

## **Keweenaw County Veterans Committee Meeting Minutes March 8, 2019**

Keweenaw County Courthouse 10am.

Roll Call : Ned Huwatschek, Chairman  
Del Rajala, County Board Rep/Member  
Joe Finch, Member  
Wes Aho, Member Absent  
Barry Koljonen Member

This Meeting was called to order at 10am. Meeting was posted and quorum is present.

Pledge of Allegiance: Recited.

Approve Agenda: Motion was made to accept the presented agenda by Rajala, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Huwatschek. All in favor. Motion carried.

Approve minutes of Jan 11, 2019 meeting. Motion made to accept these minutes by Rajala, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Finch with one correction to be made. Rajala was absent from this meeting. Minutes changed to note this correction.

Guests: Pete Halley and Jim Houvinen

Public Comment: None

Old Business: Our current grant application was discussed at length. We have not heard anything on any funds being received but have learned from the Houghton County VSO office that this grant amount has now been increased to \$50,000.00 from the original \$25,000.00.

A motion was made by Rajala, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Finch to have Huwatschek and Koljonen contact Marie Douville at MDVA in Lansing to check the status of this grant and provide whatever information is needed to get this process moving along. All members in favor. Huwatschek and Koljonen will be meeting in the near future to work on this.

Also discussed was the information we received that this grant can not be used for wages paid to the Houghton County VSO for any services rendered for Keweenaw County Veterans. Our grant application will have to be adjusted accordingly.

It has also been learned that Houghton County has received their grant application funds.

Eric Hermanson, Keweenaw County Treasurer has advised us that all funds currently on hand in the Veterans account are monies collected under the old millage and spending is controlled by the wording of that millage. New monies from the new millage will begin to be deposited in the account in December of this year, 2019.

Under old Business discussed were options on preparing a new budget should this grant not be

received/approved. Also discussed was the current cap on benefits for veterans. Although this cap has been set this committee reserves the right to exceed the cap if a situation of hardship exists for a Veteran that arises from extenuating circumstances and immediate assistance is needed.

In addition also discussed was the adoption of a set of bylaws. Rajala advised he will be looking into this and will be presenting further information to this committee at a later date.

Final Public Comments: None

Final Committee Comments: See below.

Next Meeting: A special meeting has been called for April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2019 10am to further settle the grant application issue and setting a budget. The next regular scheduled meeting is May10, 10am.

Adjourn: Motion to adjourn made by Rajala, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Finch. All in favor. Carried.