



County of El Dorado Veteran Affairs Commission

130 Placerville Drive
Placerville CA 95667

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
April 9, 2015 @ 1200 hours
V.F.W. Post 9241
6289 Main Street, Georgetown CA 95634

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE @ 1235 Hours

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL – (Present) (Absent) (Excused Absence)

- (EA) I – Commissioner Todd Smith
- (EA) I - Alternate Jack Winhall
- (P) II – Commissioner Tim Thompson (arrived 1234 hours)
- (-) II – Alternate Vacant
- (P) III - Commissioner Kurt Raffetto
- (P) III - Alternate Richard Buchanan
- (-) IV – Commissioner Vacant
- (-) IV – Alternate Vacant
- (P) V – Commissioner Bob Sweatt
- (-) V – Alternate Vacant
- (EA) William E. Schultz, Interim Director, El Dorado County Department of Veteran Affairs
- (P) Edward Swanson, Secretary Ex-Officio

Public Testimony will be received on each agenda item as it is called. Principal party on each side of an issue (where applicable) is allocated 10 minutes to speak, individual comments are limited to 3 minutes, and individuals speaking for a group are allocated 5 minutes. Matters not on the agenda may be addressed by the general public during the Open Forum. Public comments during Open Forum are limited to three minutes per person. The Commission reserves the right to waive said rules by a majority vote.

Materials related to an item on this Agenda submitted to the El Dorado County Veteran Affairs Commission after distribution of the agenda packet are available for inspection during normal business hours in the public viewing packet located in the foyer of the Veterans Memorial Building, 130 Placerville Drive, Placerville or in the Secretary Ex-Officio (County Veteran Services Officer) El Dorado County Department of Veteran Affairs located at the same address. Such documents are also available on the El Dorado County Department of Veteran Affairs website at www.edcgov.us/veterans subject to staff's ability to post the documents before the meeting.

The Commission is concerned that written information submitted to the Commission the day of the Commission meeting may not receive the attention it deserves. The Secretary Ex-Officio cannot guarantee that any FAX, email, or mail received the day of the meeting will be delivered to the Commission prior to action on the subject matter.

PUBLIC FORUM:

Mike Renalli, Board of Supervisor for District IV, offered his thanks to all veterans for their service. Currently reviewing candidates to fill the vacancies for his district, tentative scheduled for April 28, 2015 Board of Supervisor meeting to review and approve. Reports that the Board of Supervisors is currently reviewing its' governmental mission and with hopes to better serve the public.

Bob Villalobos wants to serve on the commission for District IV.

David Zelinsky, states he is not a veteran but is the Service Officer for American Legion Post 119. Acknowledgement and thanks to Bob Sweatt for his support for a local (South Lake Tahoe) Marine Reservist to get assistance from VA Mather and VA Reno medical centers, might possibly be eligible for Vet Court program. Future meeting with District V Board of Supervisor Sue Norvasel, to discuss the deficiency of resources that serve the elderly and indigent veteran population in our county; and consider a dedicated part-time position to coordinate jail and hospital visitations and additional funding to support the Veteran Affairs office in South Lake Tahoe. Identifying veterans and better coordination between agencies and resources could possibly save the County thousands of dollars in the long run.

"Representing the Interests of El Dorado County's Veterans, their Dependents, and Survivors."

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: February 12, 2015, approved. March 12, 2015 minutes, word replacement – see Item 1. *Revisit nomination and appointment of the elect.* Revised minutes approved.

