

RESOLUTION 2017 - 17

Re: Returning the CVSO Grant back to a Block Grant Format

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin County Veterans Service Office (CVSO) has operated as a block-grant for CVSO salary supplement since legislative inception in 1973 to attract and retain CVSO talent, and as a means to fund improvements to CVSO veterans services in Vilas County; and

WHEREAS, the 2015 Wisconsin Biennium Budget restructured this long-standing CVSO Grant block payment to a reimbursement only payment structure, resulting in a very cumbersome program that no longer allows salary supplementation and contains complicated rules of eligible reimbursable costs, which together now create fiscal constraints on Wisconsin counties that benefitted from the previous block grant payment structure; and

WHEREAS, Vilas County joins other counties in the State of Wisconsin (See Attachment A), expressing their desire to the Wisconsin State Legislature to have the County Veterans Service Office Grant returned to the original 1973 intent, to be used to supplement the salary of County Veterans Service Officers in order to attract and retain talented personnel and to fund improvements in services to veterans and their dependents; and

WHEREAS, Vilas County requests that the CVSO Grant be structured in a block-grant requiring only the signatures of the current CVSO and County Executive/County Administrator or County Board Chairperson as verification of compliance.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Vilas County Board of Supervisors in session this 28th day of February, 2017, that it hereby approves and requests the Wisconsin State Legislature return the County Veterans Service Office Grant to its original 1973 intent, to be used to supplement the salary of County Veterans Service Officers in order to attract and retain talented personnel and to fund improvements in services to veterans and their dependents.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be sent to Vilas County's State Senators and Assembly Representatives, to the Wisconsin Counties Association, and to the President of the Wisconsin County Veterans Service Officer's Association.

SUBMITTED BY: Executive & Legislative Committee

s/ Ron De Bruyne, Chair

s/ Carolyn Ritter

Charles Hayes

s/ Walt Maciag

Erv Teichmiller

s/ Holly Tomlanovich

s/ Jay Verhulst

