**DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS**

**DEPARTMENT OF SOUTH DAKOTA**

**SERVICE AND TRANSPORTATION, INC.**

**ABERDEEN, SOUTH DAKOTA**

**APRIL 24, 2025**

The Disabled American Veterans (DAV) Department of South Dakota Service and Transportation, Inc. (Corporation) was called to order by Chairperson Christine Speirs at 6:00 p.m. on April 24, 2025, at AmericInn, Aberdeen, South Dakota

**PRESENT**: Chairperson Christine Speirs, Sr Vice Chair Tim Walsh, 1st Jr. Vice Commander Amy Lucas, Secretary Marty Pennock, Treasurer Gene Murphy- Via Avaya, and Director Dan Francis.

**EXCUSED**: Director Bob Hill

**UNEXCUSED:**

**GUESTS**: DAV National 1st Jr. Vice Commander John Donovan, Chapter 1 Sr. Vice Commander Jack Hanson, National Service Office Supervisor Owen Richards

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**:

On a motion by Tim Walsh, Chapter No. 1, and seconded by Amy Lucas, Chapter No. 13, to approve the corporation agenda of April 24, 2025. Motion carried.

**MINUTES OF OCTOBER 4, 2024**:

On a motion by Tim Walsh, Chapter No. 1, and seconded by Amy Lucas, Chapter No. 13, to approve October 4, 2024, minutes. Discussion. Motion carried.

**TREASURER REPORT:** Treasurer Murphy presented the following:

* Financial Reports of FY 2023-2024 and FY 2024-2025
* Financial Overview of FY 2016-2017 to FY 2024-2025
* DAV Department of South Dakota Annual Financial Report of FY 2024-2025

On a motion by Dan Francis, Chapter No. 1, and seconded by Tim Walsh, Chapter No. 1, to approve the Treasurer’s Report. Discussion. Motion carried.

**COMMITTEE REVIEW FUND RAISING PROGRAMS**:

**2025 DAV CONVENTION RAFFLE PROGRAM:** As of March 31, 2025, proceeds from ticket sales are reported as $4,290.00; income for prizes of $6,850.00; and expenses of $2,377.95. We thank all members and friends who have purchased tickets. Last year (2024) the income was $27,447.00 with expenses of $8,141.06 and a net profit of $19,305.94.

Thank you to all Chapters, Units, and Members who provided prizes for this year's raffle program.

**21ST ANNUAL DAV BROOKINGS CHAPTER NO. 22 AND 727TH TRANSPORTATION POKER RUN:** The DAV Brookings Chapter No. 22 and the 727th Transportation Poker Run will be held on August 30th, 2025, at Brookings. Registration starts at 10:00 a.m. with the "Parade at High Noon." Registration is $20.00.

The DAV is requesting door prizes from the Chapters and members. Chapters provided door prizes last year. This event provided the DAV with $57,000.00 for the DAV Hospital Transportation Network which brought the total donations in twenty years to over $506,000.00. A special “THANKS” goes out to the 727th Transportation group.

Discussion about if the DAV Department should purchase a gift for the DAV/727th Poker Run 20th Committee.

On a motion by Tim Walsh, Chapter No. 1, and seconded by Dan Francis, Chapter No. 1, to approve the purchase of drinking tumblers for the 727 Committee Members of the 727 2025 Charity Run on 30 August 2025, in Brookings, SD. Amy Lucas and Kim Hubers will be the Committee on this project. Discussion, Motion carried.

**DAV HOSPITAL TRANSPORTATION NETWORK FUNDING: The** DAV Arthur H. Muchow Chapter No. 1 of Sioux Falls has approved to provide to the DAV Department of South Dakota a grant of $10,000.00 each year starting July 1, 2019, for the salary increase for the two (2) DAV Hospital Transportation Network Coordinators for a total of $50,000.00 donations.

The Committee would invite ALL Chapters to assist with the two-salary packages for our coordinators.

