

DOUGLAS COUNTY
VETERANS ADVISORY BOARD
MINUTES
September 1, 2023

Meeting began a 10:30 am.

Roll call Present were:

David Schwab

Mike McGlone

Charles Suriano

Don Dent

Larry Severin - Excused

Others Present:

Sarahbeth Simonson- DCSO

Agenda Items:

1. Approve August 4, 2023, minutes: Motion to approve by Charles Suriano and seconded by Mike McGlone. Motion passed.
2. Douglas County Veterans Service Officer (DCVSO) reports no distribution of funds was given out from Douglas County in August 2023. Sarahbeth reported that she was assigned 363 veterans of which have 53 active claims. Sarahbeth also reports that a total of \$136,349.67 was paid out last quarter in claims.
3. There was discussion on the proposed DCVSO Standard Operating Procedures. Dave Schwab suggested that it was unclear to him who was supposed to do what. A simple action verb would clear up most of the issues. A rewrite will be discussed at another time.
4. Dave Schwab noted that while in attendance at the Douglas County Fair that the Douglas Veteran Service Officers (DCVSO) booth had no identifying signage as to who she was. Dave Schwab thought it would be advantageous if the County could purchase or budget for some type of banner as others had. The DCVSO should have a discussion with her supervisor about the advantages of being more identifiable/visible.
5. During the meeting with the Washington Department of Veterans Affairs (WDVA) in August, Director Puente noted it was difficult to get information out to veterans in rural areas. Dave Schwab shared with Director Puente that the DCVSO would be having a

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booth at our fair. Director Puente thought that was a good idea. Perhaps the DCVSO could approach the WSVA and see if they would be willing to partner with Douglas County and other counties, by providing the cost of the booth at the fair, as well as other rural county fairs. WDVA could also be in the same booth with their info they are having difficulty sharing.

6. With no other business a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Charles Suriano and seconded by Don Dent. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 11:16 am.

Submitted by Mike McGlone, Secretary