



***New Hampshire Farm Bureau  
Veterans in Agriculture  
Meeting Agenda***

August 17, 2017

1700-1900

Farm Bureau Office

295 Sheep Davis Highway Concord NH

*Section 15. The Chairman of the New Hampshire Farm Bureau Veterans Committee shall be responsible for presenting for approval to the state board of directors an annual plan of work and budget for use of Farm Bureau funds.*

*The Chairman of the New Hampshire Farm Bureau Veterans Committee shall also report to the board of directors' program accomplishments and fiscal status on an annual basis.*

**Mission Statement: "Recruit, Educate, Support, and Promote Veterans and their Families in Agriculture."**

Call to Order: Chairman Glen Putnam

Pledge

Meeting schedule for rest of '17 and all '18

Bylaws Discussion:

- Executive Committee (Treasure, Secretary, etc.)
- Commitment to FB and County
- Relationships with other organizations
- Funding

Staff Nominations

Goals Discussion:

- (Year one, 2-3 year, 5+)

Programs:

- Mentorships
- Farm Days
- Conferences

Other Business

Adjournment

Friday, August 18, 2017 Call in information: Conferencing number: **1-800-768-2983** Access code: **2241934#**



## **Veterans in Agriculture Board of Directors Meeting – Minutes Thursday August 17, 2017**

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### **Call to Order:**

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 by Chairman Glen Putnam. The meeting began with a recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance by meeting attendees.

### **Attendance:**

Glen Putnam  
Denis Ward  
Diane Clary  
Josh Marshall  
Dorothy Perkins  
Michal Lunak  
Steve Turaj  
Richard Briggs  
Derrick Heins  
Omer Ahern

### **Officer Reports:**

N/A.

### **Treasurer's Report:**

N/A

### **President's Report: Glen Putnam**

Glen began the meeting by thanking everyone for the support and work since our last meeting in March 2017, and noted that we were going to be moving along to organize the Veterans in Agriculture Committee

### **Meeting schedule for rest of '17 and all '18**

The committee agreed to meet on a more regular basis to address concerns and communication. The Veterans in Agriculture Committee will meet quarterly for the remainder of 2017 and 2018 on the following dates:

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In person meetings will be held quarterly after the quarterly Presidents meeting from 5:00-7:00pm next meeting will be December 7, 2017 in the conference room at Farm Bureau in concord.

In addition, the committee will meet by phone or video conference monthly on the second Wednesday of the month at 8:00 am.

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To further networking and communication, a shared site will be set up to host Documents, planning and projects for the group.

### **Bylaws Discussion:**

- Executive Committee (Treasure, Secretary, etc.) much talk was given to this topic and in the end the group agreed on the following positions to start.
  - Treasure - Henry D. Ahern
  - Secretary – Richard E. Briggs
  - Communications – Derrick Heins

Job descriptions will follow and be modified to meet the needs of this committee, other committee positions will be added as needed to facilitate the organization and betterment of the committee.

- Commitment to FB and County
  - We talked about the commitment from Veterans in Agriculture to Farm Bureau in terms of Membership. As a veteran in agriculture member you would also be a Farm Bureau member and have access to the same products as Farm Bureau members with the added support from the Veterans in Agriculture Committee as a voting member.
  - Application to the Veterans in Agriculture will be through the Farm Bureau membership form.
- Relationships with other organizations
  - It was identified that many groups all have a vested interest in what we are doing and we need to develop a communications plan to reach out to them and share information.
    - UNH extension
    - Other state Farm Bureaus
    - NRCS

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- USDA
  - FSA
  - Country Farm Bureaus
  - Internal Farm Bureau committees
  - Department of Labor
  - Veteran Employment Reps
  - Other veteran organizations
    - American Legion
    - Veterans of Foreign Wars
    - AM
    - Veterans Administration VA
    - Vet Centers
    - Veterans Service Officers
- Funding
  - As a new Committee funding is an issue we need to address and find sources to support the committee's goals and objectives. Grants, fundraising, and donations are a few ways to generate funds. The committee agreed to have the treasurer look into this and address in following reports.
  - Veterans in Agriculture program budget will be a line item under Farm Bureau.
  - USDA 2501 Grant

See attached. Please pass on. It is the instructions and overview for 2501.

<https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2017/07/12/2017-14547/catalog-of-federal-domestic-assistance-cfda-no-10443-outreach-and-assistance-for-socially>

**Goals Discussion:**

- (Year one, 2-3 year, 5+)
  - Year 1
  - Introduction at county meeting
  - Veteran rep at county meeting
  - Veterans in Agriculture Table at Annual Meeting
  - One Stop Shop Veterans resources much like beginning farmers resources

Year 2-3 Week long Armed to Farm Event with UNH Extension support

Year 5 long range goals still need to be worked

**July /August Media Events:**

**Communicator an article will be fore coming**

**Others Providing Backup in the Field to Veterans in Agriculture**

<https://extension.unh.edu/articles/Providing-Backup-Field-Veterans-Agriculture>

**Programs:**

- Mentorships
- Farm Days
- Conferences
- The committee will take these events as they come and address on the task tracker and decide what support it can provide. Based on members.

**Other Business:**

- Veteran organizations could sponsor a veteran in agriculture with a membership to help get them started
- Veteran organizations could help sponsor a veteran farmer
- New England Veterans in Agriculture Resources this program is run and managed by Derrick Heins. Hand out was presented to all at this meeting follow up on phone meeting 13 September 2017

**Motion to adjourn 7:30pm Diane, Dot All in favor**

Respectfully submitted  
Richard Briggs  
Abdali Farms Langdon NH  
603-505-1851