

**OKLAHOMA VETERANS COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
MAY 9, 2025, 10:00 A.M.
SALLISAW VETERANS HOME
2343 S. KERR BOULEVARD
SALLISAW, OK 74955**

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING:

The Oklahoma Veterans Commission held a Regular Meeting on Friday, May 9, 2025, at 10:00 a.m., at the Sallisaw Veterans Home, 2343 S. Kerr Boulevard, Sallisaw, OK 74955. A Notice of this meeting was filed with the Secretary of State on November 4, 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 BRETT MARTIN:

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Martin called the meeting to order at 10:12 a.m.

II. DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

A. ROLL CALL

Chairman Martin asked the Clerk to call the roll. The roll was taken as follows:

Commissioner Allen – Present
Commissioner Dukes – Present
Commissioner Ellington – Present
Commissioner Martin – Present
Commissioner Mutchler - Present
Commissioner Offel – Present
Commissioner Orr – Present
Commissioner Perry – Present

The Clerk notified Chairman Martin that 8 Commissioners were present.

B. DECLARATION OF QUORUM

- III.** The Chair declared that a quorum was present. Also present, General Counsel for the Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs and the Oklahoma Veterans Commission, John M. Settle.

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

The Clerk verified proper notice and posting of the agenda.

V. INVOCATION

Commissioner Ellington led the Invocation.

VI. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Offel led the Pledge of Allegiance.

VII. WELCOME TO VISITORS AND GUESTS.

Chairman Martin welcomed all visitors and guests to the Commission meeting and asked if anyone would like to introduce themselves to the Commission. The Chairman welcomed visitors and guests.

VIII. BUSINESS

A. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 31, 2025, OKLAHOMA VETERANS COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING.

Chairman Martin asked the Commission if there was any discussion.

There was no discussion.

Commissioner Allen made the motion to approve the January 31, 2025, meeting minutes.

Commissioner Ellington seconded the Motion.

Chairman Martin asked the Clerk to call the roll.

Commissioner Allen – Aye

Commissioner Dukes – Aye

Commissioner Ellington – Aye

Commissioner Martin – Aye

Commissioner Mutchler - Aye

Commissioner Orr – Aye

Commissioner Perry – Aye

The Clerk notified the Chair that the vote was 8 Ayes, 0 Nays.

Chairman Martin declared the motion passed.

**B. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING:
ELECTION OF FISCAL YEAR 2026 CHAIRMAN.**

i. ELECTION OF FISCAL YEAR 2026 CHAIRMAN.

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

Commissioner Orr seconded the Motion

Chairman Martin asked the Clerk to call the roll.

Commissioner Allen – Aye

Commissioner Dukes – Aye

Commissioner Ellington – Aye

Commissioner Martin – Abstain

Commissioner Mutchler – Aye

Commissioner Offel – Aye

Commissioner Orr – Aye

Commissioner Perry – Aye

The Clerk notified the Chair that the vote was 7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Abstain.
Chairman Martin declared the motion passed.

ii. **ELECTION OF FISCAL YEAR 2026 VICE CHAIRMAN.**

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

Commissioner Martin asked for a second, no second for the motion.

Commissioner Martin declared the motion failed.

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

Commissioner Orr seconded the Motion

Chairman Martin asked the Clerk to call the roll.

Commissioner Allen – Aye

Commissioner Dukes – Aye

Commissioner Ellington – Abstain

Commissioner Martin – Aye

Commissioner Mutchler – Aye

Commissioner Offel – Aye

Commissioner Orr – Aye

Commissioner Perry – Aye

The Clerk notified the Chair that the vote was 7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Abstain.

Chairman Martin declared the motion passed.

iii. **ELECTION OF FISCAL YEAR 2026 SECRETARY OF THE COMMISSION.**

Commissioner Offel made the Motion to Nominate Commissioner Mutchler to serve as Commission Secretary.

Commissioner Dukes seconded the Motion

Chairman Martin asked the Clerk to call the roll.

Commissioner Allen – Aye

Commissioner Dukes – Aye

Commissioner Ellington – Aye

Commissioner Martin – Aye

Commissioner Mutchler – Abstain

Commissioner Offel – Aye

Commissioner Orr – Aye

Commissioner Perry – Aye

The Clerk notified the Chair that the vote was 7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Abstain.

Chairman Martin declared the motion passed

C. CHAIRMAN BRETT MARTIN, GENERAL HOUSEKEEPING, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING:

i. The Oklahoma Veterans Foundation.

