NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETING:
The Oklahoma Veterans Commission held a regular meeting on Friday, June 17th, 2022, at 10:00 AM. This meeting was held at the Clinton Veterans Center, 1701 S 4th St, Clinton, OK. A Notice of this meeting was filed with the Secretary of State’s Office on June 3rd, 2022.

AGENDA:
Friday, June 17th, 2022 10:00 AM

I. CALL TO ORDER
The Chairman called the meeting to order at 10:01am

II. DETERMINATION OF QUORUM
   A. ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTION OF COMMISSIONERS
      Commissioner Ball: Present
      Commissioner Costilow: Present
      Commissioner Jackson: Absent
      Commissioner Kokendoffer: Present
      Commissioner Lasser: Present
      Commissioner LeDay: Present
      Commissioner McEver: Present
      Commissioner Miles: Present
      Mr. Chairman: Present

      The Clerk notified the Chairman that 8 Commissioners were present, with 1 absent.

   B. DECLARATION OF QUORUM
      The Chairman declared a quorum.

   C. VERIFICATION OF PROPER NOTICE TO SECRETARY OF STATE AND POSTING OF THE AGENDA
      The Clerk verified proper notice and posting of the agenda

III. INVOCATION
      Commissioner Ball led the Invocation.

IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
      Commissioner McEver led the Pledge of Allegiance.
V. INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME TO VISITORS AND GUESTS
The Chairman welcomed all visitors and guests to the Commission meeting.

VI. OKLAHOMA VETERANS COMMISSION
A. DISCUSSION OF AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES OF THE APRIL 22ND, 2022 OKLAHOMA VETERANS COMMISSION MEETING
1. Action
Commissioner Lasser made the motion to approve the April 22nd, 2022 minutes.
Commissioner Ball provided the second.

The Clerk called the vote, and the vote is as follows:
Commissioner Ball:  Aye
Commissioner Costilow:  Aye
Commissioner Jackson:  Absent
Commissioner Kokendoffer:  Aye
Commissioner Lasser:  Aye
Commissioner LeDay:  Aye
Commissioner McEver:  Aye
Commissioner Miles:  Aye
Mr. Chairman:  Aye

The vote is 8 Aye 0 Nay 1 Absent
Motion Passes

B. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING TRAVEL OF COMMISSIONERS SINCE PRIOR REGULAR MEETING ON APRIL 22ND, 2022
1. Written Travel Reports Filed by Commissioners
The Chairman requested that all Commissioners submit their written travel reports to the Clerk.

2. Presentation of Summary Travel Reports by Commissioners in Lieu of Written Reports
Commissioner Ball:  Claremore Veterans Center, Ardmore Cemetery
Commissioner Costilow:  Nothing to report
Commissioner Jackson:  Absent
Commissioner Kokendoffer:  Nothing to report
Commissioner Lasser:  Nothing to report
Commissioner LeDay:  Lawton Veterans Center
Commissioner McEver:  Nothing to report
Commissioner Miles:  Nothing to report
Mr. Chairman:  Ardmore Cemetery

NOTE: The Oklahoma Veterans Commission may decide to discuss or not to discuss any item on the agenda and may re-order, table, approve, disapprove, or strike any item listed. All discussion items are subject to possible action by the Commission.
VII. OKLAHOMA SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS AND MILITARY

A. JOHN NASH, CABINET SECRETARY TO GOVERNOR STITT, REPORT WITH POSSIBLE DISCUSSION ON THE FOLLOWING:
   1. Report from Monthly Cabinet Meeting
      The Cabinet Secretary stated that he will continue to provide updates from ODVA to the Governor, and stated that this has not been active since the departure of former Cabinet Secretary, Ben Robinson. He stated that he was currently working with the Acting Executive Director to identify agency goals.

      The Cabinet Secretary stated that he would like to meet with the Commission monthly for content to bring to the Governor. He stated that this could be accomplished in person or via other means of communication.

      The Cabinet Secretary stated that he would like to focus on Veteran Owned Business around the state of Oklahoma, as well as communication on the stories of our Veteran Oklahoma residents.

