

Ordinance No. 722, 2002

An Ordinance Creating CCC 5.50, Veterans' Affairs

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF CLALLAM COUNTY COMMISSIONERS:

Chapter 5.50

VETERANS' AFFAIRS

Sections:

- 5.50.010 Definitions
- 5.50.020 Veterans' Affairs Advisory Committee (VAAC) Created
- 5.50.030 Responsibilities and Duties of the VAAC
- 5.50.040 Composition of the VAAC
- 5.50.050 Operating Policies and Procedures
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5.50.010 Definitions.

Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter.

- (1) "Board" means the Clallam County Board of Commissioners.
- (2) "VAAC" means the Clallam County Veterans' Affairs Advisory Committee.
- (3) "Commander" means the legally recognized commanding officer of a veteran's organization.
- (4) "Administrator" means the County Administrator for Clallam County.
- (5) "Veterans' Coordinator" means a County employee appointed by the Administrator for the administration of the Clallam County Veterans' Relief Fund. The Veterans' Coordinator shall be responsible to process and give final approval to claims, ensure payment, and maintain records of veteran's claims.
- (6) "Veteran" has the meaning set out in RCW 41.04.005.
- (7) "Veteran's Organization" means any post, camp or chapter of a national organization of veterans now, or which may after the effective date of this ordinance, be chartered by an act of Congress which has filed with the Clallam County Auditor notice of its intention to provide veteran's relief in accordance with RCW 73.08.040.

5.50.020 Veterans' Affairs Advisory Committee Created.

The Veterans' Affairs Advisory Committee (VAAC) is hereby established as advisory to and under the direction of the Board of County Commissioners.

5.50.030 Responsibilities of the VAAC.

The VAAC may adopt guidelines as necessary to perform the duties of the board. The County Administrator may assign staff to support the activities of the VAAC. The VAAC shall have the following responsibilities and duties:

- (1) To advise the Board on matters relating to veterans and the Veterans' Relief Fund established under RCW 73.08.
- (2) To recommend guidelines, policies and procedures to the Board for expenditures from the Veterans' Relief Fund.
- (3) To review and adjudicate appeals from applicants who feel they were unfairly denied benefits from the Veterans' Relief Fund. Decisions on appeals will be sent to the Administrator, who will be responsible for notifying the appellant of the decision.
- (4) To advise the Administrator and the Board on the budget for the Veterans' Relief Fund.
- (5) To review and advise the Administrator prior to any appointments to the County Veteran's Coordinator position. The Administrator will make the final appointment after full consultation with the VAAC.
- (6) Perform such other duties as may be requested by the Administrator.

5.50.040 Composition of the VAAC.

The VAAC shall consist of one (1) representative of each congressionally chartered veteran's organization as defined in RCW 73.08.010. Members of each veteran's organization shall appoint their representative in writing to serve on the VAAC. Organizations may appoint an alternate to serve in the absence of their primary appointment.

Two "at large" appointments, who meet the qualification of veteran as defined in RCW 41.04.005, will be made by the Board.

5.50.050 Operating Policies and Procedures

The Board shall adopt policies and procedures for the administration of the Veterans' Relief Fund. The document shall include but not be limited to procedures for submission of claims, requirements and documentation of eligibility, appeal, uses of the fund, and other topics necessary for orderly, consistent, and fair treatment of veterans and their claims for benefits.

5.50.060 Tax Levy Authorized

A tax levy equal to one and one-eight cents per thousand dollars of assessed value is authorized to be levied and directed by the county treasurer to the Veterans' Relief Fund rather than the General Fund. Taxes collected shall be placed in the Veterans' Relief Fund to be used for the relief of veterans as defined in this ordinance and the county's policies and procedures for the Veteran's Relief Fund pursuant to RCW 73.08.080.

The county treasurer shall estimate the ending balance in the Veterans' Relief Fund annually during the budget process. If the estimated ending balance exceeds five times the anticipated annual collection, the amount collected during the next year shall not be directed to the Veterans' Relief Fund unless authorized at the time of budget adoption by the Board of Commissioners.

5.50.070 Administrative Costs

The costs of administration of the Veterans' Relief Fund shall be charged to the fund as provided in RCW 73.08.080. Administrative costs shall include, but not be limited to, personnel costs for the Veterans' Coordinator, indirect costs subject to an adopted cost allocation plan, supplies, equipment, etc.

5.50.080 Severability.

If any provision of this chapter, or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the chapter, or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances, is not affected.

5.50.090 Effective date.

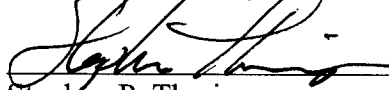
This chapter shall take effect 10 days after adoption.

ADOPTED this 21st day of May, 2002.

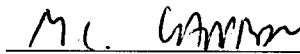
BOARD OF CLALLAM COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



Howard V. Doherty, Jr., Chair



Stephen P. Tharinger



Michael C. Chapman

ATTEST:



Trish Perrott

Clerk of the Board