



County of El Dorado Veteran Affairs Commission

130 Placerville Drive
Placerville CA 95667

APPROVED GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

May 14, 2015 @ 1200 hours

Veterans Memorial Building
130 Placerville Drive, Placerville CA 95667

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: 1204 hours.

- Introduction and welcome newly appointed Alternate Commissioner for District IV, William "Bill" Scrivani (Board of Supervisors – 05/05/15 – Agenda Item #8 File #15-0594)

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

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

PUBLIC FORUM:

Jim Cahill serves on Governors Inter-Agency Council over 4 years; is interested to serve as District II Alternate, will meet with Supervisor Frentzen, term expires January 2017. Brief discussion about residency issues and what is the Boards rule about living within the supervisor boundaries.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: April 9, 2015 with typo correction, approved.

SECRETARY EX-OFFICIO REPORT:

- **Veteran's Court:** Process review, request to have District Attorney Vern Pierson as guest speaker.
- **Cal-Vet:** State claiming 3 billion excess funds, questions is why they don't give us the 2.5 million permanent additional funding for County Veterans Service Offices. We continue to push for permanent additional funding through legislative advocates.
- **VA Regional Office:** Statistics: Notice of Disagreements 6,169 and appeals 1,068, process takes about 5 years, Oakland RO 14,134, a lot of these claims get farmed out "brokering" to other regional offices. National claims 433,536, of claims get farmed out to other "brokering" to Regional Offices.
- **County Department Veteran Affairs:** Update on upgrade process for "Other Than Honorable Discharge", veteran who is diagnosed with PTSD, possibility veteran may file for upgrade, this is not a quick process. We provide forms and counseling, if upgrade is successful, typically a DD-215 is issued. Job announcement had to re-post two Veterans Service Representative vacancies, closes Sunday, May 17, 2015, Human Resources will review and forward qualified candidates for interview process, we are optimistic to have these positions filled by the next commission meeting.
- Outreach Benefit Overview is offered on the 3rd Friday of the month, in the East Room of the Veterans Memorial Building, has been revised to morning session only as the afternoon session is not well attended. Assistance for employment opportunities for veterans if offered through One Stop Connections – Workforce Development & Business Resource Center, jobs for hire specific for veterans only is not allowed, however veterans are offered points and preferences as a job applicant.

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

- **Veteran Memorial Building:**

Bill reports HVAC updated propane installed refurbished other propane tank. Upper parking lot repair, lower parking lot repaving and garbage enclosure to be replaced in near future. House Council in planning process to replace cement floor. Mountain Democrat Cole Meyer reporter wants to interview some veterans for Memorial Day articles for personal interest stories. If you know someone who would like to share their story pass it along, contact 530-344-5068.

- **Commission Fund Balance:** \$ 4,758.40

COMMISSION MATTERS:

- **TOT (Transient Occupancy Tax) Committee:** NO QUORUM. Kurt Raffetto recommendations are to amend grant award timeline three-month period to twice a year as Period #1 and Period #2. Interested persons and/or groups may submit applications in June and September during the beginning of the cycle periods. Mini Grant Application Period Timeline: First month to receive, second month to review, third month to award, Period #1 September/October/November; Period #2 = June/July/August, approved. Grant applications available at El Dorado Community Foundation and that the Commission receive full packages two weeks prior to reviewing applications. Above recommendations to be on June agenda for final approval, Kurt will coordinate EDC Foundation
- **AD HOC (Veteran Memorial Building – Veterans Building Council)**
Building Manager Update: No report.
- Kurt Raffetto recommends electronic delivery of agenda packets with the option to “opt out” of receiving hard copies by regular mail, hard copies available at meeting, approved.
- June 11, 2015 Commission meeting location tentatively set for El Dorado Hills Fire Station. Todd Smith will coordinate location and invite supervisors and local service groups.
- 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, Item 6 Activities: A. 5) Commission meetings normally will be held on a monthly basis. Every fifth meeting will be schedule to provide Commission meeting at appropriate facilities, accessible to the public, alternatively in Georgetown and South Lake Tahoe. Recommendation to add the El Dorado Hills location, overall additional benefit to the veteran community, approved.

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

- **Rules Committee (C-Smith; VC-Winhall)** – No report
- **Legislative Committee (C-Vacant; VC-Raffetto)** – No report
- **Transportation Committee (C-Sweatt; VC-Thompson)** - No report
- **Budget Committee (C-Buchanan; VC-Vacant)** – No report
- **Education and Employment Committee (C-Vacant; VC-Sweatt)** – Coordinator at South Lake Tahoe Community College never contacted Veteran Affairs Office to obtain student bus tickets, recommendation to submit mini grant application to El Dorado Community Foundation rather than go through the county process.
- **Real Property Committee (C-Buchanan; VC-Vacant)** – No report

PAYMENT OF BILLS: Travel claims for May: Phillip Houseworth \$16.49, Todd Smith \$18.06, Robert Sweatt \$85.22, total \$119.77, approved.

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

- Roster passed around to verify contact information.
- Memorial Day at the Veterans Memorial Monument, guest speakers scheduled are Charlie Brown and Cal-Vet Interim, Director, Debbie Ensley, scholarships will be awarded.
- Veteran Memorial Building host site for VA Women’s Health “Spring Fling” on Saturday, June 6, 2015 9:00-2:00, see the County website for flyer.
- Received a thank you note from Snowline Hospice for their awarded mini grant.

TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING: 1200 hours Thursday, June 11, 2015 – in El Dorado Hills, meeting location to be announced.

ADJOURNMENT: 1311 hours.

Respectfully submitted,
Edward L. Swanson, Ex-Officio