VIII. OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

A. SARAH LANE, ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, REPORT WITH DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING:
   1. Travel
      a. Claremore – Meeting with the National Director of the American Legion
      b. Lawton – Memorial Day Ceremony
      c. Ardmore – Memorial Day Ceremony, State Veterans Cemetery Dedication & Opening
      d. Ripley – Leadership training for Claims & Benefits
   2. State Veterans Cemetery Dedication & Opening
      The Acting Executive Director stated that the Cemetery Dedication & Opening took place on June 4th, 2022 and was attended by several dignitaries including Sen. Frank Simpson, Sen. Brenda Stanley, Rep. Tommy Hardin, Rep. Tammy Townley, Matthew T. Quinn, Under Secretary for Memorial Affairs, National Cemetery Administration, Sheryl Ellis, Ardmore Vice Mayor, as well as M.G (Ret) Myles L. Deering, as well as B. G. (Ret) Doug Elliott. The Acting Executive Director stated that the Cemetery had been named after Seaman First Class Billy Turner, who was the first veteran interred within. She stated that Turner was the first casualty of WWII from Ardmore, Oklahoma.
   3. HerStory Event in Celebration of 74th Anniversary of Women’s Integration in Military Service Act
      The Acting Executive Director stated that a small-scale celebration was held Saturday, and that plans for the 75th Anniversary had already begun.
for 2023. She stated that the Her Story project would be continuing, and would be a feature presentation at the 75th events.

4. Claims and Benefits Leadership Training & Offsite Planning Session
The Acting Executive Director stated that Leadership training for the Claims & Benefits Leadership took place in Ripley, Oklahoma in May.

5. Oklahoma Military Trails Project Launch
The Acting Executive Director stated that the project will launch tomorrow, June 18th, 2022 to the public.

6. State Veterans Homes
   a. Statewide COVID Update
      There are currently 2 positive staff at the Lawton Home, and 1 positive staff at the Clinton Home. There are currently no positive Residents.
   b. Sulphur Administrator Introduction
      State Homes Director, Shawn Kirkland introduced Sulphur Administrator, Jeff Livingston to the Commission. Administrator Livingston gave a brief introduction of himself to the Commission.

7. End of Session Legislation Status
The Acting Executive Director gave the following update:
   • SB 401 Full State Income Tax Exemption for Military Retired Pay PASSED
   • SB 1333 Union Soldiers Cemetery PASSED
   • HB 1067 Provides funding for dignified burial of veterans who lack resources to provide for such PASSED
   • SJR 33 Modernize 100% SCD Veterans Homestead Exemptions PENDING
   • HB 3919 / SB 1177 Real ID Incl of Veteran & 100% SCD Status PENDING
   • SB 1814 Renaming ODVA Veterans Centers to “State Veterans Homes” PASSED
   • HB 3649 Sales Tax Exemption to Qualifying Non-Profits Supporting Transition of Servicemembers to Civilian Life PASSED
   • SB 1179 Updates to QWFOH PASSED
   • HB 3911 / SB 1183 COVID Leave for State Healthcare Workers PENDING
   • HB 3928 / SB 1598 Authorize Dedication of Sulphur to Specialty Cognitive Care Facility PENDING

8. FY23 Appropriation and Budget
   A digital copy of this presentation is available as an attachment to these recorded minutes.
   a. Action
      Commissioner Lasser made the motion to approve the FY23 Budget Commissioner Miles provided the second.
The Clerk called the vote, and the vote is as follows:
Commissioner Ball: Aye
Commissioner Costilow: Aye
Commissioner Jackson: Absent
Commissioner Kokendoffer: Aye
Commissioner Lasser: Aye
Commissioner LeDay: Aye
Commissioner McEver: Aye
Commissioner Miles: Aye
Mr. Chairman: Aye

The vote is 8 Aye 0 Nay 1 Absent
Motion Passes

B. NANEEUSHA YOUNG, CONSTRUCTION ADMINISTRATOR, REPORT WITH POSSIBLE DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING:

1. Pursuant to 61 O.S. Section 121 (F) the following Change Orders were executed under the authority to the Executive Director since the last Oklahoma Veterans Commission meeting:
   a. Change Order #001 – ($5,529.00 Deduct) +CAP Fee ($00.00) – Caddell & Co. LLC. – Norman Veteran Center, Norman, OK – OMES CAP #18210 – Deduct due to concurrent contracts with overlapping scope, the electrical portion of this contract has been deleted from the scope of work.

