

**OKLAHOMA VETERANS COMMISSION
MEETING NOTICE AND AGENDA
May 24, 2019
Lawton/Ft Sill Veterans Center
501 S.E Flower Mound Road
Lawton, OK**

NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETING:

The Oklahoma Veterans Commission will held a regular meeting on **Friday, May 24, 2019, at 10:00 AM** at the Lawton Veterans Center, 501 S.E Flower Mound Rd, Lawton, OK. A Notice of this meeting was filed with the Secretary of State's Office on December 7, 2018.

AGENDA:

Friday, May 24, 2019 10:00 AM

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM

II. DETETERMINATION OF QUORUM

a. ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTION OF COMMISSIONERS

The clerk called the roll, and the roll is as follows:

Arthur: Present

Ball: Present

Costilow: Present

Fite: Present

Jackson: Present

Secor: Present

Smithson: Present

Van Schuyver: Present

Richey: Present

b. DECLARATION OF QUORUM

The clerk notified the Chairman that the Commission had a quorum. The Chairman declared a quorum.

III. INVOCATION

Chairman Richey led the invocation

IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Secretary Robinson led the Pledge of Allegiance

V. OKLAHOMA VETERANS COMMISSION

a. DISCUSSION OF AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES OF THE APRIL 26th, 2019 OKLAHOMA VETERANS COMMISSION MEETING.

i. Action

Commissioner Secor moved to approve the April 26th minutes

Commissioner Van Schuyver gave the second

The clerk called the vote, and the vote is as follows:

Arthur: Aye

Ball: Abstain
Costilow: Aye
Fite: Aye
Jackson: Abstain
Secor: Aye
Smithson: Aye
Van Schuyver: Aye
Richey: Aye

The clerk counted the votes and notified the Chairman that the Motion was approved.

- b. **DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING TRAVEL OF COMMISSIONERS SINCE PRIOR REGULAR MEETING ON April 26th, 2019.**
- i. Written Travel Reports Filed by Commissioners
 - ii. Presentation of Summary Travel Reports by Commissioners in Lieu of Written Reports
- Arthur: Reported visiting the Lawton facility.
Ball: Reported visiting the Lawton facility.
Costilow: Reported visiting the Lawton facility.
Fite: Had nothing to report.
Jackson: Had nothing to report.
Secor: Reported having been to the Sulphur and Lawton facilities.
Smithson: Had nothing to report.
Van Schuyver: Reported visiting all seven facilities.
Richey: Had nothing to report.

VI. INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME TO VISITORS AND GUESTS

The Chairman welcomed the visitors and guests. The Chairman recognized Representative Daniel Pae from House District 62 as being in the gallery. The Chairman requested that anyone wishing to address the Commission in public comment sign in on the sheet provided.

VII. OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

- a. **DOUG ELLIOTT, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT WITH POSSIBLE DISCUSSION ON THE FOLLOWING:**
- i. Confirmation Update and Introduction of Cabinet Secretary and New Commissioners
 - A. Remarks by Secretary Robinson
The Director introduced Secretary Robinson to the Commission. Secretary Robinson briefly addressed the Commission and presented a verbal biography of service. The Secretary relayed his personal commitment to Veterans, and expressed his excitement in taking on his newest position.
 - B. Remarks by New Commissioners
The Director introduced Commissioner Mike Jackson who has taken over the vacancy left by former Commissioner Thomas to the Commission and gallery. Commissioner Jackson briefly addressed the Commission and presented a verbal biography of service. The Director notified the

Commission that two new Commissioners were also recently confirmed, and would be joining the Commission in July.

ii. **Agency Program Updates**

The Director stated that the CMS certification process was moving along quickly, and we could see survey teams in place in as little as 30 days. The Director presented a timeline to the Commission.

