved. He further stated that he would be glad to help out with the jail boxes. Whenever a Mini-Cassia veteran is released from jail, he will be provided with a food box to help him get back on his feet—this is referred to as a jail box.

Both counties have a surplus of money this year from a grant from the federal government for Opioid Education. They can use some of it to help the VSO Office help veterans if it is within the parameters of the grant.

Commissioner Bob Kunau also reported that the VSO's budget was approved. He thanked Chuck for the help he provides area veterans.

ADVISORY BOARD ELECTIONS:

The following board members were reappointed for another term: Todd Muhlestein, George Sherblom, Marschell Wayment, Ron Lynch, Kathy Gray. Ron Lynch moved to accept the elections; seconded by Dave Norby. The motion was approved.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

Chairman Travis Turner said that pastoring has changed because of new technology. We need to be more visible in the community and be there for people, including veterans. People need each other not just through technology, but "person to person."

DIRECTORS' BUSINESS:

George Sherblom stated that we needed to be more involved with people. Dave Norby reminded everyone that November 10th will be the Marine Corps birthday. There will be a Veterans' Brunch at the Elk's free for all veterans.

Dave Norby made a motion to adjourn the meeting for this quarter; seconded by Jim Metzger. The meeting was adjourned at 8 pm. The next meeting will be November 7, 2024.