

MINUTES

**Quarterly Meeting of the
Missouri Veterans Commission
Held, pursuant to notice
November 7, 2011 — 10:00 AM
Jefferson State Office Building, 205 Jefferson Street,
1st Floor State Board of Education Room,
Jefferson City, MO**

I. CALL TO ORDER

- A. Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance
- B. Roll Call
In attendance: Chairman John Comerford; Vice Chairman Emmett Fairfax; Member Paul Connors; Member Scott Englund; Member Nancy Nelson; Member Victor Callahan; Member David Pearce; Member Barney Fisher
Via telephone: Member Jason Kander and Ex-Officio Member Jeff Bloemker
- C. Guests and staff present:
 - 1. Guest: Kevin Inkley, David Christian, James Whitfield, Jessie Jones, Bob Wonnell, Jack Matthews, Lee Smith, Raphael Wahwassuck, Michael Elmore, Lowry Finley-Jackson, Sallie Houser-Hanfelder, Stephen Gaither, Lynn Dorrell, Dewey Riehn, Arvid West, Marc Magill, Robert Osborn, Stan Skornizk, Shari Grewe, Birch Wright, Josh McCarron, George Biswell, Lynn Flint, Angie Giddings, Joseph Grohs, Cecil Branson
 - 2. Staff: Larry Kay, Executive Director; Bryan Hunt, Deputy Director; Jill Talken, Executive Secretary; Omar Davis, General Counsel; Kim Cleeton, Director Homes Program; Stan Baughn, Director Cemetery Program; Doug Meyer, Director Veteran Services Program; Tim Norton, Director Facilities Operations; Julie Miller, Fiscal and Administrative Manager; Melissa Wilding, Ombudsman; Daniel Bell, Public Relation Office; Becky Wolken, Administrative Assistant; Kim Harris, Director Human Resource

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. Commission Meeting minutes August 1, 2011
Commissioner Callahan made a motion to approve the minutes of August 1, 2011 and Commissioner Pearce seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved as written.

Commission Meeting CLOSED minutes August 1, 2011
Commissioner Fairfax made a motion to approve the CLOSED minutes of August 1, 2011 and Commissioner Englund seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved as written.

III. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Executive Director's Report was delivered by Bryan Hunt, Deputy Director

- A. Communication of Homes Budget Situation – due to the nature of this issue involving contracts this item will be discussed during closed session.
- B. Response to MAVO VCCITF Question – Letter dated September 21, 2011 from Lynn Dorrell, Chairman MAVO. The Commission will prepare a response to Mr. Dorrell explaining fund expenditure procedures.
- C. Commission Calendar

IV. PROGRAM REPORTS

Daniel Bell, Public Information Office reported on MVC Publications

Jill Talken, Executive Secretary briefed on SharePoint

Tim Norton, Director Facilities Operations reported on construction projects

V. STAFF REPORTS

Omar Davis, General Counsel distributed 2012 MVC legislative initiative packet to Commissioners.

VI. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Legislative Update was delivered by Commissioners Callahan, Pearce, Fisher and Kander.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

Distributed MVC Legislative Contact Sheet

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

- A. U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs- Lynn Flint, Acting Director St. Louis VA Regional Office reported on VBA transition over the next 3 to 4 years. The VBA St. Louis Regional Office will move towards an integrated team concept over the next year and explained E-Benefits system. She also reported on the consolidation of The Department of Veterans Affairs Fiduciary Program for Missouri Veterans in Milwaukee starting January 2012.

U. S. Department of Veterans Affairs - Sallie Houser-Hanfelder, Director VAMC-Columbia reported on new CBOC in Waynesville Grand Opening November 10, 2011. VAMC-Columbia rolling out hiring initiative Veterans Day.

- B. Missouri Association of Veterans Organizations (MAVO) – Lynn Dorrell, Chairman advised the Commissioners of MAVO's concerns

with MVC budget. Mr. Dorrell reported legislation MAVO plans to pursue during 2012 session.

- C. Resident Rate Review – This item was tabled to discussion during closed session due to contract issues.
- D. Election of Officers – Member Comerford opened for nominations for Chairman of the Commission. Member Connors made a motion to elect Emmett Fairfax to serve as the Chairman for the Missouri Veterans Commission. Member Englund seconded the motion.

Member Pearce made a motion to elect John Comerford to serve as the Chairman for the Missouri Veterans Commission. Member Nelson seconded the motion. By a voice vote the motion to elect John Comerford as Chairman for the Missouri Veterans Commission passed 6 to 3.

Chairman Comerford then opened for nominations for Vice Chairman of the Commission. Chairman Comerford made a motion to elect Emmett Fairfax to serve as the Vice Chairman for the Missouri Veterans Commission. Member Nelson seconded the motion. By a voice vote the motion passed unanimously.

IX. VOTE TO GO INTO CLOSED SESSION

Member Fairfax made a motion to go into closed session. Member Fisher seconded to motion. By a voice vote the motion passed unanimously.

X. VOTE TO GO INTO OPEN SESSION

Member Connors made a motion to go into open session. Member Englund seconded the motion. By a voice vote the motion passed unanimously.

XI. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Monday, January 30, 2012 at 10:00 AM at the Jefferson State Office Building, Jefferson City, Missouri.

XII. ADJOURMENT

With no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned.



Larry D. Kay, Secretary