Commissioner Martin advised the Governor signed the Foundation bill into law two weeks ago, and with our senators and our representatives the process works well. The Foundation, a 501 (c)3, will be the avenue in which we can receive donations to cover veteran's needs across the great State of Oklahoma. In a recent ODVA podcase the Director stated donations could be unique, it could be anything

from a ramp to clothing, or whatever their need is, and 100% of the donations go to the veterans

Commissioners Martin and Ellington have been reviewing and discussing the paperwork for this 501 (c) 3, there has been some discussion regarding costs to get all of the paperwork drafted and the price tag was \$15,000.00.

General Counsel Settle stated he has worked with other agencies of the State trying to create a foundation, the Executive Director of the Aeronautical Commission advised the cost to create the foundation paperwork, filings that are necessary, create the governance documentation and materials that would lead that foundation in its efforts going forward, was \$15,000.00.

Commissioner Ellington recommends going forward and getting the paperwork started. He believes the cost would be less than \$400.00 for the final paperwork to be filed, get the application to the IRS for the 501 (c) 3, letter determination, then circle back and determine the next steps.

Director Bynum stated we need to establish a board, funding, and there is an opportunity for a subcommittee that starts right out of the gate using local expertise for the homework from the ground up.

Commissioner Perry asked if the intent for the Foundation accounting, regular bookkeeping, to be done by ODVA or outsourcing.

Director Bynum stated that because of auditability it must be independent, parallel to ODVA, but tied into the understanding of what is described as “need”, and where there are gaps in certain state and federal funding, those needs that have to be met in alternative ways. At that point, the Foundation’s independent activity can solicit, find targets, fill those voids, and create a pathway to make that happen, it is independent of ODVA operations.

Commissioner Perry asked if there would be an audit required.

Director Bynum responded that we want to be as transparent as possible and would strongly recommend clear and distinct pathways and processes for how to interact with audits. It is critical for the Foundation to have absolute transparency.

Commissioner Perry asked how does the Foundation get a board established, appointment of board members, and develop bylaws.

General Counsel Settle replied that the Foundation entity will create the processes and procedures, and the Foundation initial board will be appointed by the OVC.

Chairman Martin asked the Commission if there was any discussion.

There was discussion regarding OVC Commissioners volunteering to serve on the Foundation subcommittee. Commissioner Ellington volunteered to begin the start-up paperwork.

Commissioner Allen made the Motion to establish the Oklahoma Veterans Foundation Subcommittee of Commissioners Ellington, Martin, and Perry
Commissioner Mutchler seconded the Motion.

Chairman Martin asked the Clerk to call the roll.

Commissioner Allen – Aye

Commissioner Dukes - Aye

Commissioner Ellington – Aye

Commissioner Martin – Aye

Commissioner Mutchler – Aye

Commissioner Offel - Aye

Commissioner Orr – Aye

Commissioner Perry – Aye

The Clerk notified the Chair that the vote was 8 Ayes, 0 Nays.

Chairman Martin declared the motion passed.

ii. Oklahoma Veteran Suicide Task Force.

Commissioner Martin stated the Report paperwork is still in Senator Russo's office. Commissioner Martin advised and he is standing by for an update and will stop by Capitol and visit with the Senator.

iii. Oklahoma Veterans Advisory Forum.

Commissioner Martin stated the inaugural meeting was held on March 26, 2025, said it was a success and believes it was a success because of the ODVA personnel who gave up their time, came out and selflessly gave the time to the people asking questions. There were 76 different veteran service folks in the crowd that day, from Secretary Nash to Director Bynum. Director Bynum conducted a great meeting, much like a comfortable Town Hall type of meeting. Overall, the feedback received was they can't wait for the next one, and we are going to conduct them like our Commission meetings to be scheduled once a quarter. Commissioner Martin requested OVAF Committee members check their calendars and advised the next possible meeting dates are the 18th or 25th June. Commissioner Martin advised he has received requests that USVA attend and speak at the next meeting.

Director Bynum suggested targeting June 18th for flexibility and travel. Director Bynum stated he tasked the ODVA team to get back with the people we made contact with at the OVAF meeting, and there were several tasks and lines of effort to come from that. One of those efforts is outreach, closing in on some of the issues presented, and providing updates to the individuals who had questions, and keep those lines of effort going, and providing an update on those previous issues at the next meeting.

iv. FY2026 Professional Legal Services Contract with John M. O'Connor, PLLC.

