

**OKLAHOMA VETERANS COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 14, 2023, 10:00AM
Vezey Veterans Complex
2132 NE 36th Street
Oklahoma City, OK 73111**

MINUTES OF THE APRIL 14, 2023, REGULAR MEETING OF THE OKLAHOMA VETERANS COMMISSION:

The Oklahoma Veterans Commission held a regular meeting on Friday, April 14, 2023, at 10:00 AM. This meeting was held at the Vezey Veterans Complex 2132 NE 36th Street, Oklahoma City, OK 73111. Notice of this meeting was filed with the Secretary of State's Office on December 11th, 2022. Jennifer Bloomfield served as the Clerk of the Commission for this Meeting.

AGENDA:

I. CALL TO ORDER:

The Vice Chairman called the meeting to order at 10:00 am and turned the gavel over to Commissioner Rob Allen.

II. DETERMINATION OF QUORUM:

A. ROLL CALL:

Commissioner Allen asked the Clerk to call the roll. The roll was taken as follows:

Commissioner Allen – Present
Commissioner Ellington – Present
Commissioner Martin – Present
Commissioner Offel – Present
Commissioner Orr – Present
Commissioner Perry – Arrived at 10:04 am.

The Chair declared that a quorum is present.

B. VERIFICATION OF PROPER NOTICE TO SECRETARY OF STATE AND POSTING OF THE AGENDA:

Commissioner Allen asked the Clerk to verify proper notice to the Secretary of State and posting of the agenda. The Clerk verified that the meeting was listed with the

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Secretary of State on December 11, 2022, and the agenda was posted to the front doors of the Central Office and was available at the reception desk of the ODVA Central Office on April 12, 2023, at 7:22 pm. The agenda was posted to the ODVA website on April 12, 2023, at 7:16 pm.

III. ODVA STAFF AND OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

- A. Secretary John Nash was also present.
- B. Senator Brenda Stanley was in the gallery.
- C. ODVA Staff present:

Interim Executive Director, Greg Slavonic
Director of Homes, Shawn Kirkland
Communications Director, Jennifer Bloomfield
Chief Financial Officer, Lisa White
Construction Programs Administrator, Nisha Young
Payroll Programs Administrator, Leona Watson
OKSTEP Programs Administrator, Randall Coon.

- D. Commission General Counsel and ODVA Interim General Counsel John M. O'Connor was present by telephone.

IV. INVOCATION:

Commissioner Ellington led the Invocation.

V. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Commissioner Martin led the Pledge of Allegiance.

VI. INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME TO VISITORS AND GUESTS:

Commissioner Allen welcomed all visitors and guests to the Commission meeting and asked if anyone would like to introduce themselves to the Commission. No persons in the gallery introduced themselves or made comments.

VII. BUSINESS:

A. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE ELECTION OF THE CHAIR FOR THE OKLAHOMA VETERANS COMMISSION:

Commissioner Ellington made the motion to nominate Commissioner Rob Allen as Chair of the Commission. Commissioner Martin seconded the Motion.

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Commissioner Allen accepted the nomination.

Commissioner Allen called for discussion.

There was no discussion.

Commissioner Allen asked the Clerk to call the roll. The vote was as follows:

Commissioner Allen – Aye

Commissioner Ellington – Aye

Commissioner Martin – Aye

Commissioner Offel – Aye

Commissioner Orr – Aye.

Commissioner Perry – Was not present for the vote.

The Clerk notified the Chair that the vote was 5 Ayes with 1 absent.

Chairman Allen declared the Motion passed.

**B. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE ELECTION OF
THE SECRETARY OF THE OKLAHOMA VETERANS COMMISSION:**

Commissioner Ellington made the motion to nominate Commissioner Brett Martin as Secretary of the Commission. Commissioner Offel seconded the Motion.

Commissioner Martin accepted the nomination.

Chairman Allen called for discussion.

There was no discussion. Chairman Allen asked the Clerk to call the roll.

The vote was as follows:

Commissioner Allen – Aye

Commissioner Ellington – Aye

Commissioner Martin – Aye

Commissioner Offel – Aye

Commissioner Orr – Aye

Commissioner Perry – Aye.

The Clerk notified the Chair that the vote was 6 Ayes.

Chairman Allen declared the Motion passed.

