NEWS RELEASE

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WELD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS RECOGNIZE MEMBERS OF THE TRAVELING VIETNAM WALL COMMITTEE

WELD COUNTY, CO— Last week, the Board of Commissioners recognized efforts made by the Weld County Traveling Vietnam Wall Committee and their partners who brought an 80% replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial (located in Washington, D.C.) to Weld County this fall. Greg Goettsch, committee chairman, and other members of the committee were present to accept personal thanks and a Proclamation of Appreciation from the Board of Commissioners.

The Traveling Vietnam Wall opened in Dacono on September 15, 2016, thanks to the efforts of Goettsch and his team, which organized fundraising, marketing, site preparation, lighting, night security, and the agenda for the opening ceremonies, among many other responsibilities. In total, Goettsch and the committee raised $27,000 to cover costs, with all surplus funding donated to benefit veterans.

The replica contains all 58,307 names listed on the original monument, including the 1,200 persons considered missing, and the 626 lost from Colorado. This replica is intended to provide all Americans the opportunity to pay tribute to Vietnam Veterans, even if they are unable to visit the monument in Washington, D.C. This is the first time in 20 years that the Traveling Vietnam Wall has been brought to Weld County.

"Each commissioner was extremely moved by the viewing of the wall and by the ceremonies that accompanied it," said Commissioner Chair Mike Freeman. “We agreed it was one of the most impactful and emotional things we have experienced as commissioners, so it is a true honor and pleasure to recognize Mr. Goettsch, his committee, and all others who had a part in bringing the wall to us.”

For more information on the Traveling Vietnam Wall, go to: http://www.travelingwall.us/

For information regarding Weld County Veterans Services, go to: http://www.co.weld.co.us/Departments/VeteransServices/index.html

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