SECRETARY EX-OFFICIO REPORT:

- Veteran's Court: Future coordination with Tim Thompson to review the jail inmate (veterans) intake process.
- CAL-VET: State Financial Committee AB101 hearing schedule May 12 2015.
- VA Regional Office: Nationwide 461,677 claims pending, NOD's 6,239. Oakland Regional Office reports 1,378 claims over 1,000 days, 208 Appeals over 1,608 days but did not report the number of current claims.
- County Department Veteran Affairs: Human Resources reports that we received 36 applications for two vacant Veteran Services Representative positions, hopefully by next month meeting, we should have least started the interview process. Due to staff reduction, we have temporarily reduced Outreach resources to bare minimum, and there are 2,100 active claims, at various stages and level of service in our office alone. On Thursday, April 30th, at the South Lake Tahoe Library we will issue ID cards in the morning (9:00 – 12 noon) and offer the Veteran Benefit Overview presentation in the afternoon (2:00 – 3:00).
- Veteran Memorial Building: No report.
- Commission Fund Balance: \$4,748.04.

COMMISSION MATTERS:

TOT (Transient Occupancy Tax) Committee:

- Kurt Raffetto reports recommendation to amend grant award timeline three-month cycle to twice a year; Cycle #1 and Cycle #2. First month within three month cycle to Receive, second month to Review, third month to Award. Cycle #1 = June/July/August, Cycle #2 September/October/November. Also recommended for the Commission receive full packages two weeks prior. Interested persons and/or groups may apply during both cycle periods. Grant applications available at El Dorado Community Foundation. Both recommendations requested to be on next month agendas.
- **AD HOC (Veteran Memorial Building – Veterans Building Council):**
- Building Manager, Dennis Haas reports that the concrete floor is still in the planning stage and we are working with facilities to coordinate the work in several phases estimated to be \$50,000, adjusting each phase with existing funds.
- After the District II, IV and V Commission voting and non-voting (alternate) member (vacant) positions have gone before the Board of Supervisors for their vote and approval, the names will appear on the next agenda. Supervisor Ranelli reports his confirmation should be on the Board of Supervisors agenda by the end of the month.
- Todd Smith absent and could not report on the scheduling and location confirmation of the June 11, 2015 Commission meeting in El Dorado Hills.
- Rich Buchanan suggestion during the March 12, 2015 meeting, to remove annual meeting in Georgetown and to add El Dorado Hills, and identify the process to amend the By-Laws. Rich recommends tabling this item until next month meeting, approved. Comment and consensus from floor that Georgetown has 4 representatives in position now and is eager to be active in the Commission and to keep the annual meeting place. Comment and consensus that El Dorado Hills is a large veteran community and is very active and growing. Comment and consensus that Commission meeting at the Placerville location could be reduced by one and add El Dorado Hills location. Tim Thompson encourages that next month agenda include the idea to amend the By-Laws to include El Dorado Hills as an annual meeting location in addition to South Lake Tahoe and Georgetown.

COMMISSION REPORTS: (Committees reminded to call Secretary ex-officio **two weeks** prior meeting to place items on Commission meeting calendar)

- Retention of existing member positions and fill the vacancies when new voting and non-voting members have been referred from District IV and V.

Legislative Committee (C-; VC-Raffetto) – Defer report to next month.

COMMISSION REPORTS: (continued)

Rules Committee (C-Smith-; VC-Winhall) – Defer report to next month.

Transportation Committee (C-Sweatt; VC-Thompson) – Defer report to next month.

Budget Committee (C-Buchanan; VC-Vacant) – Defer report to next month.

Education and Employment Committee (C-Rasbold; VC-Sweatt) – Defer report to next month.

Real Property Committee (C-Buchanan; VC-Vacant) – Defer report to next month.

PAYMENT OF BILLS:

- *Approved travel claims for April, 2015, Kurt Raffetto \$17.95, Robert Sweatt \$85.22, Tim Thompson \$17.95, approved.*

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

- Kurt Raffetto discussion for electronic delivery of agenda packets with the option to “opt out” of receiving hard copies, request to add to next month agenda.
- Discussion to schedule a Commission meeting in El Dorado Hills, Todd Smith to follow up with tentative location at the Fire Station for June 11, 2015 meeting, deferred to next month meeting.

TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING:

- May 14, 2015 – Veteran’s Memorial Building, 130 Placerville Drive, Placerville CA

ADJOURNMENT: 1316 hours.

Respectfully Submitted,

Edward Swanson, Ex-Officio