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C. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE FOLLOWING VETERANS COMMISSION MEETINGS:

1. NOVEMBER 18, 2022, COMMISSION MEETING;

2. JANUARY 13, 2023, COMMISSION MEETING:

[the January 13th, 2023, meeting was canceled on January 12th, 2023, by former Chairman, Jerry Ball];

3. JANUARY 27, 2023, COMMISSION MEETING;

4. FEBRUARY 3, 2023, COMMISSION MEETING;

5. FEBRUARY 10, 2023, COMMISSION MEETING;

[The February 10th, 2023, meeting was not canceled with the Secretary of State, however, the meeting did not take place. The Oklahoma Veterans Commission was denied entry to the Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs by former Executive Director, Joel Kintsel.]

6. FEBRUARY 15, 2023, COMMISSION MEETING;

7. FEBRUARY 24, 2023, COMMISSION MEETING;

8. MARCH 10, 2023, COMMISSION MEETING; and

9. MARCH 22, 2023, COMMISSION MEETING.

Commissioner Martin made the motion to accept the proposed minutes as submitted, excluding items 2 and 5, as those meetings did not take place.

Commissioner Ellington seconded the Motion.

Chairman Allen called for discussion.

There was no discussion. Chairman Allen asked the Clerk to call the roll.

The vote was as follows:

Commissioner Allen – Aye

Commissioner Ellington – Aye

Commissioner Martin – Aye

Commissioner Offel – Aye

Commissioner Orr – Aye

Commissioner Perry – Aye.

The Clerk notified the Chair that the vote was 6 Ayes.

Chairman Allen declared the Motion passed.

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D. HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE REPORT FROM COMMISSIONER SIDNEY ELLINGTON, WITH DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING:

1. Update on the Employee Survey:

Commissioner Ellington informed the Commission that the Employee Survey closes EOD today. He stated that, at present, the survey had 19% participation agency wide.

Secretary Nash asked how much the survey had been promoted. HR Director Jennifer Shockley stated that several reminders had been sent.

Interim Executive Director, Greg Slavonic stated that several comments had been left in the free form sections of the survey which have provided good insight. He stated that he would be interested to see results after resubmitting the survey to staff in a 90-day window. The Director stated that he was working on an acceptable delivery to the Commission that would protect staff identity.

2. Update on Deputy Director Search:

Interim Executive Director, Greg Slavonic, notified the Commission that he had conducted round one interviews and had narrowed the field to his top three. He stated that the Commission was encouraged to schedule round two interviews Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday next week. He stated that all applicants were internal.

3. Update on the search for ODBA in-house General Counsel:

The search is ongoing. The position is posted and the agency has seen several applicants both from the public sector and the private sector. Interim Executive Director, Greg Slavonic stated that he would like to seek guidance from Commission General Counsel John O'Connor and possible Chairman Allen for an attorney's perspective.

4. Update on ODVA Staff:

Numbers reflect July 2022 – April 14, 2023:

- i. Number of new hires: 278.
- ii. Number of resignations: 152 with 10 of those being from retirement.
- iii. Number of terminations: 56.

Since the hiring of Interim Executive Director, Greg Slavonic, there have been zero terminations.

Rob Teel, from OMES, started today as ODVA's CTO.

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E. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE MEMBERSHIP AND DECISIONS OF THE COMMISSION SINCE JANUARY 1, 2023:

Commissioner Ellington made the motion to affirm and ratify the membership and the decisions of the Commission since January 1, 2023. Commissioner Offel seconded the Motion.

Chairman Allen called for discussion.

There was no discussion.

Chairman Allen asked the Clerk to call the roll. The vote was as follows:

Commissioner Allen – Aye

Commissioner Ellington – Aye

Commissioner Martin – Aye

Commissioner Offel – Aye

Commissioner Orr – Aye

Commissioner Perry – Aye.

The Clerk notified the Chair that the vote was 6 Ayes.

Chairman Allen declared the Motion passed.

F. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR BEING NAMED EX-OFFICIO VOTING MEMBERS OF EACH COMMISSION STANDING OR SPECIAL COMMITTEE.

Commissioner Offel made the motion to name both the Chair and Vice Chair as exofficio voting members of each Commission Standing or Special Committee. Commissioner Ellington second the Motion.

Chairman Allen called for discussion.

There was no discussion.

Chairman Allen asked the Clerk to call the roll. The vote was as follows:

Commissioner Allen – Aye

Commissioner Ellington – Aye

Commissioner Martin – Aye

Commissioner Offel – Aye

Commissioner Orr – Aye

Commissioner Perry – Aye.

The Clerk notified the Chair that the vote was 6 Ayes.

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Chairman Allen declared the Motion passed.

G. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE PROSECUTION OF, AND ENGAGEMENT OF LAW FIRM TO PROSECUTE, LEGAL ACTION REGARDING CONSTRUCTION OF SALLISAW HOME AND THE FUNDING FOR THE LEGAL ACTION:

Commissioner Ellington made the motion to authorize the: (1) prosecution, upon the recommendation of outside legal action and our General Counsel John M. O'Connor, of litigation against OW and Cooper Project Advisors and others legal counsel identify regarding the Sallisaw Home construction project; and (2) engagement of the law firm Hays, Magrini & Gatewood of Oklahoma City to prosecute the lawsuit, and (3) the setting aside of funds in the amount of \$250,000.00 for the legal fees and expenses incurred in the prosecution of the lawsuit and defense of any counterclaims or crossclaims against the Commission or ODVA. Commissioner Offel seconded the Motion.

Chairman Allen called for discussion.

General Counsel for the Commission, John M. O'Connor, stated that the fees could get up to \$300,000 - \$350,00. Discussion was had among the Commission on when the additional funds would be needed. ODVA CFO Lisa White, provided the clarity. Mr. O'Connor suggested setting aside \$250,000. The Commission discussed setting aside a total of \$250,000, with the original \$100,000 able to rollover into FY2024.

There was no further discussion.

Chairman Allen asked the Clerk to call the roll. The vote was as follows:

Commissioner Allen – Aye

Commissioner Ellington – Aye

Commissioner Martin – Aye

Commissioner Offel – Aye

Commissioner Orr – Aye

Commissioner Perry – Aye.

The Clerk notified the Chair that the vote was 6 Ayes.

Chairman Allen declared the Motion passed.

H. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING APPROVAL OF AN INCREASE IN CONTRACT PAYMENTS TO COMPLETE THE OKLAHOMA VETERANS HOME AT SALLISAW NOT TO EXCEED A

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SET SUM AND AUTHORIZATION OF INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SLAVONIC TO EXECUTE APPROPRIATE CONTRACTS.

Commissioner Ellington made the motion to (1) approve an increase in contract payment to complete the Veterans Home at Sallisaw not to exceed \$25 million, to allow for fiscal adjustments as needed; and (2) delegate to the Interim Executive Director the authority to execute the required contracts to complete the construction and to discuss with the Legislature and the Executive Committee any future approvals requested. Commissioner Orr seconded the Motion. Chairman Allen called for further discussion.

Interim Executive Director, Greg Slavonic, stated that after much discussion at the Capital, he wants to make the contingency fund whole.

Oversight at the Sallisaw location has been recommended with an estimated cost of \$500,000 for the next 17 months. This oversight would come from a construction administrator.

Secretary Nash recommended increasing the number and motion to read “Not to exceed \$25 million” to allow movement if needed.

There was no further discussion.

Chairman Allen asked the Clerk to call the roll. The vote was as follows:

Commissioner Allen – Aye

Commissioner Ellington – Aye

Commissioner Martin – Aye

Commissioner Offel – Aye

Commissioner Orr – Aye

Commissioner Perry – Aye.

The Clerk notified the Chair that the vote was 6 Ayes.

Chairman Allen declared the Motion passed.

The Chairman called for a break at the request of Commissioner Orr.

The Chairman announced the break at 11:14 am.

The Chairman called the meeting back to order at 11:25 am.

VII. REPORTS AND ADDITIONAL COMMISSION BUSINESS:

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A. OKLAHOMA SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS AND MILITARY:

Secretary Nash recognized Senator Brenda Stanley from the gallery.

Secretary Nash stated to the room how proud he was of the Commission for the Members' diligence and dedication through the last several months.

Secretary Nash informed the Commission and ODVA Leadership of the following working line items from the Cabinet Level:

1. Opportunities for our Veterans, FISTA at Lawton last week.
2. Epirus is engaged in two projects with University of Oklahoma and Fort Sill. Developing a product to defeat drones and creating 300 – 400 jobs for Veterans at Fort Sill
3. Cratos is a DOD Firm which produces drones, it gives off a radar signature of designated aircraft for training purposes.
4. Developing a drone wingman to add additional offensive capability.
5. Cortado Investment firms that are investing in OK firms that are interested in a residency for Veterans.

Secretary Nash advised the Commissions for situational awareness:

6. For over 2 years, there have been several State agency optimization opportunities ignored by prior ODVA leadership. These are lead by OMES and should be scheduled for ODVA. One process helps identify needs and develop new software. Pay raises have been seen at other agencies due to the optimization processes.
7. His focus is on how he can support ODVA.
8. He is dedicating the next 180 days to reset the culture and to help ODVA and the Commission become a championship level team.
9. Commissioner appointments and confirmations are in discussions.

B. OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS: ADMIRAL SLAVONIC, INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, REPORTS FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING:

1. GENERAL COMMENTS:

Interim Executive Director, Greg Slavonic stated to the Commission that this was the end of his week 4. Slavonic talked about his *all hands call* on day 1 and the progress seen in the following days. The Interim Executive Director stated that he wanted to improve agency-wide communication, with staff as well as the community. He stated that he felt it was important to be transparent with

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Secretary Nash, and that he and the Secretary have had several conversations over the last four weeks. The Interim Executive Director stated that he has been very impressed with the ODVA staff and is of the opinion that they truly want to support Veterans. Slavonic stated that he wanted to make sure he does everything in his power to support them in their mission. He stated that one of the many action items on his agenda compensation increases. He also invited all of the Commissioners to visit and work in the Central Office building anytime.

2. TRAVEL TO FACILITIES AND SERVICES; TOWN HALL:

- i. Ardmore Veterans Home
- ii. Ardmore New Construction Site
- iii. Ardmore Cemetery
- iv. Sulphur Veterans Home

The Interim Executive Director informed the Commission that he had traveled to the Ardmore and Sulphur Homes with Shawn Kirkland, Chairman Allen, and Vice Chairman Ellington. He stated that this was the first time he had ever visited one of the Homes. He stated that while visiting the Ardmore Home, he observed a service taking place at the Cemetery, so he was unable to tour the grounds out of respect. He stated that he was able to visit the site for the new Ardmore Home and informed the Commission that there was a Town Hall scheduled to discuss the location on April 22nd at 6:00 pm. He stated he would provide those details to the Commission.

3. REPORTING AGENCY METRICS TO THIS COMMISSION:

The Interim Executive Director provided the Commission with documentation of how the previous leadership presented agency metrics. Secretary Nash stated that he would like to see more detail and have information provided as to how these metrics are tracked. It was suggested that the Audit Committee Chair, Secretary Nash, and the Interim Executive Director meet to discuss how this process should look moving forward.

4. EMPLOYEE SURVEY:

The Interim Executive Director stated that this topic was discussed in a previous section by Commissioner Ellington, and he would provide more information after the survey is completed.

5. PERSONNEL UPDATE:

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- i. General Counsel;
- ii. Deputy Director;
- iii. Claims & Benefits Manager.

The Interim Executive Director stated that the search for General Counsel was ongoing as stated above, and he would keep the Commission posted. He stated that the search for a Deputy was also discussed previously in Commissioner Ellington's presentation and announced that Joshua Houston had been selected as the new Central Office Claims & Benefits Manager. The Interim Executive Director stated that he planned to cast a wide net for his own replacement, and the position of Executive Director would be sought both internally as well as externally.

6. FINANCIAL AUDIT OF ODVA:

The Interim Executive Director stated that, based on information that had been provided to him, he feels that a financial audit of the ODVA would be the next logical step. He requested permission to request a financial audit of the ODVA from the State Auditor. Discussion was had regarding the cost and the length of time this could take, and possible alternatives were suggested. Among those suggested were contracting private sector audits in various areas.

Commissioner Martin communicated that there was never a formal follow-up to the last State Audit (2014-2017 – reported in 2018) and suggested that the Director start there.

General Counsel for the Commission, John O'Connor, suggested that the agency begin discussions with Auditor Byrd to inquire as to the cost and turnaround for a new audit. He also suggested communication with Auditor Byrd on follow up procedures from the 2018 audit.

It was suggested by Mr. O'Connor that the Commission revisit the matter at a subsequent meeting.

Commissioner Martin made the motion to table the decision until the next regularly scheduled Commission Meeting. Commissioner Ellington seconded the Motion.

The motion to table is not debatable.

Chairman Allen asked the Clerk to call the roll. The vote was as follows:

Commissioner Allen – Aye

Commissioner Ellington – Aye

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Commissioner Martin – Aye
Commissioner Offel – Aye
Commissioner Orr – Aye
Commissioner Perry – Aye.

The Clerk notified the Chair that the vote was 6 Ayes.
Chairman Allen declared the Motion passed.

