



Veterans Advisory Board

The purpose and establishment of the Veteran's Advisory Board is to advise the Board of County Commissioners on the needs of local indigent veterans, the resources available to local indigent veterans, and the programs that could benefit the needs of local indigent veterans and their families.

BOARD MEETING

DATE: July 13, 2022
TIME: 5:30 p.m.
LOCATION: Olympic College, Building 11, Room 117

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Topic: Kitsap County VAB Meeting
Meeting ID: 872 9855 0007
Passcode: 737889
Phone: 1-253-215-8782

A G E N D A

* = Action Item

1. Call to Order Harry Gilger
2. Online Announcement (if required) Peggy Roy
3. Introductions Harry Gilger
4. Welcome Peggy Roy
5. Approval of Agenda* VAB
6. Approval of Minutes, June 8, 2022 VAB
7. Guest Speaker
 - a. TBD
8. Reports
 - a. Veterans Assistance Funds (reports provided in packet)
 - b. Committee Reports
 - Tiny Houses – Clive
 - Veterans Garden – Dennis/George
 - Public Affairs – Joe
 - Military Appreciation – Joe
 - Social Media – Brian
 - Veterans Day – Bob
 - Women's Resource Group – Peggy

- Suicide Prevention – Rick/Dan
 - Veteran Education – Tatiane
 - September Stand Down - Peggy
 - CBOC (Feb, April, July, Oct) – Peggy
9. Old Business
 - a. Veteran Information Sites Development
 10. New Business
 - a. Veteran Assistance Fund Budget Call for 2023
 11. Public Comment
 12. Good of the Order/Announcements
 13. Next Meeting, Time & Place – August 10, 2022, 1730, Olympic College, Building 11, Room 117.
 14. Adjourn

VAB Events 2022

January TBD – Begin Run to Tahoma planning meetings

January 12 - 1730, VAB monthly meeting

February 9 - 1730, VAB monthly meeting

March 9 - 1730, VAB monthly meeting

March 5 - Military Appreciation Day, Kitsap County Fairgrounds Pavilion

March/April - Veteran Garden prep

April 13 - 1730, VAB monthly meeting

April 30 – Spring Stand Down; Grab & Go

May TBD – Veteran Garden Working Party

May 11 - 1730, VAB monthly meeting

May 27 – The Unforgotten, Run to Tahoma; transfer Veteran remains from Coroner to County Admin Building

May 28 – 1000, The Unforgotten, Run to Tahoma

June TBD – Veteran Garden Working Party

June 8 - 1730, VAB monthly meeting

July TBD – 1000 – 1200, Veteran’s Garden Working Party

July 13 - 1730, VAB monthly meeting

August TBD – Veterans Garden Working Party

August 10 – 1730, VAB monthly meeting

September 14 - 1730, VAB monthly meeting

September 10 - 1830- 2000; World Suicide Prevention

September 24 - Fall Stand Down; 1000 - 1400 + set up and tear down

October TBD - Veterans Garden Working Party

October 12 – 1730 VAB monthly meeting

November 5 - 0900 - 1400, VAB Retreat (no monthly meeting)

November 11, Veterans Day

December 14 - 1730, VAB monthly meeting

January 11, 2023 - 1730, VAB monthly meeting

January 2023 - begin Run to Tahoma planning meetings

**MINUTES OF THE
KITSAP COUNTY VETERAN'S ADVISORY BOARD
June 8, 2022
In-Person and Online Meeting**

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was conducted at Olympic College and called to order by Harry Gilger at 5:30 PM. Access was available to members and the community through Zoom.

- **Announcements**

- The Chair read required on-line announcement covering the conduct of voting members and guests during the meeting.
- **Approval of Agenda:** A motion was made by Bob Theal and seconded by George Holden to approve the meeting agenda. The motion passed without objection.
- **Approval of minutes:** Motion made by Bob Theal and seconded by Rick Raymond to approve the May 11, 2022, meeting minutes. The motion passed without objection.
- **Guest Speaker** Mr. Casey Duff from Senator Cantwell's office represented the Senator and provided a summary on current legislation that is before congress impacting veterans. He summarized a bill that would provide relief to veterans who have been exposed to dangerous chemicals during the period of their military service. Debate on the bill is underway but he did not state it has bi-partisan support. The current version would allow claims for injury up to 10 years after completing service. Casey went on to discuss bills that if approved will provide additional funding the Veterans Administration to improve health services in its facilities and decrease the time it takes to process disability claims. At the present time it takes approximately 6 months to adjudicate a VA disability claim. He then took question from the attendees.
 - **VA Education Benefits eligibility after 10 years.** A community member expressed concern that he was being forced to change career fields and would like to use his VA education benefit to pay for the training. Unfortunately, he will have been retired from active duty for 10 years and will no longer be eligible for the benefit. The member would like to know if something can be done to extend eligibility for using the education benefit. Casey said he will forward the issue to Tacoma office staff for follow up.
 - **Concurrent receipt of retirement and VA disability benefits.** A member raised the issue concerning military retirees who are rated with less than 50% disability for service-connected conditions having their retired pay reduced by the amount of the disability compensation payment. The member suggested to reduce a member's retired pay which is earned over many years, is not fair to the member. Casey said he will forward the issue to Tacoma office staff for follow up.
 - **Restoration of Veterans Administration claims assistance presence in Kitsap County.** A member explained that the Veterans Administration withdrew its Bremerton claims assistance