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

Chairman Martin stated that John O'Connor is representing the OVC in one case that at present has no ongoing action and is stale. Commissioner Allen asked if the contract is annual and needs to be renewed. General Counsel Settle stated that is correct and the contract cannot exceed \$75,000.00. Chairman Martin advised that he receives and reviews the invoices as he is designated counsel for the Commission which is needed to be separate and distinct from ODVA.

Commissioner Allen made the Motion to Renew the Professional Legal Services Contract of John M. O'Connor for 2026, as written.

Commissioner Offel seconded the Motion.

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

Commissioner Allen – Aye

Commissioner Dukes - Aye

Commissioner Ellington – Aye

Commissioner Martin – Aye

Commissioner Mutchler - Aye

Commissioner Offel – Aye

Commissioner Orr – Aye.

The clerk notified Chairman Martin the Roll Call vote was 8 Ayes and 0 Nays.

Chairman Martin declared the Motion to have Passed.

v. Standing Committee appointments, consideration regarding formation of additional OVC Standing Committees.

Chairman Martin stated that the previous OVC standing committees have been meaningful and expressed the need to confirm the existing committees for clarity. HR committee member is Commissioners Ellington, Orr, and Martin; Audit committee members (Chairman Martin was previously on committee and Commissioner Perry volunteered for Audit committee. Chairman Martin stated there is no need for an Audit committee at this time as ODVA is back on track and if needed, OVC can always stand it back up.); Construction/Maintenance committee member is Commissioners Orr and Perry; Legislative committee members are Commissioners Ellington, Allen, and Martin; Healthcare committee members are Commissioners Offel and Dukes; Foundation committee members are Commissioners Ellington, Martin and Orr.

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

Commissioner Allen made the Motion to Approve the Committee appointments as previously stated.

Commissioner Mutchler seconded the Motion.

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

Commissioner Allen – Aye

Commissioner Dukes - Aye

Commissioner Ellington – Aye

Commissioner Martin – Aye

Commissioner Mutchler - Aye

Commissioner Offel – Aye

Commissioner Orr – Aye.

The clerk notified Chairman Martin the Roll Call vote was 8 Ayes and 0 Nays.

Chairman Martin declared the Motion to have Passed.

D. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, JAY BYNUM, STAFF INTRODUCTIONS.

Director Bynum welcomed and thanked the Chairman and Commissioners to Sallisaw, it's 220,000 square feet of the best the State of Oklahoma has to offer for veterans and residents. Director Bynum introduced Daron Hoggatt, who is now ODVA's Public Information Officer, and is working on ODVA's campaigns for becoming sales, not just service and is going to do some activity to try to change the balance sheet as we as we turn the homes effort, particularly into a P and L sort of approach for the State. Daron Hoggatt has been a hard charger, some of the work he is doing, recognizing the 80th anniversary of VE Day, and at the end of April was the 50th anniversary of the fall of Saigon, those are some things we will be seeing, and Daron Hoggatt is going to get that information out as well. There's also marketing ODVA is having on Channel 4, KFOR, and starting some of the marketing campaign and doing some limited commercial breaks for the Vietnam 50th year programming that goes on throughout the month and will culminate on the 26th and Memorial Day. ODVA will have spots peppered throughout the KFOR program and commercials throughout the month on all those networks, including CW. All that is directly attributed to Daron Hoggatt's work and working with Chairman Martin. ODVA is starting to use some of the Central Office facility that Director Slavonic placed downstairs, you will be seeing a lot more VOD and podcasts and finding things on your phone from ODVA. That's all because of Daron Hoggatt's initiatives.

New in services, we have a new leader for services, Lisa Acevedo has taken on services, "services" is all things veteran focused, not just claims and benefits, but Lisa Acevedo is turning that into a outcome base with a lot of metrics, and looking at reorganizing and retargeting, i.e., where the veterans live, best way to reach them, driving down costs and driving up impact. As Lisa Acevedo has walked away from that, her coworker, who used to be her Deputy for Women Veterans issues, is one Lupita Higadera Zukler, known affectionately as Pitta. The newest team member is Christopher Busby, Chris has been with ODVA for just about a month and is the new CFO. Chris Busby comes from the private sector and trucking, and has worked in the healthcare industry for nonprofits, and comes with a full gambit of skills required. As ODVA starts the deep dives we are implementing, i.e., understanding our financial footprint from a P and L cost center, and beginning to drive costs down, effectiveness up, and efficiency.

