



Fred C. Wiedeberg

MSG, U.S. ARMY (RET.)

CHEYENNE COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER

920 Jackson Street, PO Box 217, Sidney, NE 69162

(P) 308.254.3300 | (F) 308.254.7349 | fred.wiedeberg@cheyennecountyne.gov

Date: April 14, 2026

Present Members: Gregg Wolff, Kae Nelson, Ken Childers, Melissa Ramirez, Stephanie Disney, Whitney Whatley

Absent Members: Fred Wiedeberg

Meeting Called to Order: 10:00am by Board President, Stephanie Disney

Pledge of Allegiance was recited

Open Meeting Act was announced by Board President, Stephanie Disney

Roll Call:

- VSO, Fred Wiedeberg was absent. All board members and other VSO staff were present.

January Minutes

- Minutes were mailed out prior to the meeting.
- Minutes were motioned and approved. Kae & Ken

Veterans Service Officers Report: *All reports were given by Office Manager, Whitney Whatley*

- Quarterly report was given
 - Numbers compared to Q3 of 2025 are very similar, even up in many different filings.
 - Homestead exemption filings are up from last quarter, but down from Q3 of 2025 due to the new filing requirements of years ending in 0 and 5 unless a newly rated at 100% or surviving spouses.
 - Still having the same consistent 4-5 riders on the DAV van to Cheyenne.
 - There has been double the amount of compensation appeals from last quarter.
 - Anticipating more Hunt & Fish permit applications in the next few months as the winter warms up.

Old Business

- Fred is in Kearney for the bi-annual VSO training from April 8-10.
- After the January board meeting, Fred discussed with the board members and went before the County Commissioners to appoint new board member, Gregg Wolff, to fill the vacancy left by James Haddix finishing his term and not renewing. Gregg attended the VSO board meeting and introduced himself.
 - Gregg is a lifelong Sidney resident, Army National Guard retiree, his wife (Lori) owns WolfHaus Realty, has 2 daughters and 2 grandchildren.

- The county website is was created and the VSO page is finished. Whitney created the page to be very detailed for any veteran resources, the office and board information, veteran specific calendar for events and group meetings. There are links to state and federal specific benefits.
 - All previous board meetings agendas, meeting minutes and quarterly reports are now available there for the previous year.
 - Whitney will email all of the board members the link to the new website.
- Still actively looking for more volunteer DAV van drivers. They (Cheyenne VA) have been reworking the background checks and continuing education requirements.
 - The new continuing education topics being rolled out do not pertain to our volunteers (procurement and vendor approval). The VSO is working on meeting with the Hospital Director to sit down and discuss and see what we can do for our volunteers. DAV Director, Floyed Watson, and Kae Nelson will be attending the meeting as well.
- The new DAV van has been ordered and paid for. Next step is Jamie Jachol (with State DAV) to clear all of his requirements and then he will be going to Kentucky to pick it up and deliver it to Sidney. An estimated date has not been given.

New Business

- On May 6, 10:00am at WNCC will be a VA outreach presentation on Suicide Presentation (SAVE) and Geriatric Extended Care Services.
 - Sponsored and given by the NOCO VA clinic in Loveland, CO
- On May 14, 6:00pm at the Elks will be a Dessert Social where there will be the opportunity to get a VHIC ID card and a guest speaker on Care in the Community
 - Mel Turner, the Veterans Experience Officer from Cheyenne will speak about Care in the Community.
 - A representative from the VA Health ID Card department in Cheyenne will be attending to issue new ID cards or renew expired.
- May 25, 10:00am at the North End Veteran's Cemetery Section will be the Memorial Day service is solidified. The VFW is the sponsor this year.
 - The guest speaker will be Jordan Grabill, MA1 in the US Navy and also a Trooper with the Nebraska State Patrol. Ken Childers will do the laying of the wreath, Stephanie Disney will provide the invocation and benediction. Melissa Ramirez will be the EMCEE. And Sidney High School student Raven Dinorog will sing the National Anthem.
- Bi-monthly Coffee socials that were hosted by the NOCO VA have been handed off to the VSO office and attendees to carry on as it is self-sustaining and has good attendance.
- Whitney will be assisting with the Youth Entrepreneurship Competition Friday afternoon and also guest judge on Tuesday afternoon for pre-judging.
- Upcoming office closures:
 - Friday, April 24 – Arbor Day
 - Monday, May 25 – Memorial Day
 - Friday, July 3 – Independence Day

Good of the Cause

- None at this time.

Meeting adjourned: 10:40 – Ken & Kae

Next Meeting: July 14, 2026, 10:00am