**VIETNAM VETS STILL COMING HOME – THEIR STORIES – THEIR WORDS**: This book was put together by Steven H. Feimer and Kristine Elin Cable. It tells the stories of thirty-one (31) Vietnam Veterans.

The organization has published 2,500 books. DAV Arthur H. Muchow Chapter No. 1 and DAV Department of South Dakota donated $2,500.00 for publication of book. A copy of the book is available for members’ review.

The profit from the sales of these books has given back $52,500.00. Monies derived from the sale of the Vietnam Vets still Coming Home go to the DAV only. Disbursement to other organizations is not approved any longer.

**DEPARTMENT 501c (3) ORGANIZATION**: The Department has the approval of the DAV National and State of South Dakota for the Article of Incorporation of Disabled American Veterans Department of South Dakota Service and Transportation, Inc. (Corporation); and formation of a 501C(3) organization from IRS.

The DAV will need to propose a fund-raising letter to be mailed to the businesses/corporations in South Dakota. The DAV will need to contact DAV National, Edward Hartman, Inspector General concerning the letter.

The Board of Directors of this Corporation will have meetings during the convention.

The corporation provided $12,000.00 in FY 2021-2022 to the Department for the DAV Service and Transportation Network.

**DAV STAFF COST-OF-LIVING ADJUSTMENTS (COLA**): The Department has four (4) employees of the Adjutant, Administrative Assistant (Part-Time), and two (2) Hospital Transportation Network Coordinators. The committee is recommending a 2.5% COLA raise effective July 1, 2025. This percentage raise will cost the Department approximately $2,125.00 annually.

On a motion by Tim Walsh, Chapter No. 1, and seconded by Gene Murphy, Chapter No. 1, to approve the recommendation to approve a 2.5% COLA pay raise for the four paid Department employees, on July 1st, 2025. Discussion. Motion carried.

**OTHER FUND-RAISING PROPOSALS:**

On a motion by Gene Murphy, Chapter No. 1 and seconded by Mary Pennock, Chapter No. 1, to approve the request for the DAV Department of SD to request the grant be reinstated from the SDDVA to the DAV Department of SD in support of its Service Foundation. Discussion. The request will be made at the Veterans Town hall to the SDDVA Secretary, in person, on April 25th, 2025, by DAV Department of SD, Sr. Vice Commander, Tim Walsh. Motion carried.

On a motion by Amy Lucas, Chapter No. 13, and seconded by Dan Francis, Chapter No. 1, to approve the Income Research Committee recommendations. Motion carried.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**: Bulletin Booster $20.00; Convention Raffle 1 tickets for $5.00, and 3 tickets for $10.00 with soliciting Chapters and members for raffle prizes; Research Raffle of Side By Side (Ranger); Service-Legislative Program (COLA); Send fund raising letter to businesses/corporations for DAV Service and Transportation; Grant from South Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs; DAV Poker Runs in Brookings on August 30, 2025; Accept National Service Foundation grants; Accept the grant of $10,000.00 per year from the DAV Arthur H. Muchow Chapter No. 1 for the DAV HTN Coordinators; Selling the book “Vietnam Vets: Still Coming Home”; Donations from the Chapters; Letters providing information and requesting funding for the DAV Hospital Transportation Network from the DAV Chapters, DAV Auxiliary Units, American Legion Posts, PVA North Central Chapter, VFW Posts, and other organizations/corporations; and COLA of 2.5% for the four (4) Department employees.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

None.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**1. FUTURE MEETING DATE:** April 26, 2025, at the conclusion of the DAV Dept of SD EC Meeting, in Aberdeen.

**GOOD OF THE ORDER**: None

On a motion by Gene Murphy, Chapter No. 1, and seconded by Dan Francis, Chapter No. 1, to adjourn the DAV Department of South Dakota Service and Transportation, Inc. Board of Directors meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Submitted by Marty Pennock, Secretary.

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