

1 **SUMMARY OF THE MINUTES**

2 **SAN JUAN COUNTY (SJC), WASHINGTON**
3 **Veterans' Advisory Board**
4 **October 25, 2019**

5
6 **Friday, October 25, 2019 – Legislative Large Conference Room, Friday Harbor, San Juan Island**

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8 **CALL TO ORDER – VETERANS' ADVISORY BOARD (VAB)**

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10 Veterans' Advisory Board Chairman, Ted Whitley, called the meeting to order at 11:44 a.m. Members Michael
11 Baker, Steve Jehly, Patricia Ayers, Kevin Holmes, Barry Neville, Bill Cumming, and Lindsey Callahan were
12 present.

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14 **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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16 The Agenda for the October 25, 2019 VAB meeting was approved by acclamation.

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18 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

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20 Barry Neville moved, and Lindsey Callahan seconded a Motion to approve the Minutes of the September 27,
21 2019 VAB meeting. The Minutes were approved unanimously.

22
23 **CITIZENS ACCESS**

24
25 John Hartzell, an Orcas Island Veteran addressed the VAB regarding medical service receipts he had forwarded
26 to the County but had not been part of his October, 2018 award from the VAB. The VAB advised him that he need
27 only submit a new assistance application listing these expenses and any other he can anticipate, allowing the
28 VAB to more clearly understand his situation and assist him in his specific needs. He was assured that the VAB
29 would process his application on an emergency basis upon receipt of his application.

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31 **OFFICER & COMMITTEE REPORTS**

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33 Ted Whitley described low income housing available on San Juan Island. Any VAB member aware of a Veteran
34 who could benefit should contact Michelle at 360-378-3000.

35
36 Ted Whitley reported that EL-O has lost his apartment and is camping in his car. BB-O is working with Orcas
37 resident Jana Webb to find another apartment. Patricia Ayers and Steve Jehly offered to monitor this effort.

38
39 Ted Whitley reported that HR-O had not used his July food voucher. He had briefly been in a mainland
40 convalescent center. Patricia Ayers offered to check his current status.

41
42 Ted Whitley reported that Harry Harrison of Orcas needs a ride to medical services in Mt Vernon in the next two
43 weeks. The local senior center has no facilities for him. Chris White, Orcas resident is working to find help (360-
44 920-7718). Orcas VAB members are encouraged to monitor this Veteran's needs.

45
46 **OLD BUSINESS**

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48 A poll was taken of VAB members to assure that the VAB met Washington State requirements that at least 50%
49 of the VAB belong to recognized national Veteran service organizations. Michael Baker belongs to the VFW,
50 Patricia Ayers belongs to the American Legion, Kevin Holmes belongs to the American Legion and the DAV,
51 Lindsey Callahan belongs to MOAA, Ted Whitley belongs to MOAA and DAV, and Gordon Koenig belongs to the
52 American Legion. Therefore 67% of the VAB belongs to recognized Veteran organizations, satisfying State
53 requirements in this regard.

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55 **NEW BUSINESS**

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57 The general circumstance of un-used or partially used VAB-awarded food vouchers was discussed by the VAB.
58 Some questioned if unused food vouchers should be returned to the County, re-assigned by the VAB, or left open

59 to the Veteran for as long as needed. Ted Whitley offered to confer with Milene Henley on this matter and report
60 back to the VAB. Our hope is for a standardized system that works for all County grocery stores and Veterans
61 while meeting State Auditors regulations regarding financial awards from County funds. Ms Henley will know
62 which grocers have workable systems and which have problems and will have insights into Auditor concerns.
63

64 Patricia Ayers announced that Orcas Island fisherman Van Stevens, 360-317-7207, had a substantial amount of
65 frozen fish available for needy Veterans. In future, award letters will mention this as well as Triple B Farms lamb
66 and pork. The VAB is very grateful to Mr. Stevens and to Triple B Farms for their service to the County Veteran
67 community.
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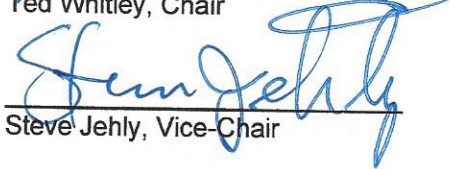
69 **QUASI-JUDICIAL CONSIDERATIONS**
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71 **CM (Orcas Application):** Ted Whitley moved, and Kevin Holmes seconded, a Motion to provide the Veteran
72 \$1200.00 (\$900.00 three months of food assistance at \$300.00 per month and \$300.00 for fuel cost assistance at
73 \$100.00 per month and requiring receipts for redemption). The motion was unanimously approved. The Veteran
74 will also be reminded about the availability of free meat from Triple B Farms and frozen fish from Mr. Stevens.
75 Michael Baker will contact the Veteran and urge a more detailed accounting of his expenses for any additional
76 assistance.
77

78 **PF (San Juan Application):** Ted Whitley moved, and Kevin Holmes seconded, a Motion to provide the Veteran
79 \$300.00 for a month of food assistance. The motion was unanimously approved contingent upon receipt of
80 additional income and expense details. The Veteran will also be reminded about the availability of free meat from
81 Triple B Farms and frozen fish from Mr. Stevens. Ted Whitley will contact the Veteran and urge a more detailed
82 accounting of her income and expenses for any additional assistance.
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84 **ADJOURNMENT** – The meeting adjourned at 12:45 p.m. The next VAB meeting is scheduled for December 6,
85 2019 at 11:45 a.m. in the Legislative Large Conference Room in Friday Harbor on San Juan Island.
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88 **VETERANS' ADVISORY BOARD**
89 **SAN JUAN COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

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91
92 Ted Whitley, Chair
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96 Steve Jehly, Vice-Chair
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100 By: Michael Baker, Secretary
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