

Jasper County Commission of Veterans Affairs  
County Annex Bldg., 115 N 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave E. Newton, Ia. 50208  
Director: Kurt M. Jackson VSO Keith N. Thorpe  
Phone (641) 792-7993 FAX (641) 787-1302  
Commissioners: Fred Dimon, Marta Ford, Susan Springer, Jerry Nelson, Mike Naber

13 May 2020

Minutes

At 1500 Commissioner Marta Ford called the monthly meeting of the Jasper County Commission of Veterans Affairs to order. Due to the COVID-19 Virus, Commissioners Susan Springer, Marta Ford, Jerry Nelson and from the “Newton Daily News” Dustin Teays, all called in on speaker phone. Director Kurt Jackson and VSO Keith Thorpe were in the Annex Building. Chairman Fred Dimon and Commissioner Mike Naber were not in attendance.

The minutes of the 8 April 2020 Regular Meeting were reviewed. Jerry Nelson made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Susan Springer seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Unfinished Business:

1. Veterans Resources Outreach: (Future Event): “On hold per COVID-19 Pandemic”

New Business:

1. April 2020 Budget Report was presented to the Commission.
2. April 2020 Directors Activity Report was presented to the Commission.
3. Allocation Fund: Because of the COVID-19-virus, many of the planned expenditures using the “Allocation Fund” will not happen. This leaves the possibility of sending unused funds back to the Iowa Department of Veterans Affairs. The commission discussed several possibilities to use the funds wisely (i.e. assisting veterans in nursing homes and in other various ways; laptop & portable printer; monitor for directors’ office; new chairs for conference room; etc.)

Two Motions:

Jerry Nelson made a motion to purchase a monitor for the director’s office. Susan Springer seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Susan Springer made a motion to purchase conference room chairs which can be easily disinfected. They need to have a mesh seat, mesh back and be adjustable. Jerry Nelson seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

4. Donation Fund: Jerry Nelson made a motion to purchase (5) twenty-dollar gas cards to have on hand for the occasional veteran who needs minimal assistance. Marta Ford seconded. (YEA – Jerry Nelson & Marta Ford - NAY Susan Springer) Motion passed.
5. Select Candidates for Commissioner Position (schedule interviews):  
At 1601 per Iowa Code 2018, Section 21.5(i) Marta Ford asked for a motion to close the meeting to select a candidate for the 1 July 2020 open position vacated by Fred Dimon. Susan Springer made the motion. Jerry Nelson seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Dustin Teays departed the meeting.

During the closed session, the commission considered the following applicants: Wilson Echevarria; Lance Hawley; Andrew Maynard; Matthew Smith and Phillip Tavegia.

At 1611 Jerry Nelson made a motion to return to an open meeting. Susan Springer seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Susan Spring made a motion that Matthew Smith would be the Commissions first choice for Commissioner for the Jasper County Veterans Affairs. Jerry Nelson seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Note: The other four applicants' applications will also be forwarded to the Jasper County Board of Supervisors.

**Announcements: (None)**

**Public Input: (None)**

Confirm next meeting for Wednesday, June 10, 2020 at 1500 at the Board Room of the Jasper County Supervisors

At 1621 Susan Spring made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Jerry Nelson. The motion passed unanimously.

/s/ Keith N. Thorpe