

ARTHUR A. LINK, GOVERNOR
STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

Administrative Committee On Veterans Affairs

Route 2 Box 5

Hettinger, North Dakota 58639

Bismarck, North Dakota

January 19, 1981

10:00 AM

SECRETARY
STANLEY R. SEVERSON
HETTINGER, NORTH DAKOTA

The meeting was called to order in the conference room of the Job Service Building by Chairman James Rosendahl.

Roll call was taken with the following members present: James Rosendahl, Jim Morris, Orville Gullickson, Marvin Konrad, Gordon LaMont, Bernard Wagner, Art Ulness, Stan Severson, Pete Helm, Lloyd Zander, Charles Code, Gayle Doherty, George Dahlen, Gen. C. Emerson Murry, Frank Gathman, Donald Mund representing Al Lick, and Joe Kooingsman representing Therman Koldahl. Absent: Steve Groth. Guests: General Duane Holly and Joe Novak.

Pete Helm moved and Art Ulness seconded the motion that the committee dispense with the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting since all members had received and reviewed a copy of them. On voting, motion carried.

Prior to the business portion of the ACOVA Committee meeting Bill Williamson, Exc. Director of the Veterans Coordinating Council invited the ACOVA Committee to join them to hear Doctor Horn speak on the future of the Cross Ranch. Dr. Horn is a staff member of the "Nature of Conservancy" Organization which is now attempting to secure funds for the purchase of the Cross Ranch, thru private contributions, businesses and industry nation wide. Dr. Horn, also stated that the final date of purchase of the Cross Ranch is January 1982. No official decision was made as far as the veterans groups are concerned at this time, however, it was noted that if the purchase is a reality, it will not be named, "Veterans State Park".

The ACOVA Committee reconvened: Chairman Rosendahl read a letter from Therman Koldahl in regards to the Dept. Of Veterans Affairs in the planning and evaluating of the department. Frank Gathman stated he would help thru his experience and standards set for The Veterans Administration.

Commissioner Lloyd Zander responded to the report of the Special Evaluation Committee. Attached you will find a copy of his report.

SUB COMMITTEE FOR
VETERANS AFFAIRS
ORVILLE GULLICKSON, CHR.
GAYLE DOHERTY, VICE CHR.
JAMES G. ROSENDAHL
GEORGE DAHLEN
GORDON LAMONT
PETER HELM
STANLEY R. SEVERSON

EX-OFFICIO
M/G C. EMERSON MURRY
ADJUTANT GENERAL
FRANCIS E. GATHMAN
VACANT DIRECTOR
EDWARD J. KLECKER
DIRECTOR OF INSTITUTIONS
THERMAN C. KALDAHL
EMPLOYMENT SERVICE BUREAU

SUB COMMITTEE FOR
SOLDIERS HOME
JAMES M. MORRIS, CHR.
STEPHAN J. GROTH, VICE CHR.
ARTHUR D. ULNESS
BERNARD WAGNER
MARVIN KONRAD

After much discussion several motions were made:

1. BARRIER FREE BUILDING:

A motion was made by Jim Morris, seconded by Pete Helm that a temporary ramp be installed at the entrance of the Building of Dept. of Veterans Affairs to make it more accessible to the handicapped, under the direction of Frank Gathman. Voting on the motion carried.

2. VETERANS LOANS:

A motion was made by Jim Morris, seconded by Marvin Konrad that Commissioner Zander should utilize the membership of the entire committee for help in recommending Veterans who are securing loans. On voting the motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 11:30 AM for lunch Reconvened at 12:30.

Discussion on qualifications of Veterans applying for loans as to residency time period. Frank Gathman suggested a credit committee be formed to help Commissioner Zander decide on questionable loans. Possibly the service officers from various Veterans groups. Discussion tabled.

3. ACCEPTANCE OF COMMISSIONERS REPORT

Bud Dahlien moved to accept the report of commissioner Zander, as he has implimented many of the recommendations of the Special Evaluation Committee's suggestions, seconded by Gayle Doherty. On voting the motion carried.

4. RE-EVALUATION OF DEPT.

Marvin Konrad moved that the committee authorize Grodon LaMont, Joe Novak, and Earnest Schmidt to re-evaluate the Dept. of Veterans Affairs, to follow up on original report and present to the committee their evaluation at the April 26th meeting in Fargo, seconded by Gayle Doherty. On voting the motion carried.

Gayle Doherty suggested that more meetings be held in Fargo, so the committee could visit the Dept. of Veterans Affairs Office.

A Motion was made by Pete Helm, seconded by Gordon Lamont that the next meeting of the Adm. Comm. on Veterans Affairs be held in Fargo, Sunday April 26th at 2:00 P.M. C.D.T. at an appropriate place. Room reservations will be the responsibility of each member. On voting the motion carried.

Chairman Rosendahl introduced Joe Novak who spoke to the committee on legislation pertaining to Veterans Affairs:

1. Dept. of Veterans Affairs budget.
2. Veterans aid loans fund from \$300,000.00 to \$700,000.00
3. Unemployment Compensation for 20 year service Veterans.
4. A 3rd medical School
5. Military Credits for Teachers Retirement.
6. Vietnam Veterans Scholarship \$50,000 to be appropriated.
7. National Guard History bill \$100,000
8. Purchase Land adjacent to Cross Ranch \$500.00
9. Equal Opportunity
10. 7½ Million to be put into Veterans Home loan fund.

Mr. Novak noted it was not a feasible bill as it would only help 1,500 Veterans. Interest would be 5% under prime rate and that a very limited number of people would be helped.

Following separated meetings of the Sub-committee on Veterans Affairs and The Soldiers Home, The Administrative Committee again met.

Minutes of the Sub-committee are enclosed.

Members to meet at 7:00 P.M. at the Moose Club with the legislators.

No other business:

Gayle Doherty moved the meeting be adjourned, seconded by Jim Morris. On voting motion carried.

Respectfully submitted

Stanley R. Severson, Sec.