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

i. SHAWN KIRKLAND, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, REPORTS, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING:

- i. Department of Government Efficiency Response.

ii. FY25 - FY26 Budget Progress.

Shawn Kirkland advised soon after the federal DOGE initiative was started, Governor Smith issued an Executive Order for state agencies to participate in DOGE. ODVA quickly got involved, Director Bynum and I took on that as our day job already. ODVA has been doing a lot of this already, the mission of DOGE is to eliminate wasteful government spending and save taxpayer dollars. To date, there have been approximately 240 ideas presented from state agencies. A little over 100 of those have been posted to the DOGE website, and a savings of about \$57 million have been found. With federal grants, ODVA has been able to pull back its contribution, it is still in progress. ODVA has seen some savings from the conversion of the contract staff to state employees, saving on contracts, that typically transfers over into state payroll and ODVA we can get more employees for the same cost as the contracts.

Commissioner Martin asked if ODVA's hiring initiative is working.

Shawn Kirkland advised it has been very successful with the lower level direct care, PCA, CMAs. ODVA still struggles hiring nurses, licensed nurses, but recently converted to 12-hour shifts across the State to get in line with the industry standard. It will allow nurses to work half of the year, literally half of the days of the year, and make the same amount of money. ODVA is hoping to see some recruiting improvement from that effort alone. ODVA will have some other projects presented in the coming months. The plan for DOGE is to run through FY26 through the end of June or July next year, and see where it goes from there.

The last piece to talk about is ODVA's budget process, ODVA is not at a point right now to present a full budget FY26, work on that is continuing. The State is talking about a 2% reduction, that is about \$800,000 for ODVA. The possibility of absorbing the reduction is due to actions that we have initiated, i.e., consolidating positions or consolidating processes administratively, without taking away from the care that's provided in the Homes. At the next meeting, ODVA will provide a better picture of what FY26 will look like, and what the legislature appropriations are. Again, we're at \$40 million then flat. The Legislature gave us \$4 million last fiscal year to stand up Sallisaw, and going back to \$40 million and a 2% cut, while bringing on Sallisaw, that is a 14% increase in enterprise. We have a lot to do, and Chris Busby's team is putting that together for us. ODVA is looking different than it has in the past, looking at previous years and attempting to build from that. ODVA is going straight to a requirements-based budget from the bottom up, and specifically in the homes, with cost of care, identifying which Home is operating the best, and getting the other Homes aligned

with those best practices. Shawn Kirkland stated he will provide the Commission with more details in August.

ii. **ROB ARRINGTON, DIRECTOR OF HOMES, REPORTS, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING:**

Rob Arrington introduced the Sallisaw Staff, stating that it is a tradition in the Navy that the crew when the ship is commissioned is called the plank owners. The Veterans Homes will be taking care of veterans for decades to come and staff will come and go, but this Sallisaw crew is the first and they will always be the first, thank you. The Sallisaw staff are the basic core crew that will be taking care of the first residents. There will be a few more staff to add, but we are down to the final punch list of getting this Home ready to bring in veterans and start taking care of them. As the Sallisaw Home increases census staff will be added as the residents come in and generate the revenue to pay those salaries. Most of the hardware has been delivered, the computer hardware is being installed and the network is up. Cox will be doing the phone system for the facility and will start with the mission critical phones, i.e., main number, pharmacy, nursing, etc. Work on new staffing software is ongoing. Cammie McKinney stated PointClickCare installation has been the fastest installation she has seen in her 20 years in long term care, four weeks and it is up and running. The pharmacy is waiting for the software installation to get ready for the Pharmacy Board to visit to finalize their report. Rob Arrington stated the target date for opening Sallisaw to receive residents is at the end of May with approximately 20 residents in the first group. There are 109 resident applications, and the home will start with a small group. There are still a lot of pieces to put in place, but the Sallisaw crew, when they see something that needs to be done, they get it done.

Commissioner Martin asked if there are any roadblocks to the scheduled opening of the Home. Rob Arrington stated that there are some design changes that may be changed in the future, but believes we are well on the road to opening as scheduled.

Commissioner Offel asked Chris Busby to track the number of existing residents who are relocating from other facilities, transfers from other long term care facilities, etc. He also would like to see the break-even line, analysis by facility.

Commissioner Dukes asked about migration of medical records from other facilities. Rob Arrington stated that medical records transfer will be digital, a flip of a switch in our software.

