

**OKLAHOMA VETERANS COMMISSION
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 10, 2024, 8:00 A.M.
Vezey Veterans Complex
2132 NE 36th Street
Oklahoma City, OK 73111**

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING:

The Oklahoma Veterans Commission held a Special Meeting on Monday, June 10, 2024, at 8:00 AM at the Vezezy Veterans Complex, 2132 NE 36th Street, Oklahoma City, OK 73111. A Notice of this meeting was filed with the Secretary of State's Office on May 22, 2024. The Agenda of this meeting was also properly posted at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to this meeting pursuant to the provisions of Title 25 O.S. § 311. ODVA Paralegal Cass Newell served as Clerk of the Commission for this Meeting. The Agenda and Minutes of the meeting actions are set out below.

AGENDA:

CHAIRMAN ROB ALLEN:

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Allen called the meeting to order at 8:14 AM

II. DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

A. ROLL CALL

Chairman 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

B. DECLARATION OF QUORUM

The Chair declared that a quorum was present.

III. VERIFICATION OF PROPER NOTICE OF MEETING AND POSTING OF THE AGENDA

Chairman Allen asked the Clerk to verify proper notice to the Secretary of State and posting of the agenda. The Clerk verified that Notice of this meeting was filed with the Secretary of State's Office on May 22, 2024, and the agenda was posted to the front door of the ODVA Central Office and was available at the reception desk of the ODVA Central Office on June 5, 2024, at 2:58 PM. The agenda was posted to the ODVA website on June 5, 2024, at 3:10 PM.

IV. INVOCATION

Commissioner Ellington led the Invocation.

V. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Martin led the Pledge of Allegiance.

VI. INTRODUCTION OF ODVA STAFF AND WELCOME TO VISITORS AND GUESTS.

Executive Director Greg Slavonic
Deputy Director Shawn Kirkland
Director of Homes Rob Arrington
Chief Financial Officer Lisa White
Construction Programs Administrator Nisha Young
ODVA General Counsel John Settle
OVC Counsel John O'Connor
Assistant Attorney General Sohail Punjwani

Chairman Allen welcomed all visitors and guests to the Commission meeting and asked if anyone would like to introduce themselves to the Commission. Oklahoma State Senator Brenda Stanley and Secretary of Military and Veterans Affairs John Nash were in attendance. The Chairman acknowledged and welcomed the visitors and guests.

VII. BUSINESS

A. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE MARCH 1, 2024, OKLAHOMA VETERANS COMMISSION MEETING.

Chairman Allen asked the Commission if there was any further discussion. There was no further discussion.

Commissioner Martin made the motion to approve the March 1, 2024 meeting minutes.

Commissioner Orr seconded the Motion

Chairman Allen asked the Clerk to call the roll.

Commissioner Allen – Aye

Commissioner Ellington – Aye

Commissioner Martin – Aye

Commissioner Offel – Aye

Commissioner Orr – Aye

The Clerk notified the Chair that the vote was 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.

Chairman Allen declared the motion passed.

B. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING:

1. ELECTION OF NEW FISCAL YEAR 2025 CHAIRMAN.

Commissioner Ellington made the Motion to Nominate Commissioner Martin to serve as Commission Chairman.

Commissioner Orr seconded the Motion
Chairman Allen asked the Clerk to call the roll.
Commissioner Allen – Aye
Commissioner Ellington – Aye
Commissioner Martin – Aye
Commissioner Offel – Aye
Commissioner Orr – Aye
The Clerk notified the Chair that the vote was 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.
Chairman Allen declared the motion passed.

2. ELECTION OF NEW FISCAL YEAR 2025 VICE CHAIRMAN.

Commissioner Offel made the Motion to Nominate Commissioner Ellington to serve as Commission Vice Chairman.
Commissioner Orr seconded the Motion
Chairman Allen asked the Clerk to call the roll.
Commissioner Allen – Aye
Commissioner Ellington – Aye
Commissioner Martin – Aye
Commissioner Offel – Aye
Commissioner Orr – Aye
The Clerk notified the Chair that the vote was 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.
Chairman Allen declared the motion passed.

