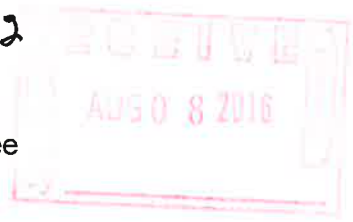


RESOLUTION # 2016-42



Resolution offered by the Vernon County Veterans Services Committee

Resolved by the Board of Supervisors of Vernon County, Wisconsin:

WHEREAS, Wisconsin Statutes Section 45.80 requires each county to elect a County Veterans Service Officer who is a Wisconsin resident and who served under honorable conditions on active duty in the Armed Forces; and

WHEREAS, County Veterans Service Officers are responsible for 95% of veterans' claims at any given time at the VA Regional Office in Milwaukee; and

WHEREAS, County Veterans Service Officers assist veterans with obtaining more than \$2.4 billion in VA benefits annually; and

WHEREAS, County Veterans Service Officers are invaluable to all veterans but especially elderly and disabled veterans in rural communities who are unable to drive and do not have public transportation options; and

WHEREAS, County Veterans Service Officers are the only veterans' advocates when dealing with the VA who serve veterans' right in their community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the county of Vernon joins other counties in the state of Wisconsin, to express their desire to the Wisconsin State Legislature adamantly opposing any efforts to make County Veterans Service Officers optional, to allow non-veterans to fill the position of County Veterans Service Officers, and/or to consolidate or regionalize County Veterans Service Offices.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be sent to all Vernon County's State Senators and Assembly Representatives, to the Wisconsin Counties Association, and to the President of the County Veterans Service Officers Association of Wisconsin.

Vote Required: Majority = X 2/3 Majority = _____ 3/4 Majority = _____

The County Board has the legal authority to adopt: Yes X No _____ as reviewed by the Corporation Counsel, _____, Date: 7-26-16

Approved by the Veterans Committee this 17 day of July , 2016.

Consent Agenda Item: X YES _____ NO

Offered and passage moved by: Cado Cary
Supervisor

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gwd Kevin Larson

Supervisor

Supervisor

Supervisor

Supervisor

27 Ayes

0 Nays

____ Absent

____ Abstain

Adopted

By the County Board of Supervisors this 26 day July, 2016.

____ Defeated

Ronald Hoff
Ronald Hoff, County Clerk

Dennis Brault
Dennis Brault, County Board Chair

RESOLUTION # 2016-43

Resolution offered by the Supervisors of the Vernon County Veterans Services Committee

Resolved by the Board of Supervisors of Vernon County, Wisconsin:

WHEREAS, the County Veterans Service Office block grant was created in 1973 to assist counties in providing veterans' services and allowing them to utilize these funds for salary supplement of the County Veterans Service Officer or other costs as long as it was for the benefit of veterans and did not go to another department or into the county general fund; and

WHEREAS, the County Veterans Service Office grant was originally conceived as a block grant structure and was based upon employment of a full-time County Veterans Service Officer and the aggregate population in each county; and

WHEREAS, although there were no specific standards ever established by the state Department of Veterans Affairs as to proper usage of grant funds, grant applications were prepared annually by counties, submitted to the state, and also approved by the state each year; and

WHEREAS, the 2015 Wisconsin Biennium Budget restructured this long-standing block grant payment structure to a reimbursement-only payment structure, strictly limiting what grant funds can be used for and resulting in a very time-consuming, cumbersome process for not only the County Veterans Service Office but other county departments as well.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the county of Vernon joins other counties in the state of Wisconsin to express their desire to the Wisconsin State Legislature to have the County Veterans Service Office grant reinstated to the original 1973 intent to be used for supplementation of CVSO salary or for improving services to county veterans.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be sent to all Vernon County's State Senators and Assembly Representatives, to the Wisconsin Counties Association, and to the President of the County Veterans Service Officers Association of Wisconsin.

Vote Required: Majority = X 2/3 Majority = _____ 3/4 Majority = _____

The County Board has the legal authority to adopt: Yes X No _____ as reviewed by the Corporation Counsel, _____, Date: 7-26-16

Approved by the Veterans Committee this 17 day of July, 2016.

Consent Agenda Item: X YES _____ NO

Offered and passage moved by: Shawn Redington
Supervisor

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gas-Action Amelise

Supervisor

Supervisor

Supervisor

Supervisor

87 Ayes

0 Nays

____ Absent

____ Abstain

X Adopted

by the County Board of Supervisors this 26 day July, 2016.

____ Defeated

Ronald Hoff
Ronald Hoff, County Clerk

Dennis Brault
Dennis Brault, County Board Chair