

**FERRY COUNTY  
RESOLUTION NO. 2008-07**

**AMENDING BYLAWS FOR  
THE VETERANS ASSISTANCE BOARD**

WHEREAS, RCW 73.08 provides for distribution of the County Veterans' Assistance Fund; and

WHEREAS, these funds have been dispersed by the American Legion for the past several years, presently the only veterans organization with a post located in Ferry County; and

WHEREAS, on March 14, 1994 the Ferry County Board of Commissioners adopted Resolution No. 94-06 Establishing the Veterans Assistance Board and Adopting Bylaws for the Same; and

WHEREAS, on October 21, 1996 the Ferry County Board of Commissioners adopted Resolution No. 96-43 Amending the Bylaws for the Veterans Assistance Board; and

WHEREAS, on December 8, 1997 the Ferry County Board of Commissioners adopted Resolution No. 97-38 to increase the maximum payment for burial of indigent deceased veterans from \$300.00 to \$515.20; and

WHEREAS, on March 10, 2008 the Ferry County Board of Commissioners adopted Resolution No. 2008-07 to increase the financial assistance from \$300.00 to \$500.00 and to increase the maximum payment of burial of indigent deceased veterans from \$515.20 to \$700.00.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Ferry County Veterans Assistance Board Bylaws are hereby amended as follows:

**BYLAWS**

**Article I - Name**

Section 1. This body shall be known as the Veterans' Assistance Advisory Board (hereinafter referred to as the Board).

**Article II - Purpose**

Section 1. The purpose of the Board is to advise the Ferry County Commissioners on budget matters relating to the County Veterans' Assistance Fund. These bylaws are enacted under the authority of RCW Chapter 73.08 Veterans' Relief, and RCW Chapter 36.32.120 Powers of Legislative Authority.

**Article III - Responsibilities**

Section 1. The Board will review requests from the various veteran's organizations, and make recommendations to the County Commissioners regarding the utilization of the Veterans' Assistance Fund.

Section 2. The Board will establish a set of guidelines on the use of funds as budgeted by Ferry County. Such guidelines will be reviewed annually and updated as needed.

#### Article IV - Membership

Section 1. The Board will be composed of three (3) members from each veteran's organization with posts located in Ferry County. These members will be appointed by each participating veterans' organization for terms to be determined by same.

Section 2. Veteran's Organizations:

- a. Veterans of Foreign Wars
- b. American Legion
- c. Forty and Eight
- d. Disabled American Veterans

and any other national organization of veterans now, or which may hereafter be chartered by an act of congress, which shall undertake the relief of indigent veterans and their families.

Section 3. A president, vice-president and secretary will be elected each September. No person may be elected who is not a member of a veteran's organization.

a. Duties:

1. President/Commander (or 1st Vice Commander): To know parliamentary law and procedures and the organization's rules and bylaws. To preside at all meetings of the Board and maintain order throughout proceedings. To direct the business of the meeting, take up each piece of business in its proper order. To entertain and state all motions properly coming before the assembly. To maintain order, decide all points of order, to vote only to break a tie, and to vote when the vote is taken by ballot. To call special meetings as the need arises. To perform such other duties as are prescribed in the bylaws. To file the annual report referenced in Article IV, Section 5.

2. Vice President/Adjutant: Becomes president in the case of the removal of the president from office, or his death, resignation, or inability to discharge the powers and duties of said office.

3. Secretary/Service Officer: To call a meeting to order in the absence of a duly authorized presiding officer and to preside pending the election of one. To maintain a complete and up-to-date roll of the veterans organizations. To read the minutes of meetings and other papers or documents. To record the proceedings, to aid the chair in every way possible, to authenticate by his/her signature all minutes, records, acts, etc. To prepare the annual report referenced in Article IV, Section 5.

Section 4. The Service Officer from each veteran's organization should represent his/her organization at the Board meetings.

Section 5. During the month of October the Board shall provide the Ferry County Auditor's Office with a report as provided in RCW 73.08.040. This report shall be filed by the President/Commander of the Board, and will notify the Auditor of the current Board members, and of the current officers of the Board as outlined in Section 3 of these bylaws. This report shall also contain a detailed statement of the amount of relief furnished during the preceding year, with the names of all persons to whom such relief shall have been furnished together with a brief statement in each case from the Board upon whose recommendations the orders were drawn.

#### Article V - Meetings

Section 1. An annual meeting of the Veterans' Assistance Advisory Board will be held no later than the last Monday of September.

Section 2. A quorum for meeting shall consist of three (3) Board members.

Section 3. A written record of the annual meeting shall be maintained by the secretary/service officer, to be made available to all Board members.

#### Article VI - Veterans Defined

Section 1. "Veterans" defined for certain purposes - has served in any branch or is serving on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States and has:

- a. Received an honorable discharge; or
- b. Received a discharge for physical reasons with an honorable record; or
- c. Been released from active military service with evidence of service (DD-214/discharge papers) other than that for which an undesirable, bad conduct, or discharge shall be given.

RCW 73.04.040 Recording honorable discharge without charge - Certified copy as proof. (DD-214).

A certified copy of such record shall be prima facie proof for all purposes of the services rendered, citizenship, place and date of birth of such veteran.

Article VII - Residence Defined

Section 1. Applicant must be a resident in the State of Washington for one (1) year prior to date of application.

Article VIII - Voucher Procedures

Section 1. Voucher Instructions:

- a. The vouchers being used are self-explanatory; please PRINT clearly.
- b. The warrant will be issued to: NAME OF FIRM, RETAILER, DOCTOR, LANDLORD, etc. Please TYPE or PRINT clearly.
- c. Under special circumstances warrants may be made directly to the veteran.
- d. The DD-214 or discharge papers must be seen before a voucher will be completed.

Section 2. Authorized Items Payable by the Ferry County Veterans' Assistance Fund:

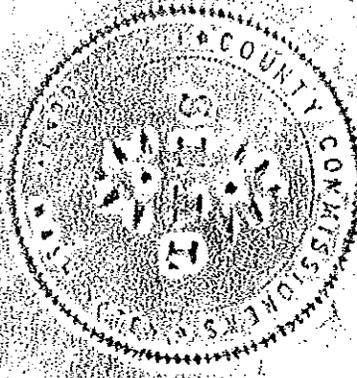
- a. Amounts will be limited to FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$500.00) per twelve (12) month period from last date of application to each veteran or family:

FOR ITEMS SUCH AS: Food, rent, utilities, medical transportation, vehicle gas, EXCLUDING EQUITY ASSETS.

- b. Vouchers to food retailers to conform to FOOD STAMP standards.
- c. Any additional funds may be granted with Board approval.
- d. In addition: BURIAL EXPENSE can be paid up to a MAXIMUM by Washington State law of SEVEN HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$700.00) as provided by RCW 73.08.070.

APPROVED this 10<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2008.

BOARD OF FERRY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

  
Ronald J. Bond  
RONALD "JOE" BOND, Chairman

Brad L. Miller  
BRAD L. MILLER, Vice Chair

Mike L. Blankenship  
MIKE L. BLANKENSHIP, Member

ATTEST:

Debbie Bechtol  
Debbie Bechtol, Clerk of the Board

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Mike Sandona, Prosecuting Attorney