3. ELECTION OF NEW FISCAL YEAR 2025 SECRETARY OF THE COMMISSION.

Commissioner Ellington made the Motion to Nominate Commissioner Offel to serve as Commission Secretary.
Commissioner Orr seconded the Motion
Chairman Allen asked the Clerk to call the roll.
Commissioner Allen – Aye
Commissioner Ellington – Aye
Commissioner Martin – Aye
Commissioner Offel – Aye
Commissioner Orr – Aye
The Clerk notified the Chair that the vote was 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.
Chairman Allen declared the motion passed.

C. GENERAL HOUSEKEEPING, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING: CHAIRMAN ROB ALLEN:

1. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING FY25 PROFESSIONAL LEGAL SERVICES CONTRACT WITH JOHN M. O’CONNOR, PLLC.

Chairman Allen asked the Commission if there was any further discussion.

There was no discussion.

Commissioner Ellington made the Motion to Renew the Professional Legal Services Contract of John M. O'Connor and authorize OVC Chairman to exceed monthly limit of \$5,000.00 on contract services as necessary.

Commissioner Martin seconded the Motion.

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.

The clerk notified Chairman Allen the Roll Call vote was five (5) Ayes and zero (0) Nays.

Chairman Allen declared the Motion to have Passed.

VIII. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING ODVA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SEARCH AND APPOINTMENT

Action to Adjourn to Executive Session.

Commissioner Martin made the Motion to adjourn to Executive Session pursuant to Title 25 O. S. § 307 (B)(1), for the purpose of discussion and interview of candidates A, B and C, regarding ODVA Executive Director search and appointment.

Commissioner Ellington seconded the Motion.

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.

The clerk notified Chairman Allen the Roll Call vote was five (5) Ayes and zero (0) Nays.

Chairman Allen declared the Motion to have Passed.

The Commission entered Executive Session at 8:24 am and recording was paused.

Meeting doors were opened, recording started, and action to return to Open Meeting from Executive Session was considered.

Commissioner Martin made the Motion to return from Executive Session.

Commissioner Ellington seconded the Motion.

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.

The clerk notified Chairman Allen the Roll Call vote was five (5) Ayes and zero

(0) Nays.

Chairman Allen declared the Motion to have Passed.

The Commission Returned to Open Meeting at 11:07 am.

- a. The OVC Commission members discussed that they had not been able to interview each of the three candidates as planned due to unforeseeable circumstances and the continuing need to interview the candidate who was not able to attend this meeting. The OVC Commission took no action regarding this agenda item.

IX. REPORTS WITH DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING:

1. ODVA: GREG SLAVONIC, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, DISCUSSION WITH POSSIBLE ACTION:

Executive Director Slavonic reported no travel since last Commission meeting. Executive Director Slavonic gave an update regarding the Police Department CLEET Certification firing range located adjacent to the Sallisaw Veterans Home and the noise impact to the residents. Executive Director Slavonic reported he extended his departure date to June 28, 2024.

2. ODVA: LISA A. WHITE, ODVA CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER, DISCUSSION WITH POSSIBLE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING:

Ms. White gave updates to ODVA FY24 and ODVA FY25 budget. A digital copy of this presentation is available as an attachment to these minutes.

3. ODVA: ROB ARRINGTON, DIRECTOR OF HOMES, REPORTS, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION RE:

Mr. Arrington reported on current, year, and trend of occupancy rates of the homes stating overall occupancy rate of 76.4%. Mr. Arrington reported on decertifying beds at ODVA State Homes at Ardmore, Claremore, and Sulphur and bed counts at each facility and reported on increasing ODVA maintenance charge adjustment to reflect increase in costs. A digital copy of this presentation is available as an attachment to these minutes.

X. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

XI. DISCUSSION OF POSSIBLE FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS BY THE OKLAHOMA VETERANS COMMISSION AND DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF AGENDA ITEMS IN ADVANCE OF MEETING.

The Oklahoma Veterans Commission members discussed the Chairman possibly scheduling a special meeting on June 20, 2024, at 3:00 pm.

XII. OKLAHOMA VETERANS COMMISSION DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING:

July 12, 2024, 10:00AM
Vezey Veterans Center
2132 NE 36th Street
Oklahoma City, OK 73111

XIII. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING ADJOURNMENT.

Chairman Allen asked the Commission if there was any further discussion. There was no discussion.

Commissioner Martin made the Motion to Adjourn.

Commissioner Ellington seconded the Motion.

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

The Clerk notified the Chair the vote was 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.

Chairman Allen declared the Motion passed.

The Meeting Adjourned at 12:35 PM.