MINUTES

Quarterly Meeting of the
Missouri Veterans Commission
Held, pursuant to notice
January 27, 2014 — 10:00 AM
205 Jefferson Street, 1st Floor State Board of Education Room,
Jefferson City, Missouri

I. CALL TO ORDER

A. Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance

B. Roll Call

In attendance: Chairman Scott Englund; Vice Chairman Paul Connors; Member Nancy Nelson; Member Chuck Wooten; Member David Pearce; Member Denny Hoskins; Member Stephen Webber
Via Telephone: Member Scott Sifton; Ex-Officio Member Michael Dunbar

Guests and staff present:

1. Guests: Mike LeBlanc; Harrison Ochs; Paul Kampa; Gene Collins; Charles Bebbe; Sheryl Smith; Dennis Woeltje; Richard Pulletier; Carolyn Sanford; Charley Goodin; Kenny Goth; Randy Whitehead; Doug Bonnot; Meghan Curtis; Arvid West; Birch Wright; Jessie Jones; Jack Matthews; Jim Whitfield; Rich Heigert; George Scarborough; Lowry Finley-Jackson; Michael Elmore; Jerry Bay; Eric Olson; Andrew Edwards; Bill Rieger; Tom Dolenz; Janice Howard; Richard Polk; Truman Lawrence; Arthur Wilson; Grant Willis; Dawn Dorris; Velma Steinman; Kay Sack; Ronald Abbott; Bill Nix; Tom Goodin; Charlie Davis; Dewey Riehn; Virginia Riehn; Ernie Lee; David Kollore; Robert Crecelius; Thomas Mundell; Sam Crane; George Newell; Chris Bell; Charles Stapleton; Kevin Inkley; Robert Osborn; Mike Lederle; Danny Ferguson; Marcena Gunter; Scott Adams; Roy Clark Jr.; Morris Cox; Nancy Cowan; Olin Parks; Jon Sabala; Lynn Dorrell; Jim Hattaway; Robert Ritter; Bobbie Hauptmann; Andrew Wakeman; Stephen Gaither; Lee Smith; Ed Jones
2. Staff: Larry Kay, Executive Director; Bryan Hunt, Deputy Director; Jill Talken, Executive Secretary; Kevin Hall, General Counsel; Daniel Bell, Public Information; Kim Taddeucci, 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; Becky Wolken, Administrative Assistant; Melissa Wilding, Ombudsman; Patty Faenger, Assistant Director Homes Program

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Commission Meeting Minutes November 4, 2013

Member Wooten made a motion to approve meeting minutes as written and Member Connors seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved as written.

III. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The Executive Director's Report was delivered by Larry Kay, Executive Director.

A. " Veterans Appreciation Day"
B. MVC Talking Points

IV. PROGRAM REPORTS

Program Reports were delivered be the following:

Homes Program-Kim Taddeucci
Cemetery Program- Stan Baughn
Veterans Services Program- Doug Meyer

V. STAFF REPORTS

Tim Norton, Director Facilities Operations reported on construction projects.

Mr. Norton updated the Commissioners on the St. Louis Home Land Acquisition (approx. 49 acres). The Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) Legal Counsel have responded to the Letter of Intent and stated they are interested in transferring land. Mr. Norton is working with Office of Administration. Senator Pearce recommended inquiring with MDC on any land study that may have been done. Mr. Norton will provide status update at May meeting.

Mr. Norton advised the Commissioners on the status of the proposed land easement for Ozark Greenway Project at the State Veterans Cemetery-Springfield. Mr. Norton noted in order for the Commission to grant land easement it could require legislative action. Senator Pearce advised that the Commission needs to review any possible liability issues that could be involved and that new bills can be introduced through February 27th.

Julie Miller, Fiscal and Administrative Manager reported on MVC Operating Appropriations by Fund.

Daniel Bell, Public Information Officer shared with the Commissioners the Missouri State Veterans Home – Warrensburg Video Tour. Chairman Englund stated the importance of getting MVC Three Key Messages distributed out to public.

VI. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Legislative Update was delivered by Members Pearce, Sifton, Hoskins and Webber.

