

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Kitsap County Board of Commissioners will hold a public hearing on **November 6, 2006 at 10:30 a.m.** in its chambers, County Administrative Building, 619 Division Street, Port Orchard, Washington, to consider an **Ordinance** REPEALING AND READOPTING CHAPTER 2.92 OF KITSAP COUNTY CODE RELATING TO VETERANS' ASSISTANCE. A summary of the ordinance is as follows:

The ordinance repeals and readopts chapter 2.92 of the Kitsap County Code, relating to veterans' assistance, with code sections summarized as follows:

The first code section states the purpose of the chapter, including to promote compliance with state laws providing assistance to indigent veterans and their families and to achieve maximum use of limited public resources to assist as many indigent veterans and their families as possible.

The second code section provides definitions for the chapter, including for the terms "veteran," "advisory board," "veterans' assistance fund" and "indigent."

The third code section provides that the county's personnel and human services department will administer the veterans' assistance fund and specifies the duties of the department in administering the fund, including to assist the advisory board in giving advice and making recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners.

The fourth code section limits use of monies in the veterans' assistance fund to authorized veterans' assistance programs, burial or cremation of a deceased indigent veteran or deceased family member of an indigent veteran, and administration costs.

The fifth code section establishes a Veterans Advisory Board of up to 17 members, provides for solicitation of representatives and requires that all board members be veterans and that a majority of board members be members from nationally recognized veterans' service organizations. The section also provides for certain advisory board governance matters and specifies that board members serve at the pleasure of the Board of County Commissioners and that service is voluntary and without pay.

The sixth code section specifies the duties of the Veterans Advisory Board, including advising the Board of County Commissioners on programs that could benefit local indigent veterans and their families.

The seventh code section requires that applications for assistance comply with policies and procedures adopted by the board of county commissioners and specifies minimum compliance requirements for such applications.

The eighth code section provides for financial assistance for the burial or cremation of a deceased indigent veteran or deceased family member of an indigent veteran, including specifying under what circumstances such assistance will be provided.

The ninth code section provides that, except for administrative costs, no funds may be disbursed from the veterans' assistance fund except in accordance with county policies and procedures.

The tenth section provides that the county may contract with private providers and may authorize other entities to administer the veterans' assistance program through grants, contracts or interlocal agreements.

The eleventh section provides that the code chapter is to be liberally construed to achieve its stated purposes.

The full text of the ordinance will be sent upon request. Please contact Leif Bentsen, Personnel and Human Services (360) 337-4883 regarding additional questions or a copy of this ordinance.

ALL THOSE INTERESTED are welcome to attend.

Opal Robertson, Clerk of the Board
Kitsap County Commissioners Office

Kitsap County does not discriminate on the basis of disability. Individuals who require accommodations at this meeting, or who require this information in a different format, should contact the ADA Coordinator at (360) 337-7146 (voice) or (TDD) (360) 337-7275 or (800) 816-2782. Please provide five business days notice for accommodations, if possible.

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