

RESOLUTION NO. 30-92

A RESOLUTION RELATING TO THE MASON COUNTY VETERANS' ASSISTANCE FUND AND SCREENING COMMITTEE SUPERSEDING RESOLUTION 85-91.

WHEREAS, Mason County has established a levy per RCW 73.08.080 for the purpose of creating the Veterans' Assistance Fund for the relief of honorably discharged veterans or for veterans discharged for physical reasons with an honorable record,

WHEREAS, RCW 73.08.010 allows for the Commander and Quartermaster or Commander and Adjutant, or Commander and Service Officer of any post, camp or chapter of any national organization of veterans to serve as a relief committee for the purposes of drawing upon veterans' assistance monies,

WHEREAS, The Veterans' Assistance Screening Committee has requested changes in the application procedure and committee process to simplify and streamline the process of applying for assistance,

WHEREAS, On December 12, 1987 the Board of Mason County Commissioners set the limit of cash award from the Mason County Veterans' Assistance Fund to eligible veterans at three hundred fifty dollars to be spent only on specific types of relief with an additional one hundred fifty dollars available to an applicant because of other emergent and/or exigent conditions or unusual circumstances,

WHEREAS, The Veterans' Assistance Screening Committee has requested an increase in the amount of the award, and an expansion of the allowable expenditures for the purposes of Veterans' Assistance,

WHEREAS, The requested expansion of allowable expenditures are allowable under Washington State law,

WHEREAS, RCW 73.08.010 provides for the relief of indigent and suffering veterans and their families or the families of those deceased, who need assistance,

WHEREAS, The County desires to define indigent and suffering for the purposes of distributing veteran assistance in Mason County,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Mason County Commissioners that,

1. Each Veterans' Assistance Committee shall consist of: the Commander and Quartermaster, or Commander and Adjutant, or Commander and Service Officer of any Post, Camp or Chapter of the following Mason County veteran organizations:

Veterans of Foreign Wars	Post 5372
Veterans of Foreign Wars	Post 7590
Veterans of Foreign Wars	Post 1694
American Legion	Post 31

2. Members of the Veterans' Assistance Committees shall be elected or appointed within their respective veteran organizations. Notification of Committee members shall be made to the Board of county Commissioners along with the annual report required by RCW 73.08.040 during the month of October. The Board of County Commissioners reserves the right to disallow committee members for cause.

3. The Veterans' Assistance Funds may be disbursed to indigent veterans and their families or the families of those deceased or to persons serving indigent veterans in amounts not to exceed five hundred (\$500) dollars per applicant per calendar year unless the indigent Veteran qualifies for additional funds under #6 below.

4. Approval of the five hundred (\$500) dollar assistance shall be granted only for the following reasons:
 - a. Payment of housing.
 - b. Payment of utilities (including phone)
 - c. Food (not to include tobacco and alcoholic beverages)
 - d. Payment of mileage reimbursement to veterans or other community volunteers who transport indigent veterans to medical, dental or health related appointments. Such reimbursement shall be made in amounts consistent with County Employee mileage reimbursement policy.
5. Veteran Assistance funds shall not duplicate other available assistance for the purposes stated in #4 above.
6. If any Veterans' Assistance Committee determines an applicant is in need of assistance due to any event, catastrophic illness or other significant change in circumstance which comes into being unexpectedly and is beyond the applicant's management or control, the Committee may request in writing that the Board of Mason County Commissioners, consider approval of an amount not to exceed one hundred fifty (\$150) dollars per applicant in any one calendar year.
7. All requests for funding shall be approved by the members of each Veterans' Assistance Committee and the Board of Mason County Commissioners
8. RCW 41.04.005 and other provisions of RCW Title 73 shall govern eligibility assistance to veterans and/or their families.
9. The County defines "indigent and suffering" to mean 150% of the current poverty level, as defined by the United State Department of Health and Human Services, for a period of time: Previous 90 days or average of previous year.
10. As per RCW 73.08.070, the County shall assist indigent veterans with burial or cremation costs of up to three hundred (\$300.00) dollars

ADOPTED THIS 10th day of March, 1992.


BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
MASON COUNTY, WASHINGTON




Laura E. Porter, Chairperson




Michael D. Gibson, Commissioner



William O. Hunter, Commissioner

ATTEST:


Diane Zoren, Clerk of the Board

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


Deputy Prosecuting Attorney
Michael Clift