

May 31, 2018

**VETERANS SERVICE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**Douglas County Board of Supervisors**  
**Thursday, June 7, 2018, 1:00 p.m., Courthouse Room 207C,**  
**1313 Belknap Street, Superior, Wisconsin**

Please call the Chair or County Clerk's Office (715-395-1569) if you cannot attend.

MEMBERS: Marvin Finendale, Chair  
Dennis Dalbec  
Mary Lou Bergman  
Eual Moore  
Jill Fortin  
Glen Erickson  
Clint Mattson, Alt.

**A G E N D A**

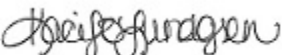
(Committee to maintain a two-hour meeting limit *or* take action to continue meeting beyond that time).

1. Roll call.
2. Approval of minutes from the April 5, 2018, meeting (attached).
3. Informational:
  - a) Veterans Service Officer report:
    1. Veteran Outreach and Recovery Program; and
    2. Veterans Office modification status.
  - b) Veteran emergency protocol;
  - c) Veterans needs/care center;
  - d) Veteran expo review;
  - e) Memorial weekend activities;
  - f) Memorial Day grave identification;
  - g) Veterans October festival planning; and
  - h) Incarcerated veterans notification and assistance.
4. Future agenda items.
5. Adjournment.

cc: Ann Doucette Susan Sandvick Shelley Nelson (Telegram)  
Brian Erickson County Board Supervisors Douglas County Website

NOTE: Attachments to agenda available in County Clerk's Office for viewing or copying. Action may be taken on items on the agenda. The County of Douglas complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. If you are in need of an accommodation to participate in the public meeting process, please contact the Douglas County Clerk's Office at (715) 395-1341 by 4:00 p.m. on the day prior to the scheduled meeting. Douglas County will attempt to accommodate any request depending on the amount of notice we receive. TDD (715) 395-7521.

Posted: Courthouse, Government Center, Telegram copied



5-31-18

Name

Date

**VETERANS SERVICE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**Thursday, April 5, 2018, 1:00 p.m.**  
**Room 207C, Douglas County Courthouse,**  
**1313 Belknap Street, Superior, Wisconsin**

Meeting called to order by Chair Marvin Finendale.

**ROLL CALL:** Present – Marvin Finendale, John Robinson, Mary Lou Bergman, Jill Fortin, Eual Moore, Glen Erickson, Clint Mattson (arrived 1:02 p.m.). Absent – Jim Paine. Others present – Brian Erickson, Mark Liebaert, Pat Ryan, Matt Markon, Tom Dalbec, Roxy Mattson, Kaci Lundgren, Committee Clerk.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Motion by Bergman, second Robinson, to approve minutes from the October 19, 2017, meeting. Motion carried.

**ACTION ITEM:**

**Meeting Dates/Times:** It works well to have meeting same date as Administration Committee.

**ACTION:** Motion by Bergman, second Robinson, to hold meetings bi-monthly, the first Thursday at 1p.m. Motion carried.

**INFORMATIONAL:**

**Veteran Emergency Protocol:** Arrested veterans are typically contacted by Veterans Service Officer (VSO) when self-identified at jail booking; many inmates do not identify as veterans for fear of embarrassment among other reasons. Dalbec to research more options to assist in identifying veterans and present to next meeting. Officers in the field are taught how to react to Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), when responding to a need. Additional training in the area of PTSD may be beneficial for officers; Service member Emergency Response Team (SERT) is a potential avenue for low-cost officer training. Markon to distribute VSO business cards to officers and discuss veteran care when responding to calls.

**December Veterans Expo:** Upcoming veteran's expo to be held April 24, 2018. Daniel Zimmerman, Secretary of Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs, to hold discussion at 1 p.m. Committee members invited to talk with veterans and ask for suggestions on improvement with local veteran care. Offering transportation to event may gather additional response.

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:** Emergency protocol follow-up; veteran needs/care center; VSO report; expo review.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Motion by Robinson, second Bergman, to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 2:12 p.m.