Commissioner Offel asked what the current bed count total is for the Homes. Rob Arrington stated current count is 1248, and with the Sallisaw Home opening that number will increase to 1423.

iii. **CHRISTOPHER BUSBY, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER, REPORTS, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING:**

Chris Busby gave updates to ODVA FY25 Department Goals, FY24 to FY25 Revenues, FY25 Expenses and Net Income, and Occupancy Metrics. He stated Finance will focus on customer service, timely reporting of data, team building, accountability, and communication are priorities.

Commissioner Offel stated he is very pleased with the direction ODVA Finance is going. The way Chris Busby is looking at the numbers is exactly the way ODVA should be looking at it and it is a massive improvement from the information the Commission has previously received.

A digital copy of this presentation is available as an attachment to these minutes.

iv. **LISA ACEVEDO, ODVA DIRECTOR OF VETERAN SERVICES & LEGISLATIVE LIAISON, REPORTS, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING:**

ODVA is looking at doing digital data transfers with other state agencies. Through Title 72, ODVA is required by law, through the Oklahoma Veterans Registry, to share certain information with Service Oklahoma, Oklahoma Tax Commission, and Oklahoma Wildlife Conservation Commission. In the past, ODVA has done this all through paper, either mailing a paper, the veteran would take the paper over to the Tax Commission, and then to the Wildlife Commission and so on. ODVA had conversations with the agencies that we share Veterans Registry information with, and they're all on board with a digital data transfer, we are working on doing that and looking at different software so we can implement real time data transfer with these state agencies. This process will help take the burden off the veteran from having to drive from place to place to take a piece of paper, to only get back in their car and wait. Doing this digitally will make a faster and seamless process for veterans. ODVA is looking at a software management system that will help manage our cases with the US Department of Veterans Affairs, but also our state benefits as well. In the past, ODVA never had a system that has truly been able to handle all of our state benefits processing. ODVA has been old school, through spreadsheets and email, and with new software ODVA would have an actual, true processing system for the state benefits that helps initiate and verify the veteran's disability compensation.

ODVA is also looking at automating our system so that we have a more digital footprint with our veterans, so they have a way to contact us even

after hours. We are also looking at restructuring our hours, to move away from some of the banking hours that we currently have.

Next week, ODVA will be doing a demo of a pilot program for our central office, digital automation, no longer going to be a paper process. When veterans come into ODVA Central Office, they will be coming in and doing a digital sign in, with that information we can take it into a CSV file and will upload into our systems. It will be a quick hand-off, and it will pre-fill all the information and that data share goes to other agencies, one stroke service. There are a couple of other demos coming up within the next week, ODVA is looking at automating our systems, taking it from a 1995 perspective to a 2025 perspective.

Lisa Acevedo addressed ODVA's current legislative progress, Senate Bill 530 which created the state of Oklahoma Veterans Foundation was passed and signed by the governor on April 23, 2025.

Senate Bill 723, which amended Title 72 O.S. 63.18A and Title 72 O.S. 64 were sent to the governor on May 7, 2025, for his signature.

ODVA had emergency Administrative Code rules for the Oklahoma Administrative Code, 770-10-3-1 (d), (e), and (i). Those emergency rules were signed by the Governor, and sent to the Oklahoma Register for publication. The changes will be published and become effective as of May 15, 2025. The permanent Administrative Code rules are waiting for Legislative action and the Governor's review by Sine Die.

Commissioner Martin asked for a summary of what those rules cover.

Lisa Acevedo stated the updated rules in the Administrative Code align with practices that are most effective and cost efficient for ODVA and the state. Alignment of ODVA rules and how we receive funds and how the maintenance charges for the residents are processed. Instead of billing in arrears, ODVA is now billing at the beginning of the month.

Planning for the 2026 legislative session, the ODVA Legislative Committee will get together at the end of June to start going through and looking at what the big agenda items are to present to the Legislature for the second session of the 60th Legislative Session. ODVA will also look at updating the Oklahoma Administrative Code as well, some will be cleanup language, i.e., changing the word "Centers" to "Homes", "Veterans Administration" to "US Department of Veterans Affairs," and making additional updates to rules in place with the most proficient practices.

iv. **JAY BYNUM, ODVA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, REPORTS, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING:**

Jay Bynum stated his understanding of the history of the Homes mission, was each home was its own little enterprise and an entity, and the central office essentially just paid the bills. People ran it, how they ran it and made their own decisions on staffing.

