

Lane County Board of Commissioners
Harris Hall
Tuesday, August 21, 2018, 9:00 am

Re: Request financial assistance for the 2018 Lane County Stand Down for Military Veterans in Need.

The Lane County Stand Down have provided resources to our local Veteran population for over 18 years. The Stand Down, being held at the Lane Event Center for the last four years, grew in 2017 with a record number of participating Veterans; under-served, guardsmen and reservists, family members, and those Veterans that are forced into alternative living conditions. 2017 Stand Down attendees included 115 registered veterans that were classified as homeless, and a total of 433 Veterans from all branches of service. Resources and services provided included; two hot meals (over 925 served), medical and dental services, legal assistance, job fair, housing assistance, haircuts, DoD gear, and much, much more. For the last three years, the Stand Down Committee has received a grant from the Department of Labor (DOL) to assist with the increased costs associated with hosting such a large event. Unfortunately, the DOL grant was not awarded for the 2018 Lane County Stand Down due to lack of funds and the timing of the event. This has left a financial shortage that will place this year's Stand Down in serious danger of providing the services for our Veterans in need, especially with the winter months approaching. Our veterans are in need of the services we offer to make it through the cold winter and to aid in their health. It is our pleasure to be able to help the ones who sacrificed so much for us, so we could enjoy our freedom.

Lane County Board of Commissioners in the past have provided much needed assistance to other worthwhile events, such as, Caring Hands World Wide for dental care (2017), etc. We are aware that the timing of our request is critical due to the Stand Down being held on October 5, 2018. The urgency was not identified until the first of August when the Lane Event Center Board added a catering buyout cost of \$1,940 to the Stand Down.

We are asking the Lane County Board of Commissioners to assist the Stand Down by approving the use of the Board of Lane County Commissioner's discretionary/contingency funds or wave up to the \$5,163 estimated fees for the rent of the facilities at the Lane Event Center and associated equipment rentals. This amount is not the total Lane Event Center cost, which may exceed \$8,500.

Respectfully submitted,



Floyd E. Bard, CW5(R), USA
General Chairman
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