Submitted by,

Kaci Jo Lundgren, Committee Clerk



As of: May 2, 2018

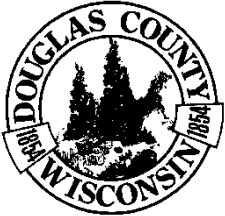
# CY-2018 VSO Status

Veterans Service Office  
Douglas County, WI

Brian Erickson  
Veteran Service Officer  
1316 N. 14<sup>th</sup> Street, Rm 385  
Superior, WI 54880  
715-395-1332  
Brian.Erickson@douglascountywi.org

# Douglas County Veteran Service Officer - Financial Management

As of: May 2, 2018

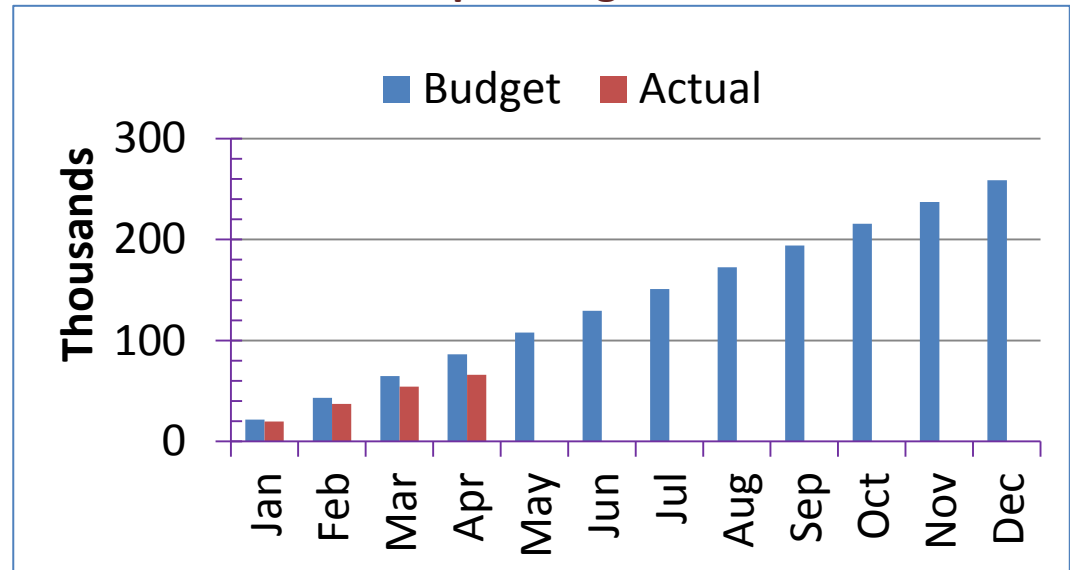


<b>Owner:</b>	Brian Erickson	<b>Objective</b>	The Douglas County VSO will: responsibly manage limited resources and ensure budgeted funds meet the needs and purpose of the Veteran Service Office.
<b>Measure:</b>	Financial Management	<b>Key Initiatives:</b>	To ensure we are within our target budget for CY18.

Date	2017 Budget	Actual Monthly
Jan	\$21,543.00	\$19,669.43
Feb	\$21,543.00	\$17,570.63
Mar	\$21,543.00	\$17,165.84
Apr	\$21,543.00	\$11,500.50~
May	\$21,543.00	\$
Jun	\$21,543.00	\$
Jul	\$21,543.00	\$
Aug	\$21,543.00	\$
Sep	\$21,543.00	\$
Oct	\$21,543.00	\$
Nov	\$21,543.00	\$
Dec	\$21,543.00	\$

~ Pending 2018 Apr final updates

## VSO Operating Costs



### Operating Expenses

Target = \$107,715.00  
 Actual = \$65,906.40~  
 Variance = \$41,808.60~

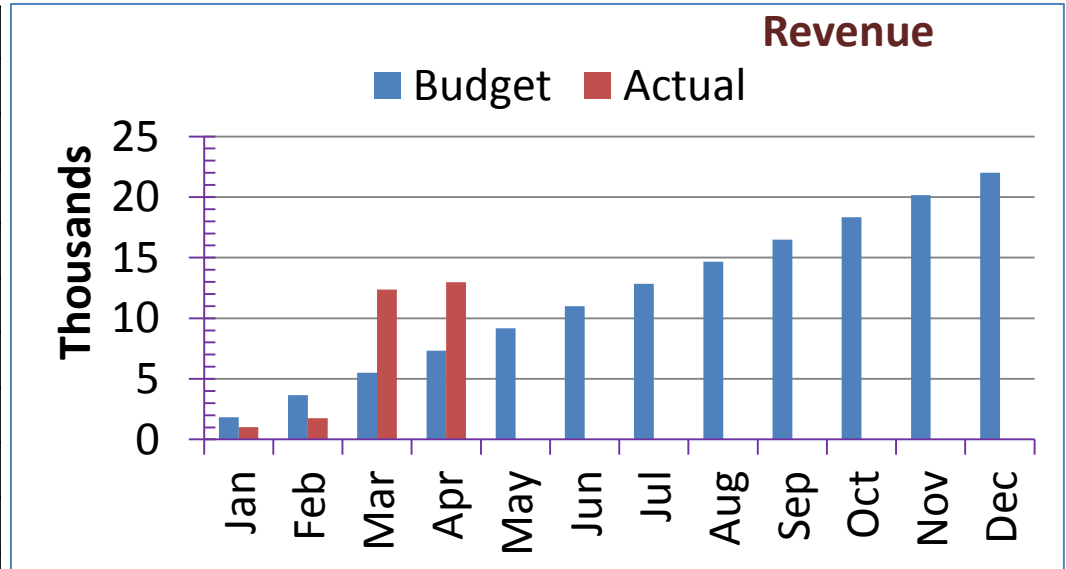
# Douglas County Veteran Service Officer - Financial Management