The Homes made their own decisions on the amount of supplies, the amount of material, what is spent on food cost, and there wasn't any visibility to how much that did cost. It was okay in the golden years, when everybody was 100% and you had waiting lists, the costs were contained, and didn't have other things on budget, but those are the kinds of items that were hidden costs. For example, in the past the maintenance in our budget was \$90,000 per year, per home. No way that's realistic. ODVA bought vehicles, and there was never a life-cycle management and understanding that cost continues in the future. Each Home becomes a spike in your demand signal, so we're putting all that information on budget and looking at vehicles, what's right to lease, what's right to buy, what's right to modify and build. ODVA is now going to issue controls, and going to have a checkbook, and will provide that in a quarterly, maybe monthly, but ODVA will be able to recoup those funds and reappportion to other needs inside the organization. Previously ODVA did not have the tools to do that with internal processes.

Director Bynum spoke about ODVA's mission and reorientating people's thinking. ODVA has missions, one is the Homes. Rob Arrington, I'm coming to you for mission execution, we're going to talk about the outcomes and we're going to measure for quality and what those are going to be. People are an input, the facilities are a place to do that, the fiscal resources, the heart and lungs are Chris Busby's world.

We meet in a small group, and we have friction at the table, and everybody jealously guards their resource, and we talk about the necessity to have an outcome but pay no more than necessary to achieve an outcome and manage the risk inside those. Tough discussions, but that's where we need to be, change those little fiefdoms where things become home centric. We're now going to say what is consolidated, what's the best move, can ODVA centrally locate that function, or can it regionalize that function.

We're also looking at partnerships. I've done some travel and talked to the folks in Alabama who have a slightly different model for their homes. One of the things Alabama is doing is creating a partnership with the defense manpower data center to get defense data, DD 214, manpower retirement data taps, data to figure out where these veterans are located. With this data sharing agreement with services Oklahoma, the Tax Commission and others, ODVA will be able to precision Geo-

locate, throw out duplicate records, find those folks, and then target them. For the outreach mission and services, this a process now, I want to locate everybody, I want to be able to have that call receiving kind of a place where you call a central phone number, you snatch my QR code, and we find you, make it easy, onboarding of information, it will populate the data we need to get to now. We locate the veteran in the database, find their record, and we attack them with, this is who we are, this is what we can provide to you. That's also the sales model for the Homes. ODVA has two initiatives starting, one is The Race to 1000. ODVA resident count is starting the year at 915 around January, or maybe 925 or 930, today ODVA is at 960. Race to 1000, there will be some admissions and some discharges, but we want to be above a net, above 1000 by Labor Day. ODVA has targets embedded in that piece, we want to be above 90% in Lawton and Norman and maintain above 90%, in Clinton it's 94% as of this week. ODVA will metricize that and how people own those processes.

Directory Bynum stated he and Rob Arrington are going to go meet the surrounding states, go down and talk to the folks that do my job and his job down in Texas, Louisiana, Arkansas, Missouri and Kansas, we are going to target those, those state line areas as well. Arkansas is underserved, Texas has a big wait list and they're under structure and we have room. We will target everybody, go for those full cost of care people so we can get those margins. Every Oklahoman who wants to be here is first in line. We want to partner with VSOs that have relationships out there, any location we have that's a border state, Oklahoma is a priority, locations like Fort Smith, take those opportunities as well. ODVA will do the same thing for some of our army programs, scholarships that we offer and that we prioritize for Oklahomans. Having teammates at the facility, partnering with those agencies that are coming in and out of the facilities can be good referral sources for patients that need the facility.

ODVA does not have any rehab functions right now, something that's worth exploring. We have memory care units as well, each Home has a memory care unit inside, but the SNF is the one we're looking primarily at and adult daycare, because that's about 60% just for the day, but has some transportation requirements. We are looking at all those things on the table.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

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

NEXT REGULAR MEETING:

August 8, 2025, 10:00AM
Claremore Veterans Home
3001 W. Blue Starr Drive
Claremore, OK 74

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

XI. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING ADJOURNMENT.

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

Commissioner Allen made the motion to adjourn.

Commissioner Ellington seconded the Motion.

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

Commissioner Allen – Aye

Commissioner Dukes - Aye

Commissioner Ellington – Aye

Commissioner Martin – Aye

Commissioner Mutchler – Aye

Commissioner Offel - Aye

Commissioner Orr – Aye

Commissioner Perry – Aye

The Clerk notified Chairman Martin the Roll Call vote was 8 Ayes, 0 Nays.

Chairman Martin declared the Motion passed.

Chairman Martin declared the meeting adjourned at 12:04 p.m.