



Veteran Affairs

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The Polk County Veteran Affairs Commission held a regular monthly meeting at 1545 hrs on November 15, 2022

MEMBERS PRESENT: Vikki Palmer, James Marren
Commissioner Kolleen Dahl Absent
Assistant County Attorney Mark Taylor Absent
Executive Director Pat Sweeney Present
Assistant Director Michael Mortensen Present

Minutes:
Octobers' minutes approved no objections.

Claims:
Pat discussed the previous months' claims, 33.03% expended
Moved by Marren, seconded by Palmer to approve the claims of October 2022.
VOTE YEA: Palmer, Marren

Exception Report:
Pat discussed thirty-one total exceptions for the month of October; 22 shelter, 9 utility and 2 food assistance vouchers. The exception report is within guideline and ratified.
Moved by Marren, seconded by Palmer to approve the exceptions for October 2022
VOTE YEA: Marren, Palmer

Executive Directors' Report:
Pat discussed the continued increase in financial assistance as well as federal claims filed. DART program has been steady with approximately 11,000 rides per month. May see additional increase in ridership as the weather turns colder.
Annual coat distribution took place November 10; distributing 380 total coats. Pat thanked the VFW Auxiliary 738 for their assistance with setting up the event. Mobile food pantry was our largest turnout with 293 families in receipt of food packages provided by the Food Bank of Iowa. Chair commissioner Palmer thanked management and staff for their seamless organization of both events.
Pat had the honor of attending the Iowa Hawkeye football game on November 12 to unfold the flag on the field. Several CVSOs took part in local Veterans Day events in the community.

Incarcerated Veterans Report:
Assistant Director Michael Mortensen reported 26 total self-reported Veterans incarcerated in October. Michael discussed the necessity for the continued support with the Veterans Justice Outreach coordinator and local law enforcement officers avoiding incarceration during moments of crisis.

Decembers' meeting scheduled for December 20, 2022 at 1530 hrs.

Adjournment

Vikki Palmer, Chair
Vikki Palmer, Chairperson