presence a couple years ago. A veteran must now travel to Seattle to meet face-to-face with a VA representative. With Kitsap County hosting the second largest concentration of veterans in the state and planned growth in the veteran population in the future, a request was made to Mr. Duff to influence the VA to reopen a local office in Kitsap County to serve Veterans. This is more important than ever as disability claims processing is still inordinately long, appeals by Veterans are much more difficult due to the cost of transportation and the Puget Sound water barrier to Seattle. Having local VA representation is necessary to provide excellent customer service to veterans, speed up the claims processing timeline, and provide support to volunteer veteran service officer in the area. Casey said he will forward the issue to Tacoma office staff for follow up.

Casey concluded his discussion by inviting the veteran community to communicate with the Senator's office and agreeing to return to a future VAB meeting and provide legislative updates.

- **Reports: Committee Reports. Lack of time did not permit detailed reports from leaders this month.**
 - Veterans Assistance Funds – Peggy reviewed the financial reports with the group. She noted that the projected Fund Balance is now about \$50K less than budget. Also, the demand and cost for services is up over time. The current spend rate from the fund is about \$2K more per month than budget.
 - Tiny Houses – Nothing new to report.
 - Veterans Garden – Rain has delayed planting. Peggy Roy asked for volunteers to support a garden workday. Please contact her or Dennis if you can help.
 - Public Affairs - Joe Kochera commented on an event in Bremerton called the Bridge Blast. It is scheduled for 25 June at 9pm at the Manette Bridge.
 - Military Appreciation Day – Nothing new to report.
 - Veterans Day – Nothing new to report.
 - Social Media – Brian asked attendees to send him pictures from the Run to Tahoma event so he can post them to the Veterans Advisory Board Facebook page.
 - Suicide Prevention – Rick Raymond announced a Suicide Prevention event will be held in September in front of the Kitsap County Administration Building. Rick has invited congressional officials from Washington State to attend.
 - Women's Resource Group – Nothing new to report.
 - CBOC – Next report will occur in July.
- **Old Business –**
 - Unforgotten Run – Peggy commented that the Run to Tahoma was a success. The ceremony and motorcycle procession were well attended. It is estimated that about 150 motorcycle riders attended. Dan Korstad who led a team to organize the ride added that the ride was well supported by law enforcement and went smoothly. Planning for the 2022 Run will start in August 2022. Dan was recognized for his outstanding leadership and support of the event.
- **New Business –**
 - Peggy commented that planning for the September Stand Down has started but reminded the group that the Veterans Assistance Fund's balance and expected spending may make traditional levels of support difficult. She explained to the group that event planners from KAVA and the

VAB will start meetings in June when the offered services will be discussed.

- Rick Becker discussed the idea of developing information resource sites with willing organizations in Kitsap County. The sites would allow the VAB to display information targeted to Veteran that would cover veterans’ benefits, Veterans Assistance Funds, Veteran Community Resources, and other topics the site representative may suggest. Rick has already seen interest from the Disabled American Veterans, Olympic College, and Kitsap Regional Library. He requested volunteers from the board to explore the idea. The board supported the concept and Rick will take steps to implement on a trial basis.

- **Good of the Order/Announcements:**

- No announcements.

- **Public Comments:** There were no public comments.

- **Next meeting:** Next monthly meeting will be July 13, 2022. The in-person meeting will be held at Olympic College in Building 11, Room 117. A link allowing online access to the meeting will be sent out at a later date.

- **ADJOURNMENT:** Meeting adjourned at 1900.

