

BOARD MINUTES
WISCONSIN BOARD OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
Meeting of November 16, 2017
Wisconsin Veterans Home at King
N 2665 Cty. Rd. QQ
King, WI 54946

Board Members

Larry Kutschma, Chair
John Gaedke, Vice Chair
John Townsend
Al Richards
Carl Krueger (Excused)
Leigh Neville-Neil (Excused)
Steven Best
Vern Larson (Excused)
Paul Chamberlain

Others Present (not all inclusive)

Charles Allen (Veterans Upward Bound)

WDVA Present

Dan Zimmerman, Secretary
Chad Koplien, Chief Legal Counsel
Josh Heine, Executive Staff Assistant
Kelly Behling, Executive Staff Assistant

1. Call to order and roll call

A moment of silence was observed for POWs, fallen comrades, and all others whose job is to serve and protect. The meeting of the Board of Veterans Affairs was called to order by the Chair. Roll was taken and a quorum was present.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

The pledge of Allegiance was recited.

3. Certification of notice of meeting

Proper notification of the meeting occurred.

4. Board action on minutes from June 29, 2017 meeting

It was moved, seconded, and carried unanimously on a voice vote to approve the minutes from the meeting held on June 29, 2017.

5. Special Election (Vice Chair and Secretary)

A Motion was made to nominate John Gaedke as Vice Chair. Motion was seconded and carried on a voice vote. No Motions were made for the nomination of the Secretary. Board Chair Larry Kutschma stated that because there are no nominations at this time elections for Secretary will be held again at the next Board meeting.

6. Discussion Legislation on Veteran Farmer Assistance Program

Board Chair Larry Kutschma gave a brief summary of the Legislation on Veteran Farmer Assistance Program.

7. Discussion on Legislation of Veterans Affairs review of Chapter 45

Board Chair Larry Kutschma gave a brief summary of Legislation of Veterans Affairs review of Chapter 45 and asked for the board members to get a copy of LRB 1244 and review it for the next meeting.

8. Secretary's Comments

Secretary Zimmerman addressed the Board.

9. Board Members Report by District.

District one: Board Chair Mr. Kutschma reports he delivered a donation of \$1,000 to the 5th Special Forces group at Fort Campbell. Mr. Kutschma thanked Board members Mr. Gaedke and Mr. Townsend for participating in the Veterans Entrepreneur Grant and the Veteran Non Profit Grant.

District Two: Vice Chair Mr. Gaedke has nothing to report.

District Three: Ms. Neville-Neil (Not Present)

District Four: Mr. Krueger (Not Present)

District Five: Mr. Larson (Not Present)

District six: Mr. Townsend Reports the American Legion has a exhibit about the different branches of the Military and invites schools to come visit this exhibit. In the past it has been successful but this year only one school visited the Exhibit. Mr. Townsend also brought up the declining membership in Veterans Service Organizations which is causing a financial hardship for the organizations.

District Seven: Mr. Best has nothing to report.

District Eight: Mr. Chamberlain has nothing to report

At Large: Mr. Richards reports he has visited some of the events Secretary Zimmerman has attended and feels the Secretary was very well received. Mr. Richards has talked with several County Veteran Service Officers and they are happy with the improved atmosphere.

10. Public Comments

Charles Allen spoke to the Members of the Board about his Veterans Upward Bound Program at UW Milwaukee.

11. Future Meeting

Future Meeting is Tentatively Scheduled for February 22nd at the Union Grove Veterans Home.

12. Adjournment

A motion was made, seconded and carried on a voice vote to adjourn the meeting.

Larry Kutschma
Chair