Senator Pearce introduced Mr. Andrew Wakeman, University of Missouri Graduate who is job shadowing and is a member of the Missouri Army National Guard.

Member Hoskins announced Groundbreaking Ceremony will be held on February 7th in Warrensburg for the new CBOC.

Chairman Englund entertained discussion regarding SB505 (Munzlinger)– Modifies the schedule of transfers from the Gaming Commission Fund. Chairman Englund stated it had been brought to his attention that there are some concerns out there with the risk with opening the statute. The proposed bill eliminates the gaps and equally distributes the money from gaming to Access Missouri, the Missouri National Guard, and the Missouri Veterans Commission. The bill was heard in Senate and MAVO is on record of opposing SB505. Senator Pearce assured the Commission that the bill sponsor is in strong support of a dedicated funding source for the Missouri Veterans Commission. Director Kay and Julie Miller discussed MVC talking points concerning the distribution of Gaming Commission Funds. Representative Charlie Davis reported that a similar bill, HB1102 (Gatschenberger) had been requested by the sponsor not to be heard during session. The Commissioners recommended that Chairman Englund, Director Kay and Julie Miller meet with Senator Munzlinger to discuss. Member Wooten made a motion to accept the recommendation as made and Member Connors seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Member Webber advised the Commission that if any funds become available from the Bonds Proceeds Funds for maintenance and repair possibly the Missouri Veterans Commission can be included.

Senator Pearce asked that the Commission to report on Veterans Courts at the May meeting.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

Nothing to report

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. United States Department of Veterans Affairs –

1. Robert Ritter, Assistant Director Harry S Truman Memorial Veterans' Hospital announced Wade Vlosich was appointed as Director at Truman VA effective January 26th and a Welcome Reception will be held for Mr. Vlosich on January 29th. Mr. Ritter gave an update on the new CBOC in Marshfield, a construction update and an update on recognition for Truman VA.

2. Birch Wright, Acting Associate Director VAMC Fayetteville Arkansas reported Dr. Enderle is currently on 120 day detail but will return back to Fayetteville. Mr. Wright reported the VAMC Fayetteville is the recipient of the Circle of Excellence Award. He also gave an update on construction and expansion of patient services. Springfield CBOC planning underway, Plans for CBOC in Joplin and Bella Vista Arkansas are still pending. Mr. Wright noted: Please continue to sign up for VA Healthcare.
3. Kevin Inkley, VAMC Kansas City advised the Commissioners that they recently met with Director Kay, Bryan Hunt and Kim Taddeucci regarding enhancing nursing home components. He also advised of the Warrensburg CBOC moving to new location in Warrensburg. Ms, Taddeucci reported that a team will be meeting to address the vacant space at the Home. Mr. Inkley also gave an update on expansion of patient services at the VAMC Kansas City.
4. Marcena Gunter, VA St. Louis Health Care System, Public Affairs reported to the Commission expansion projects, Strategic Planning Session recently held, and St. Louis was recognized as a Top Performer last year.

B. Missouri Association of Veteran's Organizations (MAVO) – Michael Elmore ,Chairman announced the MAVO meeting to be held at 1:30 today at the Truman State Office Building and Legislative Reception beginning at 5:00 pm at the American Legion Post 5.

C. Missouri Military Preparedness Enhancement Commission (MMPEC) – Michael Dunbar, Chairman reported they had a productive Missouri Military Awareness Day at the State Capitol on January 22nd. Governor Jay Nixon has appointed State Treasurer Clint Zweifel to lead the Missouri Military Partnership.

D. Jon Sabala, Department of Mental Health, Division of Behavioral Alliance reported they are developing a Student Guide for Student Veteran Centers to assist Missouri's colleges and universities in becoming more "military friendly".

E. Scott Englund, President Missouri National Guard Foundation reported the foundation's current initiative is fund raising to build a Family Resiliency Center at the Missouri National Guard Headquarters in Jefferson City.

IX. VOTE TO GO INTO CLOSED SESSION

Member Wooten made a motion to go into closed session.

X. VOTE TO GO INTO OPEN SESSION

XI. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Monday, May 5, 2014 at 10:00 AM in Jefferson City.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

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

Larry D. Kay, Secretary