The Director stated that the status of homes should be updated by the Director of Homes, Shawn Kirkland, and turned the microphone over to him. Mr. Kirkland stated to the Commission that during the severe weather events, the facilities did have to take tornado precautions 12 times in the month of May. He stated that Ardmore did so twice with a survey team in the building. There were no evacuations ordered. Mr. Kirkland stated that the entire process takes roughly 15 minutes from start to finish. Mr. Kirkland informed the Commission that no damage had been reported related to the storms.

The Director stated that the Veterans Transition Outreach Program is designed to help with retention of Veterans in the State of Oklahoma.

The Director stated that the Veterans Registry was up and running, and would be discussed by the Deputy Director.

The Director stated that the progress with Sallisaw was ongoing. He stated that they were currently working with the Fire Marshal to get the proposed plans approved. He stated that four ODVA staff members were scheduled to travel to Reno, Nevada for a tour of a facility in that location. The Director stated that one of the elements that was of interest from the Nevada facility was the inclusion of a sports bar. The Director stated that there are various ways a similar implementation could benefit our Residents. He stated that it could be Physician regulated and recommended.

iii. **State Accrediting Agency (SAA) Update**

The Director stated that the former Director of SAA would not be coming over to ODVA, but that a new Director had been hired, and his name is Dr. Brint Montgomery. The Director stated that he did not expect any disruption of service.

iv. **Appropriations and Budget Update**

The Director stated that the budget from the state this year was \$35,000,000.

v. **Healthcare Advocacy Initiative**

The Director stated that it had come to his attention that Widows of service members who had taken their own life, were reporting their spouses all found it increasingly difficult to navigate the benefit system prior to their death. The Director stated that we as an agency need to do better to assist with the Federal programs and ease of access. The Director stated that his plan was to bring in qualified staff with experience in personally dealing with the system to assist Oklahoma Veterans with the process. The Director stated that the program was currently in place in the State of Texas, and he wanted to inform the Commission that a plan was in place to send Randy Reynolds to speak with an authority on the subject to determine what their road blocks were when the Texas setup began.

The Director stated that if there was any objection to moving forward with this assistance program, that the objections be noted sooner rather than later. A brief question and answer period took place between the Commissioners and the Director for clarity. No objections to seeking information from the Texas program were noted.

A. Action

There was no action taken

vi. Marketing and Transition Outreach Coordination Services

A. Action

There was no action taken

vii. Strategic Plan

A. Action

There was no action taken

Documentation of the content presented has been provided as an electronic attachment to these recorded minutes.

b. **JOEL KINTSEL, DEPUTY DIRECTOR'S REPORT WITH POSSIBLE DISCUSSION ON THE FOLLOWING:**

i. Veteran's Registry

The Deputy Director stated that the Veterans Registry went live Friday, May 10th, roughly 7 ½ months earlier than expected. He explained to the Commission how to get to the registry, and encouraged the Commissioners to register themselves.

ii. Legislative Status Report

The Deputy Director referred to the presented documentation for the Legislative update.

Documentation of the content presented has been provided as an electronic attachment to these recorded minutes.

c. **TONYA HENDRICKS, LAWTON ADMINISTRATOR, REPORT WITH POSSIBLE DISCUSSION ON THE FOLLOWING:**

- i. Administrator Acknowledgements
- ii. Human Resources Update
- iii. Local Healthcare Demographics
- iv. Overtime
- v. Vacancies
- vi. GALT
- vii. Workers Compensation Update
- viii. Census
- ix. Average Occupancy
- x. Total Days of Care
- xi. Demographics
- xii. Construction Projects

Documentation of the content presented has been provided as an electronic attachment to these recorded minutes.

VIII. PROPOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO TITLE 25 O.S. § 307(B)(1) DISCUSSION REGARDING THE EMPLOYMENT, HIRING APPOINTMENT, PROMOTION, DEMOTION, DISCIPLINING, OR RESIGNATION OF ANY INDIVIDUAL SALARIED EMPLOYEE:

- i. Action to Adjourn to Executive Session.