**7. UPDATE AND DISCUSSION ON ALLEGED ODVA DATA
COMPROMISE:**

**PROPOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO TITLE 25 O.S.
§307 (B) (7) DISCUSSION OF ANY MATTER WHERE DISCLOSURE
OF INFORMATION WOULD VIOLATE CONFIDENTIALITY
REQUIREMENTS OF STATE OR FEDERAL LAW AND PURSUANT
TO TITLE 25 O.S. §307 (B) (4) CONFIDENTIAL COMMUNICATIONS
BETWEEN A PUBLIC BODY AND ITS ATTORNEY CONCERNING A
PENDING INVESTIGATION, CLAIM, OR ACTION IF THE PUBLIC
BODY, WITH THE ADVICE OF ITS ATTORNEY, DETERMINES
THAT DISCLOSURE WILL SERIOUSLY IMPAIR THE ABILITY OF
THE PUBLIC BODY TO PROCESS THE CLAIM OR CONDUCT A
PENDING INVESTIGATION, LITIGATION, OR PROCEEDING IN
THE PUBLIC INTEREST.**

Commissioner Martin made the motion to enter Executive Session.
Commissioner Ellington seconded the Motion.
Chairman Allen called for discussion.
There was no discussion.
Chairman Allen asked the Clerk to call the roll. The vote was as follows:

Commissioner Allen – Aye
Commissioner Ellington – Aye
Commissioner Martin – Aye
Commissioner Offel – Aye
Commissioner Orr – Aye
Commissioner Perry – Aye.

The Clerk notified the Chair that the vote was 6 Ayes.
Chairman Allen declared the motion passed.

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The Commission entered Executive Session at 12:39 pm.

Commissioner Ellington made the motion to close the executive session and return to the open meeting. Commissioner Martin seconded the Motion.

Chairman Allen called for discussion.

There was no discussion.

Chairman Allen asked the Clerk to call the roll. The vote was as follows:

Commissioner Allen – Aye

Commissioner Ellington – Aye

Commissioner Martin – Aye

Commissioner Offel – Aye

Commissioner Orr – Aye

Commissioner Perry – Aye.

The Clerk notified the Chair that the vote was 6 Ayes.

Chairman Allen declared the Motion passed.

The Commission returned to open meeting at 1:42 pm.

8. NISHA YOUNG, CONSTRUCTION PROGRAMS ADMINISTRATOR:

i. Pursuant to 61 O.S. Section 121 (F), the following Change Orders require Commission approval:

- a. **Amendment #001 – \$127,543.00 + CAP Fee \$8,928.01 – Benham – Sallisaw Veteran Center, Sallisaw, OK – OMES CAP # 000358AE –** Furnish a comprehensive Furniture Fixtures & Equipment (FF&E) design package that was not provided by the previous A&E prior to termination of the contract.

Commissioner Martin made the motion to approve the change order.

Commissioner Ellington seconded the Motion.

Chairman Allen called for discussion.

There was no discussion.

Chairman Allen asked the Clerk to call the roll. The vote was as follows:

Commissioner Allen – Aye

Commissioner Ellington – Aye

Commissioner Martin – Aye

Commissioner Offel – Aye

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Commissioner Orr – Aye
Commissioner Perry – Aye.

The Clerk notified the Chair that the vote was 6 Ayes.
Chairman Allen declared the Motion passed.

- b. **Amendment #002 - \$4,590,575 + CAP Fee \$321,340.25 – Health Facilities Group (HFG), LLC – Ardmore Veteran Center – 231-Bed Replacement, Ardmore, OK - CAP#2122AE – Phase 3 of the architect and engineering services – consisting of construction documents / drawing, construction administration and site engineering.**

Commissioner Martin made the motion to approve the change order.

Commissioner Offel seconded the Motion.

Chairman Allen called for discussion.

There was no discussion.

Chairman Allen asked the Clerk to call the roll. The vote was as follows:

Commissioner Allen – Aye
Commissioner Ellington – Aye
Commissioner Martin – Aye
Commissioner Offel – Aye
Commissioner Orr – Aye
Commissioner Perry – Aye.

The Clerk notified the Chair that the vote was 6 Ayes.
Chairman Allen declared the Motion passed.

9. LISA A. WHITE, ODVA CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER:

- i. Operating Budget to Actual;
- ii. State Homes Operating Budget;
- iii. Staffing Agency Expenditures;
- iv. Capital Budget to Actual;
- v. Revenue Projected to Actual;
- vi. Per Diem Projection; and
- vii. Cash Flow Analysis.

Commissioner Offel engaged in detailed discussion with Ms. White. He communicated to the room that this was the first time the Commission had been presented with financials in the year that he had served on the Commission.