As of: May 2, 2018



<b>Owner:</b>	Brian Erickson	<b>Objective</b>	The Douglas County VSO will: responsibly manage limited resources and ensure budgeted funds meet the needs and purpose of the Veteran Service Office.
<b>Measure:</b>	Financial Management	<b>Key Initiatives:</b>	To ensure we are within our target Revenue for CY18.

Date	2017 Budget	Actual Monthly
Jan	\$1,833.00	\$1,008.00+
Feb	\$1,833.00	\$740.00+
Mar	\$1,833.00	\$10,630+#~
Apr	\$1,833.00	\$592.00+
May	\$1,833.00	\$
Jun	\$1,833.00	\$
Jul	\$1,833.00	\$
Aug	\$1,833.00	\$
Sep	\$1,833.00	\$
Oct	\$1,833.00	\$
Nov	\$1,833.00	\$
Dec	\$1,833.00	\$

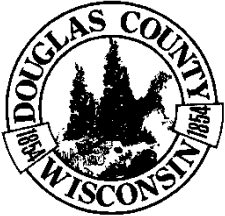


**Revenues to Date**  
 Target = \$7,332  
 Actual = \$12,970.00~  
 Variance = \$5,638.00~

+ Collected, Public Charges for Services  
 # WDVA, CVSO Grant  
 ~ Pending Mar 2018 final Updates

# Douglas County Veteran Service Officer - Financial Management

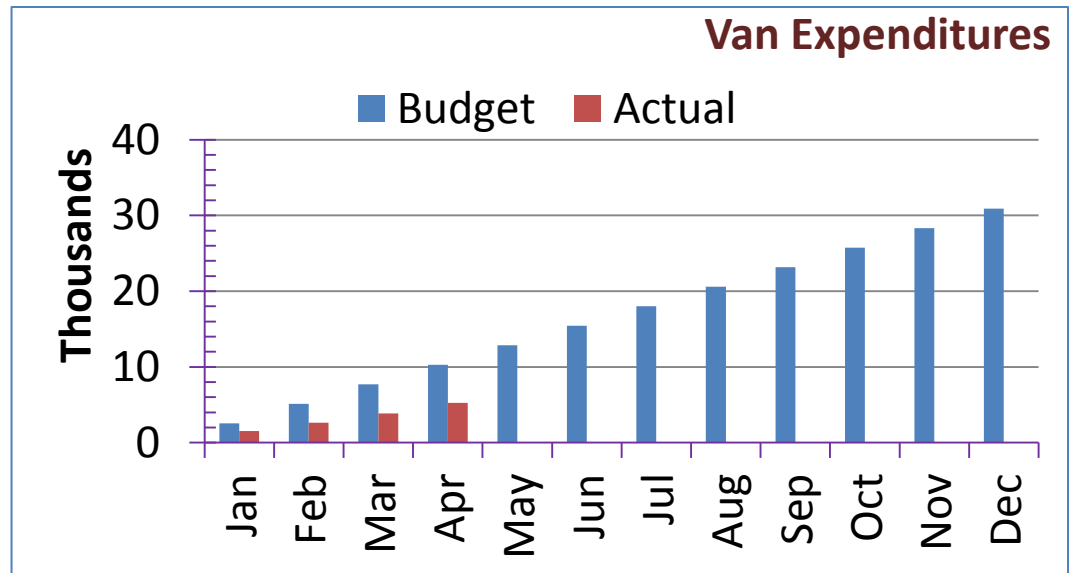
As of: May 2, 2018



<b>Owner:</b>	Brian Erickson	<b>Objective</b>	The Douglas County VSO will: responsibly manage limited resources and ensure budgeted funds meet the needs and purpose of the Veteran Service Office.
<b>Measure:</b>	Financial Management	<b>Key Initiatives:</b>	Monitor Transportation costs for CY18.

