

Greene County Veterans Affairs Commission

September 12, 2019 Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Michael Bierl, Bruce Chaffee, Barb Labate and Jerry Spaulding.

Public Comments: Jim Andrew exhibited framed photo of WWI veteran Floyd W. Brown, reported history of Brown's service, and requested approval for placement of picture in the courthouse. Labate presented article detailing Floyd W. Brown's remains lay in state in the courthouse rotunda prior to his funeral. Motion made by Spaulding, motion seconded, and carried to approve placement of the framed photo in the rotunda.

Previous Minutes: Motion made by Spaulding, motion seconded, and carried to approve the August meeting minutes.

Expense/Budget Report: Second month of fiscal year reviewed by Bierl.

Approval of Bills: 1) \$293.31 to Martins Flag Company for grave markers 2) \$225 for 82 year old veteran in need of rental assistance. Motion made by Spaulding, motion seconded, and carried to approve the bills as presented.

Old Business

Email Newsletter for Veterans – Bierl reports veteran affairs webpage newsletter set up, waiting to add commission agendas and minutes to site.

Honor Flight – One Korean veteran and 3 Vietnam veterans added to list.

Monetary Assistance Policy – Bierl presented revised Greene County Veterans Emergency Assistance Policy draft for review. Changes were made to New Opportunities address and email, additional monthly payments, and monthly utility rates increased as previously recorded. Motion made by Labate, seconded, and carried to accept the revised draft with changes made.

Peg Gannon Donation – Bierl to contact Gannon on possible donation for Memorial Day sound system.

Medallion Letter for Funeral Homes – Bierl mailed letters. Funeral homes will be contacted for possible meeting times to discuss policies.

Cemetery Perpetual Care – Bierl contacted Dan Towers who is on the Pioneer Cemeteries. Towers will investigate if funds are being used.

New Business

Veteran Application for VA Home in Marshalltown – Bierl presented veteran application request. Chaffee and Labate accompanied Bierl to Auditor's office for required commissioner signatures on application.

Veterans Commissioner Training – Labate scheduled to attend on 15 October.

E.- F.L.A.G.S. – Chaffee presented a miniature folded flag wrapped with an explanation of what the folded flag means. E. - F.L.A.G.S. stands for Encouragement Flags Leading Americans to do Good Service. Discussion on various donation causes for use, including school age children, Greene County Suicide Prevention, and families of deceased veterans. Bierl to investigate if funding is available for this. Motion pending funds availability.

Next scheduled meeting is October 8th at 10:00 AM

Meeting adjourned at 11:00.

Barb Labate, Secretary