Task Tracker			
Date	Name	Task and Goal for Completion	Progress
6/8/22	Rick Becker	Develop a limited number of sites around the county that will allow the display of Veteran Information.	6/8/2022: Discussed the idea with site representatives. Will develop a list of brochures for display and agree on details about how to replenish sites.

ATTENDANCE:

MEMBERS	GUESTS	STAFF
<p><u>Present</u> Harry Gilger Dan Piper Dennis Mannick Peggy Roy Tatiane Simons Richard Raymond Joe Kochera Jayme DeGooyer Bob Theal Joel Atteberry Clive Stewart Brian Davis Frank Gibbons George Holden</p> <p><u>Absent/Excused</u> Scott Austin (E) Jeff Rimack (E)</p>	<p>Casey Duff – Senator Cantwell’s office. Mark Lowe Dan Korstad Jenn Aguilar</p>	<p>Doug Washburn Sonya Mills Rick Becker Rebecca Pirtle</p>

2022 Veterans Relief Fund Budget

As of June 30, 2022

Account #	Account Title	Budget	Year to Date	Percent	Balance
	Beginning Fund Balance	300,000.00	354,753.69		
Current Revenue					
3110.10	Real & Personal Property	596,000.00	307,676.31	51.6%	288,323.69
3610.11	Investment Interest	2,000.00	162.44	8.1%	1,837.56
3000	Other Revenue	0.00	1,251.22	100.0%	(1,251.22)
	Revenue total	598,000.00	309,089.97	51.7%	288,910.03
	Budget total	898,000.00			
County Staff Charges					
5101	Regular Salaries	38,759.00	18,806.51	48.5%	19,952.49
5201	Industrial Insurance	455.00	190.26	41.8%	264.74
5202	Social Security	2,965.00	1,427.49	48.1%	1,537.51
5203	PERS Retirement	3,973.00	1,918.13	48.3%	2,054.87
5209	WA State Family Leave	57.00	24.36	42.7%	32.64
5229	Benefit Bucket	7,245.00	6,476.75	89.4%	768.25
5311	Office Supplies	500.00	314.69	62.9%	185.31
5419	Other Prof Services	-	400.00	100.0%	(400.00)
5422	Cellular Telephone	-	176.67	100.0%	(176.67)
5425	Postage	100.00	2.12	2.1%	97.88
5431	Mileage	1,000.00	-	0.0%	1,000.00
5432	Travel	500.00	-	0.0%	500.00
5451	Operating Rentals	-	405.99	100.0%	(405.99)
Contracted Services					
5415	Management Consulting	(130,000.00)	-	0.0%	(130,000.00)
	KCR	600,000.00	149,007.15	24.8%	450,992.85
	NW Justice League	50,000.00	29,225.50	58.5%	20,774.50
Standdown					
5311	Office Supplies	(9,500.00)	-	0.0%	(9,500.00)
	KAVA	10,000.00	10,000.00	100.0%	-
5413	Medical/Dental	2,000.00	-	0.0%	2,000.00
5441	Advertising	2,000.00	-	0.0%	2,000.00
5451	Operating Rentals	500.00	-	0.0%	500.00
5499	Other Miscellaneous	9,183.00	-	0.0%	9,183.00
	Veteran's Garden	300.00	-	0.0%	300.00
County Charges					
5912	I/F IS Service Charges	3,012.00	1,506.00	50.0%	1,506.00
5913	I/F IS Program Maintenance	1,170.00	585.00	50.0%	585.00
5922	I/F IS Projects	166.00	82.98	50.0%	83.02
5996	Indirect Cost Allocation	6,001.00	3,000.50	50.0%	3,000.50
	Expense total	600,386.00	223,550.10	37.2%	376,835.90
	Estimated ending fund balance	297,614.00	250,000.00		
	Budget total	898,000.00			



Veterans Assistance Fund 2022

Monthly Report: June 2022

Submitted by: Garry Hughes

Activity	June	YTD
Total Applicants	31	250
Total # of New Applicants	4	34
Applications Accepted	31	248
Applications Denied	0	2
General Discharges	0	2
2022 Total Unduplicated	6	134
Total Payout	\$ 33,262.30	\$ 188,765.78

Activity	
Appliances	
Auto Repair	\$ 2,134.10
Burial	
Bus Pass	
Bus Ticket Home	
Clothing	\$ 886.41
Dental	\$ 100
Food, includes hygiene and cleaning supplies	\$ 3,191
Gasoline	\$ 946.22
Heating Oil	
Motel	\$ 2,128.32
Medical	
Natural Gas	\$ 275.19
Occupation Certification	
Phone	\$ 183.88
Propane	
PSE	\$ 2,616.66
Rent	\$ 17,846.23
Sewer	\$ 503.08
Union Dues	
Waste Management	\$ 370.14
Water	\$ 2,081.07
Wood for Heat/ Pellets	
Misc.	
Total Payout	\$ 33,262.30