Date	2018 Budget	Actual Monthly
Jan	\$2575.00	\$1,535.05
Feb	\$2575.00	\$1,123.70
Mar	\$2575.00	\$1,186.25
Apr	\$2575.00	\$1421.72~
May	\$2575.00	\$
Jun	\$2575.00	\$
Jul	\$2575.00	\$
Aug	\$2575.00	\$
Sep	\$2575.00	\$
Oct	\$2575.00	\$
Nov	\$2575.00	\$
Dec	\$2575.00	\$

\*Insurance Payment  
 ~ Pending April 2018 final Updates



**Expenses to Date**  
 Target = \$10,300.00  
 Actual = \$5,266.72~  
 Variance = \$5,033.28~

**Note:** Van Expenditures include Driver Stipend, Maintenance & Repairs, Gas, Oil & Insurance.

# Douglas County Veteran Service Officer – Veteran Contact

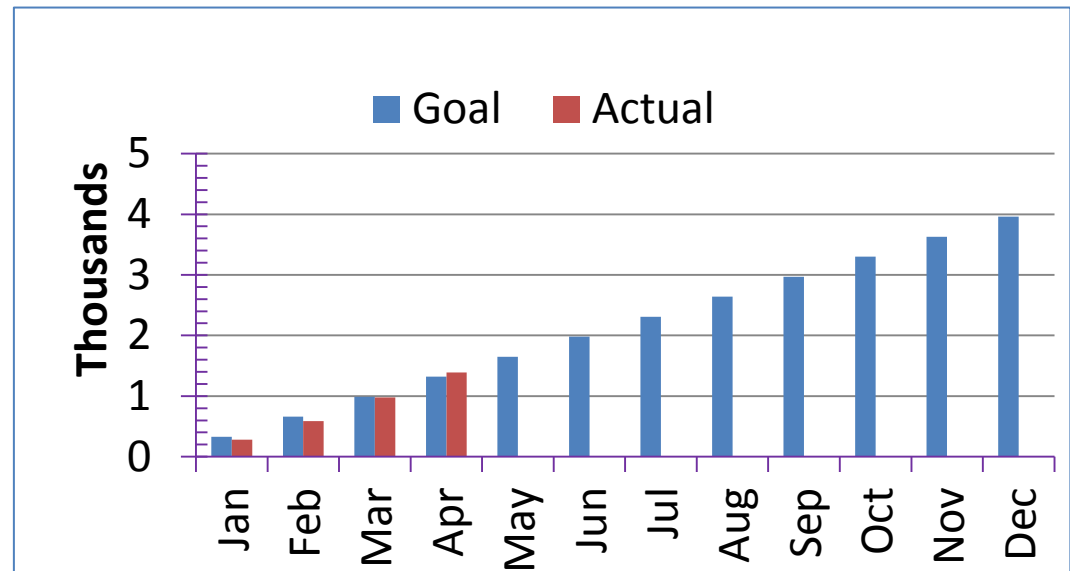
As of: April 30, 2018



<b>Owner:</b>	Brian Erickson	<b>Objective</b>	Conduct Outreach in order to serve the nearly 3700 veterans in the county and ensure Claims for Benefits are being provided to those that are eligible.
<b>Measure:</b>	Veteran Contact	<b>Key Initiatives:</b>	Monitor monthly Veteran Service Office Contacts Along with Compensation claims filed.

Date	2018 Goal	Actual Vets Contacted
Jan	330	278
Feb	330	308
Mar	330	389
Apr	330	415
May	330	
Jun	330	
Jul	330	
Aug	330	
Sep	330	
Oct	330	
Nov	330	
Dec	330	

## Number of Veterans Contacted



Total New Veterans Contacted in April 2018 = 30

Total Veteran Contacts in 2018 = 1,390

Claims increase from 2017 = (14.75%)



# Douglas County

## Veterans Service Officer

Brian L. Erickson

1316 N. 14<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 385

Phone (715) 395-1332 Fax (715) 395-1373

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## MEMORANDUM

To: Douglas County Health & Human Services Committee Chair Persons.

From: Brian Erickson, Douglas County Veterans Service Officer

Date: May 3, 2018

RE: Lease Agreement Between - Wisconsin Department of Veteran Affairs (WDVA) Veteran Outreach and Recovery Program (VORP) and Douglas County

VORP is a pilot program (which was previously funded by federal dollars before cuts) will be administered by the WDVA “to provide outreach, mental health services, and support to individuals who may have a mental health condition or substance abuse disorder,” and who meet certain eligibility requirements.