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Commissioner Ellington made the motion to supplement the ODVA budget for FY2024 in the amount of \$10,850,000 and to set that sum aside for the general operating fund. Commissioner Offel seconded the Motion.

Chairman Allen called for further discussion.

There was no further discussion.

Chairman Allen asked the Clerk to call the roll. The vote was as follows:

Commissioner Allen – Aye

Commissioner Ellington – Aye

Commissioner Martin – Aye

Commissioner Offel – Aye

Commissioner Orr – Aye

Commissioner Perry – Aye.

The Clerk notified the Chair that the vote was 6 Ayes.

Chairman Allen declared the Motion passed.

Commissioner Martin made the motion to postpone Agenda presentations D (Randall Coons) and E (Leona Watson) to the next regularly scheduled Commission meeting. Commissioner Ellington provided the second.

Chairman Allen called for discussion.

There was no discussion. Chairman Allen asked the Clerk to call the roll.

The vote was as follows:

Commissioner Allen – Aye

Commissioner Ellington – Aye

Commissioner Martin – Aye

Commissioner Offel – Aye

Commissioner Orr – Aye

Commissioner Perry – Aye.

The Clerk notified the Chair that the vote was 6 Ayes. Chairman Allen declared the Motion passed.

10. RANDALL COON, OKSTEP & EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMS

ADMINISTRATOR:

i. OKSTEP Launch

The presentation was postponed until the next regular Commission meeting.

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11. LEONA WATSON, PAYROLL PROGRAMS ADMINISTRATOR:

- i. Payroll;
- ii. Overtime.

The presentation was postponed until the next regular Commission meeting.

VIII. 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 this Notice (24 hours prior to the meeting).

There was no New Business.

IX. ITEMS TABLED OR POSTPONED FROM TODAY’S MEETING TO A FUTURE MEETING:

- A. Postponed to next regular meeting: Report, with discussion and possible action: Randall Coon, OKSTEP & Employment Programs Administrator, presentation on OKSTEP Launch;
- B. Postponed to next regular meeting: Report, with discussion and possible action: Leona Watson, Payroll Programs Administrator, presentation on payroll and overtime; and
- C. Tabled to next regular meeting: Report, with discussion and possible action: recommendation of a financial audit of the Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs.

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

Chairman Allen designated May 1, 2023, by 1700 as the deadline to submit possible agenda items for the next regularly scheduled Commission meeting.

XI. OKLAHOMA VETERANS COMMISSION DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING DATE TO INCLUDE TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS:

A. NEXT MEETING:

May 12th, 2023, 10:00AM
Lawton Veterans Home 501
SE Flower Mound Road
Lawton, OK 73501.

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Commissioner Martin made the motion to move the May and June, 2023, regular Commission Meetings from the Lawton Veterans Home and the Sulphur Veterans Home, respectively, to the ODVA Central Office in Oklahoma City. Commissioner Ellington seconded the Motion.

Chairman Allen called for discussion.

There was no discussion.

Chairman Allen asked the Clerk to call the roll. The vote was as follows:

Commissioner Allen – Aye

Commissioner Ellington – Aye

Commissioner Martin – Aye

Commissioner Offel – Aye

Commissioner Orr – Aye

Commissioner Perry – Aye.

The Clerk notified the Chair that the vote was 6 Ayes.

Chairman Allen declared the Motion passed.

SO, THE MAY 2023 REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING WILL BE:

May 12, 2023, 10:00 AM

Vezey Veterans Complex

2132 NE 36th Street

Oklahoma City, OK 73111.

THE JUNE 2023 REGULAR MEETING WILL ALSO BE IN OKLAHOMA CITY.

XII. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner Offel requested to make a comment before adjournment.

Commissioner Offel thanked the Interim Executive Director, as well as the ODVA staff, for the information that had been freely provided with transparency to the Commission in this Meeting. He stated that this was an enjoyable experience and, for the first time, he was looking forward to future meetings.

Commissioner Martin made the motion to adjourn.

Commissioner Perry seconded the Motion.

The Motion is not debatable.

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Chairman Allen asked the Clerk to call the roll. The vote was as follows:

Commissioner Allen – Aye
Commissioner Ellington – Aye
Commissioner Martin – Aye
Commissioner Offel – Aye
Commissioner Orr – Aye
Commissioner Perry – Aye.

The Clerk notified the Chair that the vote was 6 Ayes. Chairman Allen declared the Motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 3:11 pm.