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**(Neb.)-Dawes County VSO To Purchase New Van**

By: Chris Fankhauser Posted at: 01/17/2013 02:52 PM

(Chadron)-The Dawes County Veteran's Service Office will be getting a new vehicle to better serve its veterans. Bids for the vehicle were discussed at the Dawes County Commissioner's Meeting on Wednesday. VSO Allen Connell told the board he inspected two of the three vehicle bids, and noted the vehicle from GMC of Chadron had been sold.

The Board learned the Veterans of Foreign Wars can donate \$2500, with the American Legion and Disabled American Veterans donating \$1500, towards the purchase of a VSO van. When Mike Kohler was in office, plans were to go through DAV and purchase a vehicle. However; this is no longer an option. With donations and what is in the Veterans budget, there will a shortage of funds.

Connell reported the vendor that he would recommend the Board award the bid to is more than willing to work out a deal on the remaining balance due, which was Tommy's Car Lot bid of \$15,600. The board unanimously agreed.

In other discussion regarding the VSO, Connell indicated he wants to keep the current secretarial position at fulltime. He reported when budget meetings were conducted the then VSO Mike Kohler, never reported back to the Veterans Board that this position had been reduced to a part-time position. When asked if the Veterans Board requested a post budget meeting report from Mr. Kohler, Mr. Connell indicated no. At this time, the Board stated they will keep the position part-time as budgeted, however it is something that can be looked at again next budget cycle. There is also no update on the VSO's office move to Chadron State College. Mr. Connell indicated they are probably a year out on that project.

(Questions? Comments? Email [news@chadrad.com](mailto:news@chadrad.com))

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