

Keweenaw County Veterans Affairs

Meeting Minutes

August 14,2020

August 14, 2020 Keweenaw County Courthouse 10am.

Roll Call: All present Barry Koljonen, Chair

Joe Finch member

Wes Aho member

Del Rajala member/County Rep

Ned Huwatschek

Call to order: Meeting was called to order at 10am by Chairman Koljonen. The pledge of Allegiance was recited and a moment of silence was observed in recognition of past Comrades and Veterans.

A motion to approve the agenda for today's meeting was made by Wes Aho, 2nd by Del Rajala with all members in favor. Motion carried.

Guests: None

Public comment: None

Old Business: A motion was made by Wes Aho to rescind the employment offer that was extended to Frank Ozanich to become our VSO. This was 2nd by Joe Finch with all members in favor. Motion carried. Further: Ozanich had discussed the employment offer with Chair Koljonen at which time he turned down the position.

Two new applications were received for our VSO position after running our ad in the Mining Gazette. Interviews will be set up for August 19, 2020 at 11AM after contacting the applicants.

A hardship application was received and heard from a Keweenaw County Veteran who needed extensive vehicle repair (brakes). The vehicle is his sole means of transportation to obtain groceries and get to medical appointments. A written estimate of work to be performed was submitted from Dave's Auto in the amount of \$890.00. A roll call vote was taken to assist the Veteran and pay the bill as presented.

Koljonen	Yes
Rajala	Yes
Finch	Yes
Aho	Yes
Huwatschek	Yes

New Business: A discussion was held in regards to a request received by member Rajala about the Veterans Board paying for the setting of gravestones for Veterans. This would involve the construction of a concrete base to support the stone/monument. Apparently after a period unsupported monuments begin to sink/settle in the ground. Cost for this to be done would be over and above any other death benefits granted by the County or this board. Del Rajala advised he will look into the issue and get further information. The board at this time tentatively has agreed to cover this cost. Approximate cost would be \$100 to \$150. Further action to be taken when exact details are available.

Final Public Comment: None

Final Committee Comment: None

Next Meeting: Sept 11, 2020 10am at the Allouez Twp VSO office.

Adjourn: A motion to adjourn was made by Aho, 2nd by Rajala with all members in favor.