Demographics	May	YTD
Veteran	5	127
Dependent	1	6
Widow	0	1
Gender		
Male	5	94
Female	1	40
Other Gender	0	0
Age		
30 yrs. old and under	0	3
31 to 60 yrs. old	1	45
60 yrs. old and over	5	86
Ethnicity		
Hispanic or Latino	0	0
Non-Hispanic or Latino	6	134
Race		
American Indian/Alaskan Native	0	0
Asian	0	0
Black or African American	1	24
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0	4
White	5	106
Other Race	0	0
Multi Race (2 or more of the above)	0	0

Of those that were served out of the Assistance Fund, some were given information on other KCR programs.

KCR \$ value of referrals – \$10,194

KCR \$ value of referrals YTD (January 2022 – Present) – \$54,525

Applications Denied: 0 - *most denials are handled prior to the veteran being seen in office, many are after speaking on phone and gathering general information, and these are not reported on. Only those ending up in face to face meetings are reported on*

Referrals

All clients are given referrals to community services including KCR.

Of those Veterans served out of the assistance fund, all were referred to other programs and given resources outside of KCR:

- Rental Assistance programs
- Weatherization services/resources
- King County VAF
- Mason County VAF
- Pierce County VAF
- SSVF (Supportive Services for Veterans and Families)
- Food Banks/Free Meal Sites
- Salvation Army, St. Vincent's de Paul, DSHS
- Work Source

- WDVA/Building 10
- American Financial Solutions
- 211 Resource Line
- Transportation Resources
- Legal Resources/Northwest Justice Project
- HVRP and VIP programs
- American Financial Solutions
- Landlord/Tenant laws of Washington State
- HVRP and VIP programs
- Housing Solutions Center (HSC)

\$ Value of Referrals outside of KCR - \$7,326

\$ Value of Referrals YTD (January 2022-Present) - \$32,587

48 phone calls fielded seeking information outside of assistance fund

May Breakdown:

Jail Contacts – 2

YTD (January 2022-Present) – 10 individuals

Clean and Sober Housing – 0

YTD (January 2022-Present) – 1 individuals (\$800)

Eviction relief Funding – \$11,138.23 (included in above total)

YTD (January 2022-Present) – 4 Households (\$14,144.36)

Kitsap County Veterans Assistance Program - Summary of Direct Emergency Assistance During 2022

Total Direct Service Budget 2022 - \$350,000

Activity	Jan-22	Feb-22	Mar-22	Apr-22	May-22	Jun-22	Jul-22	Aug-22	Sep-22	Oct-22	Nov-22	Dec-22	Total 2022
Appliances		\$ 142	\$ 786	\$ 1,900									\$ 2,828
Auto Repair	\$ 5,988	\$ 1,282	\$ 4,853	\$ 2,527	\$ 2,122	\$ 2,134							\$ 18,906
Burial		\$ 3,000	\$ 605	\$ 6,968									\$ 10,573
Bus Pass													\$ -
Bus Ticket Home													\$ -
Clothing		\$ 250	\$ 250	\$ 624	\$ 1,764	\$ 886							\$ 3,774
Dental	\$ 959		\$ 2,491	\$ 1,705	\$ 188	\$ 100							\$ 5,443
Food	\$ 2,049	\$ 1,915	\$ 1,764	\$ 3,413	\$ 2,123	\$ 3,191							\$ 14,455
Gasoline	\$ 607	\$ 459	\$ 400	\$ 671	\$ 1,072	\$ 946							\$ 4,155
Heating Oil													\$ -
Motel	\$ 285					\$ 2,128							\$ 2,413
Medical	\$ 47	\$ 103	\$ 1,345	\$ 180									\$ 1,675
Natural Gas	\$ 139	\$ 643	\$ 615	\$ 491	\$ 674	\$ 275							\$ 2,837
Occupation Certification													\$ -
Phone	\$ 1,129	\$ 1,085		\$ 2,889	\$ 855	\$ 184							\$ 6,142
Propane	\$ 1,273	\$ 664	\$ 1,193	\$ 938	\$ 925								\$ 4,993
PSE	\$ 2,984	\$ 3,212	\$ 4,388	\$ 4,601	\$ 10,315	\$ 2,617							\$ 28,117
Rent	\$ 20,322	\$ 7,004	\$ 2,481	\$ 4,633	\$ 15,746	\$ 17,846							\$ 68,032
Sewer	\$ 457	\$ 333	\$ 774	\$ 305	\$ 176	\$ 503							\$ 2,548
Union Dues													\$ -
Waste Management	\$ 167	\$ 125	\$ 92	\$ 210	\$ 646	\$ 370							\$ 1,610
Water	\$ 1,065	\$ 920	\$ 262	\$ 1,150	\$ 5,044	\$ 2,081							\$ 10,522
Wood for Heat/ Pellets													\$ -
TOTALS	\$ 37,471	\$ 21,137	\$ 22,299	\$ 33,205	\$ 41,650	\$ 33,261	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 189,023
Balance	\$ 312,529	\$ 291,392	\$ 269,093	\$ 235,888	\$ 194,238	\$ 160,977	\$ 160,977	\$ 160,977	\$ 160,977	\$ 160,977	\$ 160,977	\$ 160,977	\$ 160,977