In October 2017 I was approached by the WDVA Director-Bureau of Programs and Services to assist him in locating a suitable office space of 2-3 days per week so they could place their NW Region VORP specialist in Superior, WI. The previous VORP representative was located solely in Hayward, WI and traveled throughout the northern counties of WI. This new WDVA desired approach would place the VORP specialist split between offices in Hayward and Superior allowing the position to work in Superior 2-3 days per week where the greater amount of homeless and at risk Veterans are located.

WDVA is interested in a no cost lease agreement with Douglas County to house their VORP representative within the Veteran Service Office spaces. I respectfully request approval for a no cost lease agreement between the WDVA and Douglas County in order to facilitate the relocation of the VORP representative which will better serve the Veterans in our county. This recommendation is contingent on the Douglas County Boards approval of the CVSO office space modification capital improvement request slated for the May 21, 2018 County Board agenda.

It is recommended that the lease should include a stipulation that would allow the Douglas County Veteran Service Office access to the new space during periods in which it is not scheduled to be utilized by VORP personnel. The Douglas County VSO proposes co-use of the space for the purposes of VORP, VA Telehealth and BVA Video Conference Hearings when not in use by VORP.



## Housing – Homeless

### **Support Services for Veterans & Families (SSFV)**

715-392-5127 ext. 124

The SSVF program promotes housing stability among very low-income Veteran families who reside in or are transitioning to permanent housing. Services include outreach, case management and temporary financial assistance.

### **Veterans Outreach & Recovery Program (VORP)**

608-266-3574

The VORP assists homeless and chronically homeless Veterans in receiving housing and support for behavioral health treatment and substance abuse services.

## Medical

### **Twin Port Veterans Outpatient Clinic**

715-398-2400

### **VA Medical Center-Mpls, MN**

612-725-2000

### **Health Care for Homeless Veterans**

877-222-8387

### **VA Medical Center-St. Cloud, MN**

320-252-1670

### **Vet Center-Duluth, MN**

218-722-8654

## **Veterans Crisis Line**

800-273-8255 Press 1

## VA Assistance-Benefits & Claims

Douglas County Veterans Service Office

715-395-1331

**For other questions, information, or concerns contact our office!**



# **A Resource Guide For Douglas County, WI Incarcerated Veterans**



## **VA Benefits While Incarcerated**

Some Veterans who are incarcerated in a Federal, State, or local institution may be eligible for VA benefits; however, the amount paid for certain benefits depends on the type of benefits and reason for incarceration.

**Disability Compensation** payments **are reduced** if a veteran is convicted of a felony and imprisoned for more than 60 days. The overall percentage is reduced to 10%. If rated at 10%, the percentage is reduced to 5%. Failure to notify the VA of your incarceration could result in the loss of all financial benefits until the overpayment is recovered. Benefits **are not reduced** if imprisoned for a misdemeanor or while waiting for trial (only upon conviction).

**Disability Pension** payments **will be discontinued** effective on the 61<sup>st</sup> day of imprisonment following a conviction of a felony or misdemeanor for veterans who are incarcerated in a Federal, State, or local institution. Failure to notify the VA of your incarceration could result in the loss of all financial benefits until the overpayment is recovered.

**Apportionment to spouse or children** all or part of the compensation not paid to an incarcerated veteran may be apportioned to the veteran's spouse, child(ren), or dependent parents on the basis of individual need. No apportionment is paid if convicted of a felony. Apportionment is not automatic. Dependent(s) must file a claim.

**Education** if incarcerated for other than a felony, can receive full monthly benefits. If incarcerated for a felony conviction, can be paid only the costs of tuition, fees, books, equipment, or supplies if another Federal, State, or local program pays these costs in full.

**Medical**-incarcerated veterans do not forfeit their eligibility for medical care; however, current regulations restrict VA from providing hospital and outpatient care to an incarcerated veteran who is an inmate in an institution of another government agency when that agency has a duty to give the care or services. Once the veteran has been unconditionally released from the penal institution, VA may provide care provided that the veteran is enrolled or will be enrolling for health care services.

**Military Records** - Military personnel records can include DD 214s/Separation Documents, replacement medals/ribbons, service personnel records, and service treatment records. All veterans are allowed to request any of these official items.

**Upon release, when will VA benefits be resumed?** Veterans may inform VA to have their benefits resumed within 30 days or less of their anticipated release date based on evidence from a parole board or other official incarceration source showing the veteran's scheduled release date. Your award for compensation or pension benefits shall be resumed the date of release from incarceration if the VA received notice of release within one year following release. Contact the Douglas County Veteran Service Office for assistance.

**How do I contact a VA representative while incarcerated?** Upon notification from the Douglas County Jail, from its staff, family members or correspondence from the veteran, our office can arrange to meet with the veteran (if the veteran is housed within the Douglas County Jail).