Commissioner Ball moved to adjourn to Executive Session

Commissioner Secor gave the second

The clerk called the vote, and the vote is as follows:

Arthur: Aye

Ball: Aye

Costilow: Aye

Fite: Aye

Jackson: Aye

Secor: Aye

Smithson: Aye

Van Schuyver: Aye

Richey: Aye

The clerk counted the votes and notified the Chairman that the Motion was approved.

Commissioner Secor announced to the Commission that he would not be present for the Executive Session due to a prior commitment.

- ii. Discussion of Performance Evaluation of Executive Director, Doug Elliott.
iii. Action to Return to Open Meeting from Executive Session.

Commissioner Smithson moved to return to open session

Commissioner Fite gave the second

The clerk called the vote, and the vote is as follows:

Arthur: Aye

Ball: Aye

Costilow: Aye

Fite: Aye

Jackson: Aye

Secor: Excused

Smithson: Aye

Van Schuyver: Aye

Richey: Aye

The clerk counted the votes and notified the Chairman that the Motion was approved.

IX. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING PERFORMANCE EVALUATION OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, DOUG ELLIOTT.

i. Action.

A brief question and answer period was offered by the Chairman. The Commission did not have any questions for the Director. Commissioner Smithson read the first line of the evaluation to the public with the permission of the Chairman, which, in part, stated that the “*Overwhelming consensus*” from the Commission was that the Director was doing an “*Excellent job as ODVA Director.*”

X. OPEN PUBLIC COMMENTS

The Oklahoma Veterans Commission shall hear public comments limited to only matters that are listed on the current meeting Agenda. Topics that are outside the scope of the present agenda will not be recognized. Individuals requesting to speak are required to sign-in onsite at the meeting prior to the commencement of the meeting. Speakers must provide the speaker’s name, address, email or phone number, and the subject on which they wish to speak. Open public comments are limited to not more than five minutes per person. The Board Chairman may interrupt and/or terminate any presentation during public comment which is disruptive to the meeting or does not conform to the procedures outlined under this section. The Board Chairman reserves and retains the right to interrupt, terminate, or postpone public comments as necessary to effectuate the management of the public meeting.

No individuals from the public requested to speak during public comment.

XI. NEW BUSINESS

Pursuant to 25 O.S. § 311, “New Business” shall mean any matter not known about or which could not have been reasonably foreseen prior to the time of posting (twenty-four hours prior to the meeting).

There was no new business.

XII. CARRYOVER TOPICS DEFERRED TO FUTURE AGENDA

a. Long-term Planning

i. Programs

ii. Capital Improvements

The Chairman would like to have a Special Meeting at 10:00am at the Central Office Location to address long term planning, pending availability of the conference room on June 13th, 2019

b. Director’s Evaluation

The evaluation was concluded in this meeting and will not carryover to the next.

XIII. SUBMISSION AND DISCUSSION OF POSSIBLE AGENDA ITEMS BY THE OKLAHOMA VETERANS COMMISSION FOR THE NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING.

Commissioner Smithson stated that he felt the staff from the facilities would like to come in to talk to the Commission, and know that the Commissioners recognize their concerns.

The suggestion was made for the Commissioners to possibly come down a day before the scheduled facility meetings to speak with the staff. Commissioner Van Schuyver suggested that the same can be accomplished when individual Commissioners visit the facilities. It was also noted that there is a locked box for suggestions that only Commissioners have a key to. Staff is welcome to submit any concerns in said box.

XIV. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING DATE.

Friday, June 28th, 2019
10:00AM
Sulphur Veterans Center
304 E. Fairlane
Sulphur, Oklahoma

XV. ADJOURNMENT

a. CHAIRMAN

i. Action

Commissioner Ball moved to adjourn
Commissioner Costilow gave the second

The clerk called the vote, and the vote is as follows:

Arthur: Aye
Ball: Aye
Costilow: Aye
Fite: Aye
Jackson: Aye
Secor: Absent
Smithson: Aye
Van Schuyver: Aye
Richey: Aye

The clerk counted the votes and notified the Chairman that the Motion was approved. The meeting is adjourned.