



Administrative Committee On Veterans Affairs

Box 1537

BISMARCK, NORTH DAKOTA 58501

CHAIRMAN
BERNARD A. WAGNER
 SANBORN, NORTH DAKOTA

NOV 29 1974

Minutes - Nov. 17-18, 1974

Conference Room
 Employment Security Bureau
 Bismarck, North Dakota

SECRETARY
Joe Novak
 BISMARCK, NORTH DAKOTA

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Date

Chairman Wagner called the meeting of the Committee to order at 6:00 p.m. CST, November 17, 1974. Roll Call was taken with the following present: Crawford, Groth, Gullickson, Habiger, Morris, Novak, Rosendahl, Sloan, Swartz, Ulness, Wagner and Welander. Ex-Officio members present: Rice. Absent: Gronvold, Klecker, Melhouse. Present: Soldiers' Home Commandant Code; Department of Veterans Affairs Commissioner Zander.

The A.C.O.V.A. met jointly with the assembled Coordinating Council at which time the following items on the agenda of the North Dakota Veterans Coordinating Council were introduced and discussed.

1. Observance of Veterans Day when it falls on Sunday, to return the law to its original form which would consequently make Monday, under those circumstances, the day of observance.
2. Uniform dates for all veterans' benefits, veterans' aid loan, etc., specifically Viet Nam veteran dates 8-5-64 through 8-15-73. This proposed legislation takes note of the fact that various Sections of the North Dakota Century Code at the current time provide qualifying dates of military service that are not uniform.

**SUB-COMMITTEE FOR
 VETERANS AFFAIRS**
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RUSSELL S. CRAWFORD, VICE-CHM.
THOMAS K. SWARTZ
ORVILLE L. GULLICKSON
Joe Novak
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
EMPLOYMENT SECURITY BUREAU

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

3. Restriction of availability of registered copies of DD-214's to the veteran himself, next of kin, legal representative, County Veterans Service Officer, Department Veteran organization service office, Department of Veterans Affairs, or any other individual designated by the veteran himself, to be eligible for such a copy.
4. Transportation and per diem for attendance of County Veterans Service Officers at an annual training conference. This item is included in the Department of Veterans Affairs budget.
5. Exemption from taxation of dwellings specifically constructed for use by paraplegics or as wheelchair homes.
6. The Soldiers' Home budget.
7. Exempting military retirement income from North Dakota State Income Tax. Legislation recommended by Frank Wenstrum of Williston.
8. Review of the proposed state-wide personnel system.

Subsequent to the review of the above, the Administrative Committee on Veterans Affairs convened separately at 7:30 p.m., at which time the following items of business were discussed prior to the separate meetings of the sub-committee for Veterans Affairs, and the sub-committee for the Soldiers' Home.

1. A letter presented by member Stephen Groth from a Viet Nam veteran, Gregory Scott, who was denied his bonus as it was determined he had voted in Minnesota and was not a North Dakota resident.

2. A determination that following the sub-committee meetings the committees would adjourn at completion of business and would reconvene at 9:00 a.m. Monday morning.

The entire Administrative Committee on Veterans Affairs reconvened at 9:15 a.m. on Monday, with all members present, including Ex-Officio members Rice and Gronvold, and heard first the report of the Soldiers' Home by Chairman Welander, who reported on the matters covered, which items will be specifically reflected in the Minutes of the sub-committee on the Soldiers' Home. Subsequently Chairman Rosendahl reported on the matters discussed by the Department of Veterans Affairs, which items will be specifically enumerated in the Minutes of the business of that Committee.

Ken Habiger moved the acceptance of the Soldiers' Home report, seconded by Orville Gullickson, and passed without dissent. The acceptance of the report of the Department of Veterans Affairs report was moved by Jim Morris and seconded by Stephen Groth, and passed without dissent.

The Administrative Committee on Veterans Affairs formally proposed an explanation of the following items to the Veterans Coordinating Council and Legislative Committee for their action. Acceptance moved by James Rosendahl and seconded by Terry Swartz, and passed without dissent.

1. That the Gregory Scott communication regarding his denial of Veteran's bonus be handled by the Coordinating Council, who

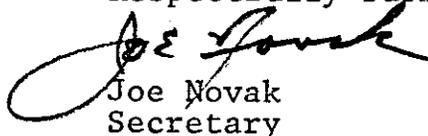
accepted the matter with the intention of requesting a review from the department involved.

2. Ask the Veterans Coordinating Council and Legislative Committee for specific support for the transportation costs of County Service Officer meetings which is a part of the D.V.A. proposed budget.
3. Alerted the members of the Veterans Coordinating Council present of the approximately \$35,000 available in the maintenance account at the Soldiers' Home, and the intention of the Administrative Committee on Veterans Affairs to develop a long-range proposal to respond to any anticipated questions from legislators regarding plans for its eventual use.
4. Audit by the Veterans' Administration.
5. Budget contingency fund.
6. Nurse shortage at home.
7. New arrangement for doctors at the Home.

The Administrative Committee on Veterans Affairs again reconvened separately at 11:15 a.m., November 18, 1974, and discussed the need for a long-range plan for the Soldiers' Home maintenance fund to be prepared for the next meeting and in time to respond to legislative requests. The next meeting date was established as the 14th of January, 1975 with the Soldiers' Home Sub-committee meeting at 10:00 a.m., and the entire Administrative Committee on Veterans Affairs meeting at 1:00 p.m. that date.

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Joe Novak
Secretary