

ALLEN I. OLSON
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Fargo, North Dakota
April 26, 1981
2:00 p.m.

Prior to the meeting, the Committee met with F. E. Gathman, Center Director, and William P. Bristol, M.D., ACOS/Education, at the VA Medical and Regional Office Center, Fargo, ND. Dr. Bristol stated that the VA Center has 16 teaching affiliations with area universities and colleges. A tour of the major departments of the facility was conducted by Dr. Bristol.

The meeting was called to order in the Conference Room of the VAM&RO Center, Fargo, North Dakota, by Chairman James Rosendahl.

Roll call was taken with the following members present: James Rosendahl, George Dahlen, Stephen J. Groth, Orville Gullickson, Gayle Doherty, Gordon LaMont, Marvin Conrad, Stanley Severson, Arthur Ulness, Otto "Pete" Helm, Bernard Wagner, Lloyd Zander, Frank Gathman, and Charles Code. Absent: James Morris, Shirley Peterson, Maj. General C. Emerson Murry, and Al Lick. Guests: Keith Kiser.

Mr. Keith Kiser, Loan Officer, North Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs, was introduced.

Chairman Rosendahl advised that the reason this meeting was called for this date in Fargo was to give members an opportunity to attend the North Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs County Service Officers Training Conference, being held April 27-28 at the Doublewood Inn. This also afforded the group the opportunity to tour the VA facility.

Chairman Rosendahl reported that the recent legislative session was very successful. Every bill that the Coordinating Council and Legislative Committee worked for was passed. We certainly owe a debt of gratitude to Marv Konrad, Bill Williamson, Joe Novak and Bert Balerud for their work on the Legislative Committee. Mr. Bill Williamson will give a complete report on all the bills passed at this session at tomorrow's County Service Officers' meeting.

Again this year at the Legislative Session, they tried to consolidate several state agencies. Some would like to see the Veterans Affairs merge with Social Services or Health, Education and Welfare, however, we continue to maintain our individuality. It is up to this committee to be on our guard at all times whenever talking to legislators to convince them how important this committee really is.

It was a suggestion at the Coordinating Council recent meeting that we donate at least a half day of our next program (possibly in July) where we have a seminar with someone well acquainted with veterans laws. We could possibly get some of the

XXXXXXXXXXXX Al Lick
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U. S. DEPT. OF VETERAN AFFAIRS

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Legislative Committee to share this information in the form of a panel.

At this time Chairman Rosendahl stated that the group would break into the subcommittees and reminded those present that the terms of the Commandant for the Soldiers' Home and the ND Commissioner of Veterans Affairs expire on June 30. It is the responsibility of this committee to appoint or reappoint the Commandant and Commissioner for the next two years. This should be brought up at the individual subcommittee meetings and approved by the entire committee when the committee reconvenes in joint session.

Mr. Gordon LaMont provided a follow-up on the review of the North Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs. A copy of his report was furnished to each member. Mr. LaMont further stated that it is felt that every effort is being made by the Department of Veterans Affairs office to implement all of the recommendations resulting from the review. Chairman Rosendahl encouraged the Chairmen of the Subcommittees to keep in mind continuing reviews of the Department of Veterans Affairs as well as reviews of the Soldiers' Home.

Chairman Rosendahl provided a chart depicting the composition of the Administrative Committee on Veterans Affairs. Copy attached. Respective organizations have been advised to nominate individuals to the Governor for appointment to the committee to replace members whose terms expire in June.

(The ACOVA reconvened. Motion was made by Orville Gullickson to appoint Lloyd Zander for another two year term as North Dakota Commissioner of Veterans Affairs. Motion seconded by Gordon LaMont. Motion carried by vote.

Discussion on Veterans Loan Program was deferred until the County Service Officers Meeting to be held on April 27.

(Stan Severson recommended to Lloyd Zander that in the future copies of the subcommittee minutes be sent direct to members rather than sending them to the committee secretary for distribution.

Mr. Zander reported that Orville Gullickson complimented Gordon LaMont for the evaluation follow-up conducted. He also stated that permission was granted to Mr. Zander to recruit for a secretary to replace Dorothy Anderson who is retiring in July.

Steve Groth reported that the Soldiers' Home Subcommittee convened at 3 p.m. with Chairman Morris excused on account of his illness. Minutes of the Subcommittee meeting have been distributed separately.

Mr. Jim Welder reported that actions have been taken to provide for pay increases for all employees at the Soldiers' Home effective July 1981.

Discussion was held with regard to publishing notice of Subcommittee meetings. It was agreed to further review the guidelines for such public notices before arriving at a decision.

Motion was made by Steve Groth, seconded by Pete Helm, and unanimously approved to rehire Charles Code as Commandant, North Dakota Soldiers' Home for the next two years. It was also moved to reappoint James Welder as Assistant Commandant.

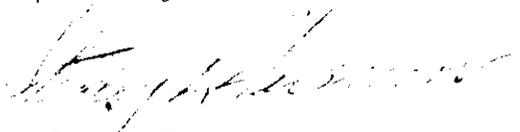
Chairman Rosendahl reported that with regard to veterans aid loan, effective July 1, Orville Gullickson appointed a subcommittee comprised of Jim Rosendahl, Frank Gathman, Pete Helm, and General Murry to assist in establishing guidelines for Keith Kiser, North Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs Loan Officer.

Stan Severson, Secretary, ACOVA, requested the Chairman of the Soldiers' Home Subcommittee to provide copies of his minutes to each committee member.

The next meeting of the Administrative Committee on Veterans Affairs will be held sometime in July.

Motion made, seconded and unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting at 5 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Stanley R. Severson
Secretary

Attachment:
Chart