

AGENDA ITEM FOR ADMINISTRATIVE MEETING ( ) Discussion only  
( X ) Action

FROM (DEPT/ DIVISION): County Counsel

SUBJECT: Support for Hidden Heroes

Background: Authorization is sought for Umatilla County to participate in and recognize the military and veteran caregivers as Hidden Heroes	Requested Action: Adopt Order No. BCC2017-026
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ATTACHMENTS: Proposed Order

Date: (April 3, 2017) Submitted By: Douglas R. Olsen

\*\*\*\*\*For Internal Use Only\*\*\*\*\*

Checkoffs:

- ( ) Dept. Heard (copy)
- ( ) Fiscal (copy)
- ( ) Human Resources (copy)
- ( X ) Legal (copy)
- ( ) (Other - List:)

To be notified of Meeting:

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Scheduled for meeting on: April 5, 2017

Action taken:

THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF UMATILLA COUNTY

STATE OF OREGON

In the Matter of Support of                    )  
Umatilla County's Military and            ) Order No. BCC2017-026  
Veteran Caregivers                            )

WHEREAS, the series of wars in which our nation has been engaged over time, since World War II, has resulted in 5.5 million military and veteran caregivers who are parents, spouses, siblings and friends, caring for those wounded, ill or injured who have served our nation, as documented by the 2014 Rand study commissioned by the Elizabeth Dole Foundation;

WHEREAS the daily tasks of these military and veterans caregivers can include bathing, feeding, dressing, and caring for the grievous injuries of wounded warriors, administering medications, providing emotional support, caring for the family and the home, and working outside the home to earn essential income;

WHEREAS the nation provides multi-faceted support to our wounded, ill and injured veterans and service members through public, private and philanthropic resources, but their caregivers receive little support or acknowledgment;

WHEREAS most military and veteran caregivers consider the challenging work they do as simply carrying out their civic and patriotic duty, without realizing they are, in fact, caregivers, and do not identify themselves as such;

WHEREAS an alarming number of military and veteran caregivers, according to research, are suffering numerous debilitating mental, physical and emotional effects as a result of their caregiving duties; and

WHEREAS, the Umatilla County desires to recognize and to support those who are serving in these vital roles in our own community.

NOW THEREFORE the Umatilla County Board of Commissioners orders and resolves as follows:

1. That Umatilla County become a Hidden Heroes County in support of military and veteran caregivers.

2. That Umatilla County seek to identify military and veteran caregivers residing in our county.
3. That Umatilla County work to ensure that our government, organizations, employers and non-profits are aware of the unique challenges of military and veteran caregivers and are encouraged to create supportive environments and opportunities for assistance.
4. That Umatilla County plan an observance each May, during Military Appreciation Month, to honor and recognize the city's military and veteran caregivers in partnership with the Elizabeth Dole Foundation's Hidden Heroes campaign.
5. That Umatilla County encourage all who care for and support veterans and service members to extend that support to their caregivers.
6. That Umatilla County designate a point of contact for our city, from the public or private sector, for citizens and organizations wanting to offer support, and caregivers who need that support.

DATED this 6<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2017.

UMATILLA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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W. Lawrence Givens, Chair

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William J. Elfering, Commissioner

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George L. Murdock, Commissioner

ATTEST:  
OFFICE OF COUNTY RECORDS

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Records Officer