



**County of El Dorado
Meeting Minutes
Veteran Affairs Commission**

Department of Veteran Affairs
130 Placerville Drive, Suite B
Placerville CA 95667
www.edcgov.us/veterans
Telephone: 530-621-5892
Fax: 530-621-2218

Todd Smith, District I – Alternate John Poimiroo
Chris Cockrell, District II – Alternate Roger Reynolds
Kurt Raffetto, District III – Alternate Josh Castro
Ken Welch, District IV – Alternate Tim Thompson
Daniel Browne, Jr., District V – Alternate Phillip Houseworth
Lance Poinsett, Acting Secretary Ex-Officio

Yasmin Hichborn, Acing Recording Clerk of Veteran Affairs Commission

Thursday, March 11, 2021 @ 1200 hours

Veteran Affairs Commission Agendas and Minutes are available for viewing in the Veteran Memorial Building lobby at 130 Placerville Drive, Placerville CA 95667 and online <http://www.edcgov.us/veterans/commission>

- I. CALL TO ORDER - PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG occurred 1200 hours (meeting held virtually via Zoom and in-person at the Veterans Memorial Building)**
- II. ROLL CALL**

District	Commissioners Present	Alternates Present	Absent
I	Smith, Todd	Poimiroo, John	
II	Cockrell, Chris	Reynolds, Roger	
III	Raffetto, Kurt	Castro, Joshua	
IV	Welch, Ken	Thompson, Tim	
V	Browne, Jr., Daniel	Houseworth, Phillip	

III. INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME OF GUESTS

Patty Moley, HHSA, Asst. Director of Self-Sufficiency and Community Services; Ranell Brown, HHSA Deputy Director, Community Services, Richard Todd, HHSA Program Manager; Yasmin Hichborn, HHSA Administrative Analyst II; Lindsey Machado, HHSA Administrative Technician, Julie Limbaugh, Veterans Services Representative, Lance Poinsett, Sr. Veteran Services Officer, David Zelinsky; Veterans Advocate, Ruth Michaelson, Heidi Mayerhofer, Judy Robinson, Sam and Marlene Pearce, Joe Connolly, Kris Payne, Greg Holt, Colleen Hearn, and Jeremiah

IV. ADOPTION OF AGENDA and APPROVAL OF CONSENT CALENDAR (All items on the Consent Calendar are to be approved by one motion unless a Commission member requests separate action on a specific item including moving items to or from the Consent Calendar and adopt the Agenda and the Consent Calendar for discussion. At the appropriate time as called by the Chair, members of the public may make a comment on matters on the Consent Calendar prior to action.

The meeting was called to order at 12:00pm. A motion was made and seconded to approve the Agenda. The motion was approved.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

A motion was made by Dan Browne to approve the February Minutes and seconded by Tim Thompson. The motion was approved.

VI. CONSENT CALENDAR**END OF CONSENT CALENDAR****VII. ACTION ITEMS**

None

VIII. EX-OFFICIO REPORT

Richard Todd provided the Ex-Officio Report. Appointments are available on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at the Veteran Services Office. Walk-ins are accepted on Tuesdays and Thursdays. The goal is to provide the best service possible to the veterans of El Dorado County.

IX. COMMITTEE REPORTS – RECEIVE AND FILE**A. TOT (Transient Occupancy Tax)**

John Poimiroo and Kurt Raffetto met with Don Semon, Don Ashton and the Board of Supervisors to discuss future TOT funding. The allocation for Fiscal Year 2021/2022 will be \$175,000. In addition, \$90,700 is allocated for the Senior VSR position, and \$15,000 for repairs and improvements to the Veterans Memorial Building.

Public Comment Received: *J. Connolly*

B. RULES – No Report**C. LEGISLATIVE – No Report****D. TRANSPORTATION –**

Dan Browne is developing a volunteer transportation group in the South Lake Tahoe area. John Poimiroo suggested he contact El Dorado Veteran Resources for assistance. David Zelinsky reported he has 17 volunteer drivers and has provided transportation for all requests.

E. BUDGET –

Phil Houseworth has reached out to Patty Moley and will have a report at the April meeting.

F. EDUCATION & EMPLOYMENT –

Chris Cockrell contacted the ROTC Program in his area to discuss the possibility of reinstating ROTC in South Lake Tahoe high schools. He would like the Veteran Affairs Commission to be a resource to the ROTC programs. Chris also spoke to local businesses about offering discounts to veterans or job opportunities. Roger Reynolds volunteered to assist Chris with this project..

G. SOCIAL MEDIA – John Poimiroo reported that the social media site is very active and has several new posts. At the next meeting, John would like to request \$400 for “boosts” during the next year.**X. COMMUNICATIONS’ REPORTS – RECEIVE AND FILE****A. AD HOC (Veterans Memorial Building – Veterans House Council)**

Meeting Minutes will be sent to all commissioners.

B. AMERICAN LEGION SERVICE OFFICER

David Zelinsky provided his report.

C. FRIENDS OF THE VETERANS MONUMENT

John Poimiroo reported that no decisions had been made whether future events will be in person or virtual. It will depend upon the situation with COVID-19. He has submitted a request to Dr. Williams regarding the possibility of a Memorial Day in-person event. Patty Moley and Ranell Brown will follow-up with Dr. Williams.

D. EL DORADO VETERANS RESOURCES – PERMANENT STAND DOWN

David Zelinsky provided a report. Office hours are Monday-Friday from 10:00am to 12:00pm. They provide food, clothing, sleeping bags and tents.

E. REGIONAL VETERAN EVENTS

No Report.

XI. OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS**A. TOT Realignment**

Kurt Raffetto reported that the Veteran Affairs Commission TOT allocation calculation has changed.

B. District Champions

John Poimiroo requested that all Commissioners visit and champion programs for veterans within their supervisorial districts.

Public Comment Received: *H. Mayerhofer*

XII. PUBLIC FORUM – GOOD OF THE ORDER

- Lance Poinsett provided an update on the Vietnam Blue Water Navy Veterans Act.
- Patty Moley reported that business cards are available for Veteran Affairs Commissioners. Orders should be placed with Chelsea Pokrzywinski.
Note: This has changed since the March meeting. The new contact is Sharon Koeppel 530-642-4811.
- Patty Moley reported a request has been made to County Counsel for clarification on the structure of the various committees.
- David Zelinsky stated an exemplary effort was made by Commissioner Todd Smith and others to assist a homeless veteran. A letter of commendation was sent by John Poimiroo to all people involved. A copy of the letter will be sent to all Commissioners.
- Public comment was received. *J. Connolly, J. Robinson*

NEXT MEETING LOCATION, DATE & TIME

Thursday, April 8, 2021 at 1200 hours. (Virtual Meeting)

ADJOURNMENT 1313 hours.**Acronyms:**

TOT=Transient Occupancy Tax

CAO=Chief Administrative Office

BOS=Board of Supervisors

EDC=El Dorado County

HHSA=Health and Human Services Agency

VAC=Veteran Affairs Commission

VSO=Veteran Services Office

SrVSR=Senior Veterans Service Representative