

DOUGLAS COUNTY  
VETERANS ADVISORY BOARD  
MEETING MINUTES  
DATE

Meeting was called to order at TIME

Advisory Board Members present:

Larry Severin

David Schwab

Charlie Suriano

Curt Lance

Board Members Absent and/or Excused

Dan Beattinger III - Excused

Others in attendance:

Sara Simonson

A Motion by Curt Lance was made to approve the minutes of the previous months meeting. It was seconded by Larry Severin and the motion passed.

Comments from the Douglas County Veterans Service Officer, Sara Simonsen included comments regarding her prior week trip to Bridgeport and her future schedule of visiting Waterville on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month, and Bridgeport on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month. She further stated that she was working on some claims with VFW Post 3617 Service Officer, Larry Strozyk, who has turned over several claims to her for the expediency of the veteran claimant.

A discussion then ensued on the previous months tabled motions to determine what the By-Laws, RCW., etc. had on the motions. It was noted that there is presently no Dollar Cap on a Veteran Claim but does stipulate that a veteran may submit only one claim in any twelve-month period. This clarified that no Catastrophic Amount need be considered as an amendment to the By-Laws. These discussions further included the present VSO authorization amount, the DCVAB authorization amount, and the amount which would require Commissioner Approval. This led subsequently to a discussion of the Eligibility Information Section of the Claim Form as to what is and what is not acceptable.

It was decided that the Advisory Board would review all issues brought up by the Douglas County Service Officer, and by other matters related to the By-Laws, and would make a one-time submission to the County Commissioners for their review and Approval.

These presently include a request to slightly increase the Authorized Dollar Amount by the DCVSO, by the DCAVB and the referral amount to the Commissioners. They also include language related to "Additional Requests within one year" as well as changes to the Eligibility and Information Section to clarify issues related to transportation and to employment.

The current recommendations to be considered by the DCVAB are :

1. Recommend that any additional request beyond the approved "one in 12-months would require Commissioner Approval.
2. Change the wording related to transportation and medical care to include "transportation for employment and/or medical care (Non-Specific to VA Facility)

3. Make acceptable a claim for Auto Loan Payments, Auto Insurance Premium, License Fees and Towing Fees (Specific for ONLY One (1) Vehicle) and not to exceed the time constraints applied to veteran claims presently.

These changes were moved by Larry Severing, seconded by Charles Suriano and approved by the Board for inclusion into the general letter of recommendation to be submitted to the Commissioner at a later date.

The chairman, David Schwab further stated that he believed that we should take the previous outlined criteria, show the changes as a strike-through, and the recommended new language to be highlighted to make it more comprehensive and clearer to the Commissioner and to the Public.

This suggestion was agreed to by the members present.

The Chairman then recommend that we have a laptop at subsequent meetings with either a memory stick or files that show all previous By-Laws, RCW's, Commissioner Approved Recommendations, etc., so that a more prompt review would be available and preclude postponing motions or consideration for said motions. This was also agreed to by the members present. Therefore, a laptop with all pertinent information shall be present at all subsequent meetings.

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Curt Lance, and seconded by Larry Severing. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned.

Meeting Adjourned at TIME

Submitted by Secretary