Demographics	Jan-22	Feb-22	Mar-22	Apr-22	May-22	Jun-22	Jul-22	Aug-22	Sep-22	Oct-22	Nov-22	Dec-22	Total 2022
Veteran	49	19	12	16	26	5							127
Dependent	3	0	0	1	1	1							6
Widow	0	0	0	0	1	0							1
Gender													
Male	32	13	8	14	22	5							94
Female	20	6	4	3	6	1							40
Other Gender	0	0	0	0	0	0							0
Age													
30 yrs. old and under	2	0	0	0	1	0							3
31 to 60 yrs. old	19	5	5	8	7	1							45
60 yrs. old and over	31	14	7	9	20	5							86
Ethnicity													
Hispanic or Latino	0	0	0	0	0	0							0
Non-Hispanic or Latino	52	19	12	17	28	6							134
Race													
American Indian/Alaskan Native	0	0	0	0	0	0							0
Asian	0	0	0	0	0	0							0
Black or African American	11	4	0	2	6	1							24
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0	1	0	0	3	0							4
White	41	14	12	15	19	5							106
Other Race	0	0	0	0	0	0							0
Multi Race (2 or more of the above)	0	0	0	0	0	0							0
TOTALS	52	19	12	17	28	30	0	0	0	0	0	0	128

2022 Applications Per month	52	40	30	48	49	31	0	0	0	0	0	0	250
2022 New Clients served YTD	4	3	3	10	10	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	34
2022 Clients denied	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
2022 Total Clients Served (unduplicated #)	52	19	12	17	28	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	134

2021 Applications Per month	50	40	48	43	41	49	49	51	51	56	57		535
2021 New Clients served YTD	5	5	3	3	0	4	5	3	5	9	6		48
2021 Clients denied	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		0
2021 Total Clients Served (unduplicated #)	50	24	19	14	8	12	15	15	13	9	6		185

2020 Applications Per month	50	42	31	33	37	45	49	36	55	59	43	60	540
2020 New Clients served YTD	8	6	5	6	6	9	4	3	6	5	3	8	69
2020 Clients denied	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
2020 Total Clients Served (unduplicated #)	50	22	17	19	16	16	15	8	12	16	8	9	208

2019 Applications Per month	57	39	51	67	58	44	58	48	41	63	43	44	613
2019 New Clients served YTD	7	8	7	9	8	7	10	4	4	11	5	5	85
2019 Clients denied	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	4
2019 Total Clients Served (unduplicated #)	56	20	22	31	24	18	21	11	15	18	13	7	256

2018 Applications Per month	41	29	34	38	42	42	43	33	40	37	40		419
2018 New Clients served YTD	7	4	2	5	5	4	5	5	8	9	7		61
2018 Clients denied	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0		3
2018 Total Clients Served (unduplicated #)	41	16	17	11	18	15	18	11	12	17	22		198

2017 Applications Per month	37	30	49	43	36	48	48	55	38	49	48	47	528
2017 New Clients served YTD	8	8	7	12	8	8	3	13	15	10	7	11	110
2017 Clients denied	0	1	1	2	0	2	0	1	1	3	2	2	15
2017 Total Clients Served	37	29	48	41	36	46	48	54	37	46	46	45	513

2016 Applications per month	36	45	37	36	36	41	50	40	33	37	35	32	458
2016 New Clients served YTD	10	14	7	5	5	10	13	10	9	7	9	2	101

2015 Applications per month	38	35	46	45	39	22	48	41	42	34	40	42	472
2015 New Clients served YTD	11	13	19	12	8	5	14	14	10	10	13	15	144