2. Over Executive Director Delegation of Authority:
   a. Change Order #006 – ($45,023.00) + CAP Fee ($450.23) – Flintco, LLC. – Sallisaw Veteran Center, Sallisaw, OK – OMES CAP #19273CM – Changes related to the coordination of the drawings by the new A/E team. Detail breakdown is attached to the change order.

Commissioner McEver made the motion to approve the change order
Commissioner Kokendoffer provided the second.

The Clerk called the vote, and the vote is as follows:
Commissioner Ball: Aye
Commissioner Costilow: Aye
Commissioner Jackson: Absent
Commissioner Kokendoffer: Aye
Commissioner Lasser: Aye
Commissioner LeDay: Aye
Commissioner McEver: Aye
Commissioner Miles: Aye
Mr. Chairman: Aye

The vote is 8 Aye 0 Nay 1 Absent
Motion Passes

b. Change Order #001 – ($61,911.00) + CAP FEE ($4,333.77) – BKL, Inc. – Claremore Veteran Center, Claremore, OK – OMES CAP #18198-02 – Additional fee for professional services beyond the original scope of work as a result of extended construction schedule due to Administrative Law Judge mediation by Contractor. See attached explanation.
   1. Action

Commissioner Miles made the motion to approve the change order
Commissioner McEver provided the second.

The Clerk called the vote, and the vote is as follows:
Commissioner Ball: Aye
Commissioner Costilow: Aye
Commissioner Jackson: Absent
Commissioner Kokendoffer: Aye
Commissioner Lasser: Aye
Commissioner LeDay: Aye
Commissioner McEver: Aye
Commissioner Miles: Aye
Mr. Chairman: Aye

The vote is 8 Aye 0 Nay 1 Absent
Motion Passes

C. STEPHANIE TAYLOR, ADMINISTRATOR, CLINTON VETERANS CENTER, REPORT WITH POSSIBLE DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING:
   1. Administrator Acknowledgements
   2. Overtime
   3. Vacancies
   4. GALT & Agency
   5. Workers Compensation Update
   6. Census
   7. Average Occupancy
   8. Total Days of Care
A digital copy of this presentation is available as an attachment to these recorded minutes.

The Acting Executive Director took a moment to recognize several employees of the Clinton Veterans Home with 20+ years of service with the State of Oklahoma.

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 advising of their intent to provide public comment to the Commission. Individuals must provide their name, contact information, as well as the topic on the posted Agenda of which they would like to comment. 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.

There were no public comments

XI. OKLAHOMA VETERANS COMMISSION
A. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE ELECTION OF OFFICERS TO THE OKLAHOMA VETERANS COMMISSION
a. Chairman
   i. Action
   Commissioner Ball made the motion to re-appoint the current Chairman, Larry Van Schuyver. Commissioner Kokendoffer provided the second.

   The Clerk called the vote, and the vote is as follows:
   Commissioner Ball: Aye
   Commissioner Costilow: Aye
   Commissioner Jackson: Absent
   Commissioner Kokendoffer: Aye
   Commissioner Lasser: Aye
   Commissioner LeDay: Aye
   Commissioner McEver: Aye
   Commissioner Miles: Aye
   Mr. Chairman: Aye

   The vote is 8 Aye 0 Nay 1 Absent
   Motion Passes
b. Vice Chairman
   i. Action
Commissioner Ball made the motion to re-appoint the current Vice Chairman, Paul Costilow
Commissioner Lasser provided the second.

The Clerk called the vote, and the vote is as follows:
Commissioner Ball:  Aye
Commissioner Costilow:  Aye
Commissioner Jackson:  Absent
Commissioner Kokendoffer:  Aye
Commissioner Lasser:  Aye
Commissioner LeDay:  Aye
Commissioner McEver:  Aye
Commissioner Miles:  Aye
Mr. Chairman:  Aye

The vote is 8 Aye 0 Nay 1 Absent
Motion Passes

c. Secretary
   i. Action
Chairman Van Schuyver made the motion to appoint Commissioner Heather McEver
Commissioner Kokendoffer provided the second.

