

## **Cerro Gordo County Veteran Affairs Commission Meeting Minutes Monday, May 22, 2023, 9:00 am**

Commissioner attendance: Jessica Reith, Cecil Foell, Daryl Johnson and Cindy Davis. Other representative Maria Bilharz (Director CVSO), Paul Beatty (CVSO)

Absent: Richard Ochoa

1. Meeting called to order by Richard Ochoa Jessica Reith at 9:07 a.m.
2. Approval of previous months minutes. Daryl Johnson made a motion to approve the February minutes, second by Cecil Foell. Motion passed.
3. Signing of bills. Bills that were signed included: phone, KCMR Vets Tribute, TAG – T-shirts and pens, postage, office supplies, D&D Markers, Quilts of Honor and Home Base Iowa Incentives. Cindy Davis requested to show the monthly spending amounts on the financials. Cindy Davis made a motion to approve the bills/financials; second by Cecil Foell. Motion passed.
4. What's New in the Office:

### **Home Base Iowa Update**

The Home Base Iowa Resolution was signed by the Cerro Gordo County Supervisors on April 24, 2023. Jathan Chicoine HBI representative from Des Moines will travel to the courthouse for a meeting with CG County Supervisors on Tuesday May 23, 2023 to collaborate more on incentive package and ceremony that will need to be organized to inform the community about Cerro Gordo County officially becoming a Home Base Iowa community, and to invite the Governor to the ceremony and purchase signage for all major roads into the county.

The VA office will continue to collaborate with the Supervisors on what could be included to the incentive package. Currently Supervisors have agreed to a monetary incentive option to be used as a down deposit on a home, and/or a utility hook up not to exceed \$500 per veteran to see how this first year goes.

### **April Tree Donation**

Six trees were delivered to Ventura and Dougherty on May 5, 2023. Commissioners were present for the donation. This is the third year of the "Crossing Branches" program.

### **Commissioner Three Year Board Term**

There are two commissioners whose board terms are expiring June 30, 2023. IF they are interested in reapplying to the board, the Board of Supervisors has requested them to fill out a new application. Cecil Foell and Jessica Reith's terms will expire 6/30/2023. Daryl Johnson and Richard Ochoa's terms will expire 6/30/2024 and Cindy Davis's term will expire 6.30/2025

5. Public Comments – There were no public comments
6. Next meeting scheduled for June 26th, 2023 - 9:00 am
7. Adjourn – Cindy Davis made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Cecil Foell. Motion passed.

Minutes submitted by Cindy Davis