

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

Administrative Committee On Veterans Affairs

1004 CRESCENT LANE
BISMARCK, NORTH DAKOTA 58501

U. S. DEPT. OF VETERAN AFFAIRS

MAR 21 1974

CHAIRMAN
BERNARD A. WAGNER
SANBORN, NORTH DAKOTAMinutes - March 15, 1974
Merchants National Bank
Fargo, North DakotaSECRETARY
EARNEST N. SCHMIT
BISMARCK, NORTH DAKOTA

Chairman Wagner called the meeting of the Committee to order at 10:10a.m. Roll Call was taken with the following present: Wagner, Schmit, Novak, Gullickson, Rosendahl, Morris, Ulness and Groth. Absent: Sloan, Habiger, Crawford and Welander. Ex-Officio members present: Rice, Grondahl, Melhouse and Mr. Hystad, representing Klecker. Zander and Code present.

Minutes of Nov. 30-Dec. 1, 1973 meeting were read and accepted as presented.

Chairman Wagner recognized Ex-officio members and then outlined the agenda for the meeting. He called for an evaluation by sub-committees of members attendance and evaluation of performance for purposes of recommending for reappointment. At 10:30 the sub-committees assembled in separate session.

At 1:30 p.m. the full committee convened for reports.

Report of Sub-Committee on Soldiers Home, Art Ulness reporting: He reported on application to Home by a Sam Grant. His daughter, Mrs. Marlys Ford, presented his case. His income exceeded allowable limits for admission, but apparently he was agreeable to reducing his income - such as renouncing his WWI pension - Board will make the decision after this is decided upon. A discussion embraced possible changes in admittance regulations; requesting funding from the Legislature for another Wing; waiting list problems as well as other areas for admission to the Home. More study needed on Sam Grant's case.

Morris reported on costs - these have almost doubled this year- probably will need emergency appropriation, as well as additional appropriations next session. Mr. Hystad believes they have capability to get thru this year. Medical costs for Home, present doctor is retiring, must develop new plan, possibly hiring a supervisory registered nurse to supervise three nurses at the Home. It was decided that needs of the Soldiers Home be documented for presentation to the Emergency Commission in order to point out existing and future financial problems. Moved by Gullickson, seconded Groth. Carried.

Commandant Code wondered about using Veterans Aid Loan to handle emergency medical cases, probably would be a problem in eligibility for loans. No decision at this time. Ulness appointment due July 1, 1974. He was recommended for reappointment.

SUB-COMMITTEE FOR
VETERANS AFFAIRS
JAMES G. ROSENDAHL, CHM.
JOE NOVAK, VICE-CHM.
EARNEST N. SCHMIT
ORVILLE L. GULLICKSON
RUSSELL S. CRAWFORD
DONALD F. SLOAN
KENNETH G. HABIGER

EX-OFFICIO
M/G LACLAIR A. MELHOUSE
ADJUTANT GENERAL
ALAN L. RICE
VA CENTER DIRECTOR
EDWARD J. KLECKER
DIRECTOR OF INSTITUTIONS
M. N. GRONVOLD, DIRECTOR

SUB-COMMITTEE FOR
SOLDIERS HOME
CLARENCE WELANDER, CHM.
JAMES M. MORRIS, VICE-CHM.
BERNARD A. WAGNER
STEPHEN J. GROTH
ARTHUR E. ULLNESS

report of Sub-Committee on Veterans Affairs, James Rosendahl reporting: A Vietnam Bonus report given by General Melhouse: Of 36299 eligibles, 24689 claims received, and 300 per month being received. \$11,600,00 paid out of \$19,000,000 appropriated. Over-all cost estimated at \$16,000,000, leaving approximately \$3,000,000 surplus. The General expects an effort again to amend the '15 Year clause' and hopes for some solution to the Sur-Tax provision for repayment.

A motion was made and passed that the committee recommend to the Veterans Coordinating Council that would encourage some equitable solution to the Sur-Tax problem during the next legislative session. Moved Rosendahl, second Novak. Carried.

Reported that the Emergency Fund of \$2000 established in 1943 has been dissolved as directed. A Bill defining qualification dates for Veterans Aid Loans has been drawn. Recommended Vietnam dates be August 5, 1964 to January 28, 1973. (This was later changed to an ending date of August 15, 1973 after discussion with the Council.) Moved Ulness, Second Groth.

Fiscal note presented by Commissioner Zander for County Service Officer travel to Annual Training Conference in amount of \$9039.00 for Bi-ennium to be presented to Council. Moved Novak, Second Groth.

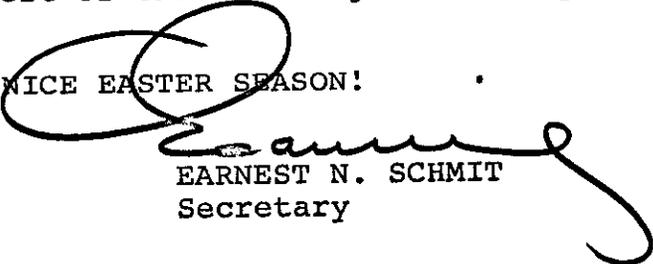
Mr. Jim McLain, Veterans Coordinating Advisor, UND, presented a proposal for establishing a coordinating position within the DVA, to work with personnel in schools in state on behalf of "Out-Reach" recruitment program. Over-all purpose would be to get veterans into fields and schools of their choice. Problems of financing were discussed and will be pursued to its final objective. It was moved this program be presented to Council for their consideration and possible legislative action. Moved Rosendahl, second Schmit, carried. Joe Novak was appointed chairman of sub-committee to develop the "Out-Reach" program for DVA.

Recommendations made for reappointment of Sloan and Schmit.

Next quarterly meeting will be held at the call of Chairman.

Good of the committee; at 3:00 p.m. adjourned to meet with the Council in order to render report of this meeting. Moved by Gullickson, second Morris.

HAVE A NICE EASTER SEASON!


EARNEST N. SCHMIT
Secretary