

Lewis County Veterans' Advisory Board
Board Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, February 7, 2024, 11am
Location: Zoom/Lower Level BOCC Room

Welcome

Call to Order, Flag Salute, Attendance Quorum present

Agenda (Approval/Changes) Motion – Ed/2nd – Barb – Passed

January 2024 Minutes (Approval/Changes) Motion - Rico/2nd - Barb- Passed

Attend	Board Members
Y	Ken Norwood, Chair
E	George Dodd, Vice-Chair
Y	Rico Barrientes
Y	Barb Russell
Y	Ed Smith
Y	Jeremy Almond

Guests
Scott Brummer
Meja Handlen
Dennis Herron
Patrick Swanson
Anthony Rogers

Board Discussion Items:

1 – Veterans Journey Forward Update

Jesse provided an update on program and service officer claims. Attached report.

2 – Veterans Relief Fund Update

Heidi provided financial and VSO update. Provided three year overview of expenses and number of Veterans served. Attached report.

3 – By-Laws VSO

Conversation and clarification ensued in regards to how many board members must be active members of a Nationally Recognized Veterans Service Organization. VAB By-Laws Article II, Section 1: RCW 73.08

4 – Veteran Legislative Bills

Heidi provided print out of House Bill and Senate Bills regarding Veterans/Widows. Discussion around which bills the VAB would like to support and pay close attention to happened.

5 - Randle Stand Down

Discussed event; what has been done and still needs to be done. Ed has done a lot to make sure this will be successful. VAB is very hopeful! PHSS staff will ask food inspector to email requirements to Rico to see if it is possible for the Senior Center to cater.

6 – VAB Applications

VAB went into executive session to review applications. Motion was made by Ken to have Anthony Rogers move forward as a regular member, Patrick Swanson move forward as an alternate member. Dannis Herron's application was not moved forward. Board encouraged Dennis to attend the meetings. Tabitha Hopp application was tabled until a later date when she would be able to attend in person. VAB is waiting on 2 more applications to come through before recommendation moves forward to BOCC approval. Ed second the motion. Motion passed unanimously, 5-0.