

**OKLAHOMA VETERANS COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
November 20th, 2020 10:00AM
Vezev Veterans Complex
2132 NE 36th Street
Oklahoma City, OK 73111**

NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETING:

The Oklahoma Veterans Commission held a regular meeting on **Friday, November 20th, 2020**, at 10:00 AM. This meeting was held at the Vezev Veterans Complex, 2132 NE 36th Street, Oklahoma City. A Notice of this meeting was filed with the Secretary of State's Office on November 3rd, 2020.

AGENDA:

Friday, November 20th, 2020 10:00 AM

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

II. DETETERMINATION OF QUORUM

a. ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTION OF COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Ball: Present
Commissioner Costilow: Absent
Commissioner Jackson: Present
Commissioner Kokendoffer: Present
Commissioner Lasser: Present
Commissioner LeDay: Late (10:37am)
Commissioner Secor: Present
Commissioner Smithson: Present
Mr. Chairman: Present

The Clerk notified the Chairman that 7 Commissioners were present, with 2 absent.

b. DECLARATION OF QUORUM

The Chairman declared a quorum

III. INVOCATION

Commissioner Ball led the Invocation

IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Smithson led the Pledge of Allegiance

V. INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME TO VISITORS AND GUESTS

The Chairman acknowledged that there were no visitors or guests present.

VI. ANNOUNCEMENT REGARDING SIGN-IN FOR OPEN PUBLIC COMMENTS

Individuals requesting to speak are required to sign-in onsite at the meeting prior to the commencement of the meeting.

The Chairman confirmed that there were no sign-ins for public comments.

VII. ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEW MASK GUIDANCE PURSUANT TO EO 2020-20.

The Chairman announced the mask guidance to the Commission.

VIII. OKLAHOMA VETERANS COMMISSION

a. DISCUSSION OF AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 30th, 2020 OKLAHOMA VETERANS COMMISSION MEETING.

i. Action

Commissioner Secor made the motion to approve the October 30th, 2020 minutes.

Commissioner Smithson provided the second.

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

Commissioner Ball: Aye

Commissioner Costilow: Absent

Commissioner Jackson: Aye

Commissioner Kokendoffer: Aye

Commissioner Lasser: Abstain

Commissioner LeDay: Absent

Commissioner Secor: Aye

Commissioner Smithson: Abstain

Mr. Chairman: Aye

The vote is 5 Aye 0 Nay 2 Abstain 2 Absent

Motion Passes

b. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING TRAVEL OF COMMISSIONERS SINCE PRIOR REGULAR MEETING ON OCTOBER 30th, 2020.

i. Written Travel Reports Filed by Commissioners

The Chairman requested that the Commission submit any written travel reports to the clerk before the end of the meeting.

ii. Presentation of Summary Travel Reports by Commissioners in Lieu of Written Reports

Commissioner Ball: Reported travel to Langston Oklahoma for their Veterans Day event.

Commissioner Costilow: Was absent

Commissioner Jackson: Had nothing to report
Commissioner Kokendoffer: Reported travel to the dedication of the Purple Heart Memorial statue in Tahlequah Oklahoma.
Commissioner Lasser: Had nothing to report
Commissioner LeDay: Was not present for the report
Commissioner Secor: Reported that the Lawton community was banding together to support the Lawton facility. He stated that he had attended four parades at the Veterans center in Lawton.
Commissioner Smithson: Had nothing to report
Mr. Chairman: Reported that Dell City was the most recent city to become a Purple Heart City.

c. **DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE 2021 OKLAHOMA VETERANS COMMISSION MEETING SCHEDULE.**

i. Action.

Commissioner Ball made a motion to accept the 11 meeting proposed schedule as the 2021 Oklahoma Veterans Commission meeting schedule
Commissioner Secor initially provided the second, but then withdrew
There was no vote

Commissioner Secor made a motion to amend the schedule, requesting to switch the dates for Sulphur and Lawton.

A brief discussion took place with input from Deputy Director, Sarah Lane.

Commissioner Secor withdrew his motion.

Commissioner Smithson made a motion to amend the schedule as follows:

January 22nd 2021 (OKC, Central Office)
February 26th 2021 (Ardmore Veterans Center)
March 26th 2021 (Clinton Veterans Center)
May 28th 2021 (Sulphur Veterans Center)
June 24th 2021 (OKC, Central Office)
June 25th 2021 (OKC, Central Office)
July 30th 2021 (Lawton Veterans Center)
August 27th 2021 (Norman Veterans Center)
September 24th 2021 (Talihina Veterans Center)
November 19th 2021 (Claremore Veterans Center)

Commissioner Secor provided the second.

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

Commissioner Ball: Aye
Commissioner Costilow: Absent
Commissioner Jackson: Aye

Commissioner Kokendoffer: Aye
Commissioner Lasser: Aye
Commissioner LeDay: Absent
Commissioner Secor: Aye
Commissioner Smithson: Aye
Mr. Chairman: Aye

The vote is 7 Aye 0 Nay 2 Absent
Motion Passes

Commissioner Secor made the motion to approve the 10 meeting 2021 Oklahoma Veterans Commission Meeting Schedule as amended.
Commissioner Smithson provided the second.

