

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AFFAIRS  
COMFORT INN, BISMARCK, ND

February 4, 2009  
1:00pm

Meeting called to order by Chairman Jenson. Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence for POW/MIAs and those serving overseas.

Roll Call:

Present:

John Adolf	Ken Hasby	Dean Overby
Carl Bloomquist	Dave Hilleren	Lyle Schuchard
Lee Finstad	Rudy Jenson	Dave Vandergon
Jeff Hall	Orletta Kilen	

Absent:

Mike Fisher	John Hanson
Jerry Goll	Wayne Paulson

Guests:

Members of the Coordinating Council  
Duane Nelson

***Motion by Orletta Kilen to approve November 21 and 22, 2008 minutes, second by Dave Hilleren . Motion passed.***

### **Van Purchases**

Chairman Jenson opened discussion on need of additional \$10,000 for 2 DAV vans.

Bob Evans spoke on Vans:

- ▶ DAV and ACOVA co-purchase vans from Colorado trust renamed Columbia trust.
- ▶ DAV submitted financial report. Expenses vs assets showed that DAV needed to provide additional \$10,000 in funds to get vans.
- ▶ Need joint committee meeting to approve spending on vans.
- ▶ No vans were purchased last year, due to paperwork mishap.

Jerry Samuelson: What is break down of who pays?

Bob Evans: last was \$24,000 now need \$34,000.

Vans are purchased by DAV and ACOVA-PWTF. VA pays all other expenses.

***Motion by Dean Overby to obligate \$5,000 for transportation van, second by Jeff Hall.***  
[Motion #1]

Lee Finstad questioned why only \$5,000?

It was explained we can pay \$5,000 now without selling CD's and DAV will contribute \$5,000.

***Motion carried unanimously.***

**Van License Van in Williston- no license.**

The Williston transportation van is no longer transporting veterans to Montana VA. This is due to the CBOC in Williston being opened.

Bob Evans, Williams County, would like to put the van back into operation to travel to the Fargo VA when needed and to get veterans to the Williston CBOC.

Chairman Jenson opened discussion explaining that van license and tags are in Montana. Montana says they do not have these documents. Suggestion was made that ACOVA members request a new title from the ND-DOT reporting this title as a "Missing Title". This way the van could be put in ND-DVA name and turned over to the Fargo VAMC to be put back into operation.

***Motion by Lee Finstad to approve recommendation to obtain new title and get this van in operation, second by Carl Bloomquist. Motion passed unanimously.*** [Motion # 2]

**Speakers:**

Mark Johnson, ND Veterans Home Administrator: Requesting ACOVA and Coordinating Council presence at appropriations committee hearing to show support for Geothermal and Improvements to Veterans home bills.

**Study**

A power point presentation was given by Daniel Miller, Fargo, via speakerphone.

The presentation was on the study conducted by the University of Mary to address the Strategic Plan activity which addresses the question on the feasibility of County Veterans Service Officer consolidation/regionalization.

Statements/questions after study presentation:

Bill Peschel: Study is directed solely at savings money.

Answer (from Daniel Miller): Study is solely based on saving money.

Further study should be done with the veterans to see if the ND and MT Veterans and families are happy with the current system. There are issues that need to be address from veterans and familie.

Skip Wing: We seem to do better than Wyoming. Why was Wyoming not chosen?

Answer (from Daniel Miller): Critical mass vs. return on investment could be addressed better. That's why another study is needed of the veterans and their families.

No further questions or action taken on the study.

**2:35PM** Chairman Jenson recessed meeting so those interested could attend legislative hearing as requested by Mark Johnson.

**3:30PM** Chairman Jenson re-convened the meeting.

### **Legislation**

Skip Wing handed out GEOPGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF VA EXPENDITURES FOR FY 2007.

Gene Kouba asked if anybody present was going to testify in favor of HB1057 and nobody present said they were going to support HB1057.

NDVCC members will be sent budgets for both for the ND Veterans Home and ND Dept of Veterans' Affairs.

Gene Kouba reviewed and discussed the legislative bills.

**Chairman Jenson adjourned meeting at 6:05PM**

### **Subcommittee Meetings**

No sub committee meetings held

Thursday February 4, 2009  
8:30am

Committee reconvened at 8:30 AM at state Capital in the Brynhild Haugland room.

**Roll Call:**

**Present:**

John Adolf	Ken Hasby	Dean Overby
Carl Bloomquist	Dave Hilleren	Lyle Schuchard
Lee Finstad	Rudy Jenson	Dave Vandergon
Jeff Hall	Orletta Kilen	

**Absent:**

Mike Fisher	John Hanson
Jerry Goll	Wayne Paulson

**Guests:**

None

Chairman Jenson gave testimony to Government and Veterans Affairs Committee on HB 1057

Commissioner Wangen gave testimony to the Government and Veterans Affairs Committee on HB 1057

**Chairman's Report:**

No report.

**Subcommittee Reports:**

No Subcommittee meetings. No reports given.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted

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Lyle Schuchard  
Secretary