The Clerk called the vote, and the vote is as follows:
Commissioner Ball:  Aye
Commissioner Costilow:  Aye
Commissioner Jackson:  Absent
Commissioner Kokendoffer:  Aye
Commissioner Lasser:  Aye
Commissioner LeDay:  Aye
Commissioner McEver:  Aye
Commissioner Miles:  Aye
Mr. Chairman:  Aye

The vote is 8 Aye 0 Nay 1 Absent
Motion Passes

B. RECOGNITION OF OUTGOING COMMISSIONERS
   a. Mike Jackson, At Large Representative
      A presentation of award will be given to Commissioner Michael Jackson by the Executive team at some point in the future.
Commissioner Jackson was not able to attend due to a prior commitment.

b. Andrew Lasser, At Large Representative
A presentation of award was given to Commissioner Andrew Lasser by Acting Executive Director, Sarah Lane and Chairman Van Schuyver. Commissioner Lasser provided exiting remarks to the Commission, as well as to the Cabinet Secretary directly and stated:

“It's been wonderful. I wasn’t sure what we were getting into when I came on board, but everybody here has been more than welcoming and this Commission and the Department is a wonderful one which I will always support and as a veteran, maybe have an opportunity to participate in again in the future. It’s been a thrill.

As an outgoing Commissioner, if I might, I would like to give some thoughts to an incoming Secretary. One, thank you very much for your comments earlier about wanting to celebrate Veterans and what they do in the state, so thank you for that. Thank you for coming to the meetings, I hope you will continue to do that, it’s very important. Secondly, as you go through some of these marketing activities, remember that there are policies within ODVA for communications and that all of the communications should be brought through the department so that they can approve them and have the consistency that has been prevalent and with organization policy. And last and one I’m sure you are aware of, and that is that your role as Secretary is that of supporting the overall not controlling it. Sometimes it’s hard line to walk because you have expectations from the Governor that may exceed the expectations of the Commission and its role as the governing body of ODVA. So, it is a fine line to walk and I hope that you do it successfully. Congratulations, welcome, and thank you all. It’s been wonderful to work with you.”

c. Merline LeDay-Mauney, Disabled American Veterans
A presentation of award was given to Commissioner Merline LeDay-Mauney by Acting Executive Director, Sarah Lane and Chairman Van Schuyver. Commissioner LeDay-Mauney provided exiting remarks to the Commission and stated:

“I’m very thankful for the time that I had and the years that I served. Thank you all, and I will continue to be at the VA and in the community and serve Veterans. Thank you.”

C. INTRODUCTION OF INCOMING COMMISSIONERS
a. Kevin Offél, At-Large Representative
Commissioner Offél was not able to attend.
b. Dr. Sidney “Sid” Ellington, At-Large Representative
   Commissioner Ellington was not able to attend.

c. Jerletta Halford-Pandos, Disabled American Veterans
   Commissioner Halford-Pandos provided a brief introduction of herself
   to the Commission.

XII. 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 (24 hours
prior to the meeting).
There was no new business

XIII. CARRYOVER TOPICS DEFERRED TO A FUTURE AGENDA
Commissioner Ball requested Update on OMES and a current list of fees for services
that we are no longer using. He also requested an update as to the status of refunds for
services overcharged in the past.

XIV. SUBMISSION AND DISCUSSION OF POSSIBLE AGENDA ITEMS BY THE
OKLAHOMA VETERANS COMMISSION FOR THE NEXT SCHEDULED
MEETING
The Secretary of Veterans Affairs and the Military requested that there be a snapshot
to cover all seven state homes at one time at the next meeting. The Acting Executive
Director stated that there is a business meeting scheduled in August that covers all
seven Homes as well as Central Office.

XV. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE NEXT
REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING DATE TO INCLUDE TRAVEL
ARRANGEMENTS
August 5th, 2022 10:00am
Vezey Veterans Complex
2132 NE 36th Street
Oklahoma City, OK 73111
There was no discussion

XVI. ADJOURMENT
1. CHAIRMAN
   1. Motion
      Commissioner Kokendoffer made the motion to adjourn
      Commissioner LeDay provided the second.

      Meeting adjourned at 11:29am      JGB