



KENTUCKY VETERANS PROGRAM TRUST FUND

Minutes

10 December 2024

Chairman Whitney Allen called the meeting to order at 9:06 a.m. This meeting was conducted via a hybrid Zoom videoconference and in-person meeting.

ROLL CALL

- Members Present:
 - o Whitney Allen (KDVA), Chairman
 - o Juan Renaud (KDVA), Deputy Commissioner, KDVA Designee
 - o Carl Kaelin (VFW)
 - o David Best (GAB)
 - o David Rummler (JECVO)

- Members Absent:
 - o Dave Jarrett (DAV)
 - o Tim Martinez (At-Large)

- KDVA Staff Present:
 - o Dwayne Edwards, KDVA Chief of Staff
 - o Kelsey Sanders, KDVA HR Specialist Senior
 - o Megan Walton, KYNG Staff Attorney

- The majority of voting members were present to satisfy a quorum.

REVIEW OF MINUTES

- Review of Minutes from previous meeting.
 - o Board received minutes from 18 September 2024 meeting as presented.

APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL REPORT

- Monthly Activity Reports for funds available after obligations: September

(\$343,701.01), October (\$345,112.82), and November (\$519,597.14)

- Total Available funds for granting today is \$518,597.14- Commissioner set a buffer of \$200,000 for awarding funds today. Financial Report received pending audit and amendments.

DISCUSSION

OLD BUSINESS

- Discussion on the status of new and pending members; including Carl Kaelin's reappointment as Co-Chair, American Legion submitted an applicant, and DAV submitted 2 applicants.

NEW BUSINESS

- 2 estate donations to the Trust Fund were received. One in the amount of \$109,000 from Mrs. Joanna Locke and one in the amount of \$13,000 from Senator Johnnie Turner.

REVIEW OF GRANT REQUESTS TOTALING \$307,820.00 for the following grants:

- 1. Covenant Capital Partners LLC DBA Invicta Solutions. (KS0024504)**
 - Request for funding in the amount of **\$59,900** to provide a specialized wheelchair transportation service for disabled veterans.
 - **No show to the presentation.**
- 2. Disabled American Veterans (DAV) Chapter 3. (KY0070628)**
 - Request for funding in the amount of **\$3,920** to replace old Honor Guard Uniforms.
 - The Board voted to approve an obligation of **\$3,920**
 - # Initial Motion made by Carl Kaelin (VFW).
 - # Motion seconded by David Best (GAB)
 - # Motion for approval unanimously carried.
- 3. St. Vincent De Paul Louisville (KY0079990)**
 - Request for funding in the amount of **\$50,000** to provide affordable housing to veterans who are homeless, at risk of homelessness, or who have experience homelessness in the past.
 - The Board voted to approve an obligation of **\$25,000.**
 - # Initial Motion made by Carl Kaelin (VFW).
 - # Motion seconded by David Best (GAB).
 - # Motion by Juan Renaud (KDVA Designee) to amend and specify that funds only be used for gap funding to help only KY veterans pay for housing.
 - # Motion seconded by Carl Kaelin (VFW).
 - # Motion for approval unanimously carried.

- 4. National Association for Black Veterans (NABVETS), Inc. (KY0059441)**
 - Request for funding in the amount of **\$4,000** to purchase updated software subscriptions to VetPro that allows access to VA data which supports veterans claims and benefits.
 - The Board voted to approve an obligation of **\$4,000**.
 - # Initial Motion made by Juan Renaud (KDVA Designee) to table pending additional research on the subscription.
 - # Juan Renaud (KDVA Designee) rescinded motion.
 - # Motion to approve full amount by David Best (GAB) with an addendum pending research regarding the purchasing of software and codifying the use in conjunction with US Dept of Veterans Affairs.
 - # Motion seconded by David Rummler (JECVO).
 - # Motion for approval unanimously carried.
- 5. Centerstone Military Services (KY0031436)**
 - Request for funding in the amount of **\$50,000** to provide a safety net of confidential counseling services at no to low-cost for veterans, service members, and military families who are unable or ineligible to access other service options.
 - The Board voted to approve an obligation of **\$50,000**.
 - # Initial Motion made by David Rummler (JECVO).
 - # Motion seconded by Juan Renaud (KDVA Designee)
 - # Motion made by David Best (GAB) to specify that funds be used only for KY veterans, servicemembers, and military families.
 - # Motion seconded by Juan Renaud (KDVA Designee).
 - # Motion for approval unanimously carried.
- 6. Operation Honors Corps (KY0063286)**
 - Request for funding in the amount of **\$30,000** to assist in the purchase of a new vehicle for day-to-day operations.
 - The Board voted to deny this grant.
 - # Initial Motion made by Carl Kaelin (VFW).
 - # Motion seconded by Juan Renaud (KDVA Designee).
 - # Motion for approval unanimously carried.
- 7. Louisville Armed Forces Committee (KY0077588)**
 - Request for funding in the amount of **\$10,000** to honor Armed Forces Day with active service members along with veterans of every branch of service.
 - The Board voted to approve an obligation of **\$10,000**.
 - # Initial Motion made by Carl Kaelin (VFW).
 - # Motion seconded by David Rummler (JECVO).
 - # Motion for approval unanimously carried.
- 8. Gift Global Initiative (KY0079988)**
 - Request for funding in the amount of **\$100,000** to launch an equine therapy trauma healing program that will use an approach in trauma healing known as the Bio-Well Method.

- The Board voted to deny this grant.
 - # Initial Motion made by David Best (GAB).
 - # Motion seconded by Juan Renaud (KDVA Designee).
 - # Motion for approval unanimously carried.

GRANT SUMMARY

- Total amount of Grants approved: 5 of 8.
- Total amount approved: **\$92,920.00**.

DISCUSSION

NEXT MEETING

DATE: March 12, 2025
TIME: 9:00 a.m. EST

PLACE: KDVA, 1111 Louisville Road, Suite B, Frankfort, KY 40601 or via Zoom teleconference.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, a motion was made by David Best (GAB) and seconded by David Rummler (JECVO) to adjourn at 12:43 p.m. Motion for adjournment was unanimously approved.



Whitney P. Allen, Jr.
Chairperson