



Deputy

RESOLUTION NO. 3970

MANAGEMENT OF VETERANS SERVICE OFFICE

The BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF RAVALLI COUNTY (“BCC”), at a scheduled public meeting held on the 27th day of November, 2019, approved and adopted the following resolution:

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 10-2-115, Montana Code Annotated, on January 25, 2010, by Resolution No. 2435, the BCC called for an election on the question of whether Ravalli County should levy not more than 1.00 mills of property tax to provide operational funding for a veterans service center that would assist veterans filing claims for benefits; and

WHEREAS, during the primary election held in June 2010, the citizens of Ravalli County voted to pass the tax levy; and

WHEREAS, on January 25, 2018, by Resolution No. 3695, the BCC called for an election on the question of whether Ravalli County should levy not more than 2.00 mills of property tax to provide operational funding for the veterans service center that would assist veterans filing claims for benefits; and

WHEREAS, during the primary election held in June 2018, the citizens of Ravalli County voted to pass the tax levy for veterans services; and

WHEREAS, Valley Veterans Service Center (VVSC) is a Montana nonprofit corporation, tax-exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, dedicated to assisting veterans and their dependents in the pursuit of Veterans Administration benefits and other services; and

WHEREAS, since the initial mill levy in 2010 VVSC has been instrumental in Ravalli County providing a veterans’ service officer trained, accredited and supervised in accordance with the applicable provisions of 38 CFR 14 as required by Section 10-2-115, Montana Code Annotated, and in ensuring all levied monies were spent in support of veterans and their families; and

WHEREAS, under the current County Veterans Service Office Management Agreement dated July 29, 2016, Ravalli County has contracted with the VVSC in the operation of the county’s veterans service office, where the County Veteran Service Personnel are employees of and are managed by Ravalli County, while the provision of the office space for the County Veteran Service Personnel and the operation of the office itself is managed by the VVSC; and

WHEREAS, the VVSC by letter dated November 6, 2019, notified Ravalli County of its desire to terminate the current County Veterans Service Office Management Agreement; and

WHEREAS, the Montana 66th Legislature amended Section 10-2-115, Montana Code Annotated; and

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WHEREAS, with the 2019 revisions to Section 10-2-115, Montana Code Annotated, and with the notification by the VVSC that it desires to terminate the current County Veterans Service Office Management Agreement, both the BCC and the VVSC have determined that it is in the best interest of Ravalli County for the BCC to directly manage and control all operations of the Ravalli County veterans' service office; and

WHEREAS, the VVSC has agreed to assist Ravalli County in the transition of the operations to Ravalli County by continuing to maintain all service and other contracts currently its name until such time such service and other contracts can be fully assumed by Ravalli County; and

WHEREAS, the BCC has determined it is in the best interest of Ravalli County to have an advisory board consisting of veterans to assist the BCC in managing the veterans' service office.


THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the current County Veterans Service Office Management Agreement with the VVSC is terminated effective November 30, 2019, and as of such date all service and other contracts for the operations of the veterans' service office shall be transitioned to Ravalli County.

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that beginning December 1, 2019, Ravalli County through the BCC shall directly manage all operations of the veterans' service office.

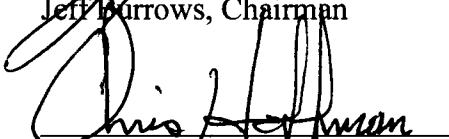
THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Veterans' Services Advisory Board is established as follows:

- 1) The number of board members shall be 5.
- 2) The services of the board members shall be voluntary. Mileage, per diem and expenses may be reimbursed to the board members if approved by the BCC before being incurred.
- 3) The advisory board shall provide advice to the BCC in all aspects of veterans' affairs.
- 4) The board members shall be appointed, and any vacancies on the board shall be filled, by the BCC in the manner prescribed by Section 7-1-201, Montana Code Annotated.


PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 27th DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2019.
BOARD OF RAVALLI COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



 Jeff Burrows, Chairman



 Chris Hoffman, Member



 Greg Chilcott, Member

Attest: _____
Clerk & Recorder