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

Commissioner Ball: Aye
Commissioner Costilow: Absent
Commissioner Jackson: Aye
Commissioner Kokendoffer: Aye
Commissioner Lasser: Aye
Commissioner LeDay: Absent
Commissioner Secor: Aye
Commissioner Smithson: Aye
Mr. Chairman: Aye

The vote is 7 Aye 0 Nay 2 Absent
Motion Passes

IX. OKLAHOMA SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS AND MILITARY

a. BEN ROBINSON, CABINET SECRETARY TO GOVERNOR STITT, REPORT WITH POSSIBLE DISCUSSION ON THE FOLLOWING:

- i. Report from Monthly Cabinet Meeting
Secretary Robinson was not able to attend this meeting due to a prior commitment.

X. OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

a. JOEL KINTSEL, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND SARAH LANE, DEPUTY DIRECTOR AND GENERAL COUNSEL, AGENCY REPORT WITH POSSIBLE DISCUSSION ON THE FOLLOWING:

- i. Travel Report
The Director stated that he was able to participate in a presentation in Ada Oklahoma for the Sunrise Rotary origination. He also accompanied Commissioner Ball to Langston, Oklahoma for the Veterans celebration

there. The Director also stated that he attended the Veterans Council Ceremony on Veterans Day in Oklahoma City, and visited the Clinton Veterans Center with Deputy Director, Sarah Lane. He stated that he visited the Sulphur Veterans Center with Director of Homes, Shawn Kirkland yesterday as well.

ii. **Legislative Update and Review of Bills**

The Director stated that he would like to review the agency legislative plan. A digital copy of this review is attached to these recorded minutes.

iii. **Ardmore Veterans Cemetery Groundbreaking**

The Director stated that the Groundbreaking Ceremony would be held Friday, December 11th, 2020 at 10:00am.

b. SARAH LANE, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, REPORT WITH POSSIBLE DISCUSSION ON THE FOLLOWING:

i. **Travel Report**

The Deputy Director stated that she was pleased to take part in and speak at the Purple Heart Memorial Dedication in Tahlequah, Oklahoma. She stated that she also took part in the Eagle Ops/DAV 5k in Tulsa, Oklahoma. The Deputy Director stated that she traveled with the Director to the Clinton facility on November 17th to recognize the staff for their outstanding training statistics for three years running. She stated that the Director and she presented the staff with tumblers with the Oklahoma State logo, as well as the phrase "Star Performer". The Deputy Director stated that she also attended a meeting for the Piedmont Area Veterans Association.

ii. **CARES Act/COVID Equipment Purchase Update**

The Deputy Director provided an infection control equipment update as well. A copy of that update is attached to these recorded minutes. The Deputy Director stated that reimbursement for the month of October was \$2,808,556.97.

iii. **Status of Reimbursement From OMES-IT**

The Deputy Director stated that there were three areas with Claims for reimbursement from OMES. She stated that two claims had been resolved; The DSU Labor Charges that were Erroneously Billed has been resolved in the amount of \$54,650.63 and the AT&T Circuit Overages Sept 2017-Apr 2019 had been resolved in the amount of \$126,506.56. She stated that there was one outstanding claim remaining regarding Decommissioned Applications. That amount is TBD.

iv. **Awards Presentation**

The Deputy Director stated that Administrator (Talihina) Sarah Breshears was the designer of the new coin for the Employee & Civic Partner Recognition Program. She stated that Ms. Breshears was to be the first recipient of the award.

c. **SHAWN KIRKLAND, ODVA DIRECTOR OF STATE VETERANS HOMES, AND CAMI MCKINNEY, ODVA DIRECTOR OF CLINICAL COMPLIANCE REPORT WITH POSSIBLE DISCUSSION ON THE FOLLOWING:**

- i. COVID-19 Update

[A digital version of this presentation is attached to these recorded minutes.](#)

d. **CAROLE KIMBROUGH, ADMINISTRATOR, CLAREMORE VETERANS CENTER, REPORT WITH POSSIBLE DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING:**

- i. Administrator Acknowledgements
ii. Overtime
iii. Vacancies
iv. GALT
v. Workers Compensation Update
vi. Census
vii. Average Occupancy
viii. Total Days of Care

[A digital version of this presentation is attached to these recorded minutes.](#)

e. **SARAH BRESHEARS, ADMINISTRATOR, TALIHINA VETERANS CENTER, REPORT WITH POSSIBLE DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING:**

- i. Administrator Acknowledgements
ii. Overtime
iii. Vacancies
iv. GALT
v. Workers Compensation Update
vi. Census
vii. Average Occupancy
viii. Total Days of Care

[A digital version of this presentation is attached to these recorded minutes.](#)

XI. 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 (5) minutes per person. The Board Chairman may

limit, 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 limit, interrupt, terminate, or postpone public comments as necessary to effectuate the management of the public meeting.

There were no public comments.

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 (twenty-four hours prior to the meeting).

There was no new business.

XIII. CARRYOVER TOPICS DEFERRED TO A FUTURE AGENDA

None

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

There were no submissions.

XV. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING DATE TO INCLUDE TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS.

Friday, January 29th, 2021
Vezey Veterans Complex
2132 NE 36th Street
Oklahoma City, OK 73111

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

a. CHAIRMAN

i. Motion

Commissioner Secor made a motion to adjourn

Commissioner Lasser provided the second

There were no objections.

Meeting adjourned at 11:34am

JGB – Oklahoma Veterans Commission Clerk