MINUTES

Quarterly Meeting of the
Missouri Veterans Commission
Held, pursuant to notice
May 5, 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 Denny Hoskins;
Via Telephone: Member David Pearce; Member Scott Sifton; Ex-Officio Member Michael Dunbar
Absent: Member Stephen Webber

Guests and staff present:

1. Guests: Bob Osborn; David Kollore; Robert Crecelius; Jessie Jones; Melissa Jacobson; KC Rafferty; Dewey Riehn; Virginia Riehn; Jon Sabala; Nancy Cowan; Olin Parks; Wade Vlosich; Stephen Gaither; Jim Whitfield; Michael Elmore; Bill Patterson; Willie Smith; Arvid West; Lee Smith; Paul Schmidt; George Newell; Lowry Finely-Jackson; Dave Branson
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; Melissa Skinner, Research Analyst; Lindsay Denny, Executive II; Bonnie McNeill, Workforce Development; Terry McAdams, Human Resource Director;

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Commission Meeting Minutes January 27, 2014
Member Connors made a motion to approve meeting minutes as written and Member Wooten seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved as written.

B. Commission Meeting Closed Minutes January 27, 2014
Member Connors made a motion to approve meeting minutes as written and Member Nelson 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. The Missouri Veterans Commission recently met with the State of Kansas Department of Veterans Affairs. Legislation passed which abolished their Commission and they now have their Executive Director reporting directly to the Governor. They are prompted to re-write their administrative policies and procedures and have asked the Missouri Veterans Commission to assist in this process.

B. House Appropriations Chair asked the Commission to prepare a 5 year budget projection. This information should be available at the August Commission meeting.

C. Calendar – Memorial Day Services will be held at all Missouri State Veterans Cemeteries on Monday, May 26th.

IV. PROGRAM REPORTS

Program reports were delivered by Bryan Hunt, Deputy Director

Chairman Englund thanked MAVO for the Veterans Rally and their continued support for the Commission.

Chairman Englund inquired as to what the Commission is doing to address Veterans needs in the future and the Homes waiting list. Director Kay stated the 5 year budget projection should address some of these needs.

Chairman Englund recommended the Commission continue to work together with Jon Sabala, Veterans Services Director with Missouri Department of Mental Health in serving Veterans needs.

James Whitfield expressed to the Commission the need for replacement of the MVH-Mexico due to its age (30 years) and structure (3 story).

James Whitfield reported the Missouri Military Funeral Honors Program provided its 125,000 service honoring Veterans since its beginning July 1, 1999. Mr. Whitfield introduced to the Commission Major Willie Smith, Director.

Member Nelson noted a sizable donation was made to the MVH - Warrensburg Assistance League.

Chairman Englund advised the Commissioners that Congresswoman Ann Wagner's office has made an inquiry regarding constituent issues with filing VA claims. The Commission has reviewed these cases and have determined these cases have been handled accordingly. The Commission is working with the State Auditors Office regarding this issue.

V. STAFF REPORTS

Tim Norton, Director Facilities Operations reported on construction projects.

Member Pearce inquired if plans are in place for the use of the additional space at the MVH-Warrensburg CBOC. Mr. Norton advised the CBOC will not be moving until September timeframe and plans have been discussed for use of additional space for the Home and a Service Center.

Mr. Norton updated the Commissioners on the St. Louis Home Land Acquisition. A letter from the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) dated April 17 stated MDC would like the property to remain as green space. Member Wooten made a motion to decline offer of property if no construction is allowed. Member Hoskins recommended the Commission clarification from MDC on usage. Member Wooten withdrew is motion.

Mr. Norton advised the Commissioners on the status of the proposed land easement for Ozark Greenway Project at the State Veterans Cemetery-Springfield. The Commission provided a copy of the 100 foot easement survey to Ozark Greenways. Ozark Greenways is requesting an easement for a 15 foot walking path. The survey shows this area is in the flood plain and there are no future burial plans. Ozark Greenway has asked for a letter from the Commission approving MVC to work with them in establishing terms for granting easement. Director Kay provided some trail history and advised the Commission's mission statement is to provide our Veterans with a final resting place with honor. Member Wooten made a motion to approve letter from Commission. Member Pearce seconded the motion. By a voice vote the motion passed unanimously.

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

Ms. Miller provided an update on HB 8:

- $8 million GR added to Homes Program
- WWI Memorial $150,000 spending authority limited to cash available (approx. $50,000 left in fund)
- Pay plan for nurses
- COLA
- Watching language for statewide budget proposal for all agencies of a 1% reduction in staff

Member Pearce commented on the appropriation process.

Member Sifton noted there is strong Veteran representation on the Conference Committee.

Melissa Skinner, Research Analyst reported to the Commissioners Missouri Veterans by the Numbers. A prospective view of Missouri's Veterans Phase 1. This study analyzes many facets of the Veteran

population at both national and state levels using many data sources. Section 1 presents a historical, current, and future demographics analysis of the U.S. and Missouri Veteran population.

VI. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

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

Member Pearce thanked the Veterans Organizations for their help this legislative session.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

KC Rafferty, Office of State Courts reported on Veterans Courts:

- 67 Veterans went through Single County Veterans Court Programs
- 59 Graduates
- 70% graduation rate

Member Pearce asked to receive a report on Veterans Courts at the August meeting.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. United States Department of Veterans Affairs – Wade Vlosich, Director Harry S. Truman Memorial Veterans' Hospital reported on the following:
   1. Paul Hopkins has been appointed Assistant Director at Truman VA.
   2. Truman VA is actively recruiting for Nurse Executive position.
   3. Truman VA, Welcome Home Inc., and the Columbia Housing Authority have formed a partnership to create a "Campus for Veterans" that provides housing and supportive services for homeless Veterans. The proposal includes 25 one-bedroom apartments for Veterans participating in the HUD-VASH Program. Fundraising efforts have begun.
   4. New Ambulatory Procedures Unit opened today
   5. Truman VA is working with DOD in expanding access to Eye, Podiatry and In-Patient services at Fort Leonard Wood
   6. Construction update

B. Missouri Association of Veterans Organizations (MAVO) – Michael Elmore, Chairman thanked the Commissioners for their support and MAVO will continue to support the Missouri Veterans Commission.

C. Missouri Military Preparedness Enhancement Commission (MMPEC) – Michael Dunbar, Chairman reported MMPEC is looking at recommendations made by Treasurer Zweifel and reported to Governor Nixon through the Missouri Military Partnership outlining suggested steps to protect and strengthen the national defense investments made in the State of Missouri.

IX. VOTE TO GO INTO CLOSED SESSION

Member Connors made a motion to go into closed session. Member Nelson seconded the motion.

X. VOTE TO GO INTO OPEN SESSION

Member Connors made a motion to go into open session. Member Hoskins seconded the motion.

XI. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 5, 2014 at 10:00 AM at Missouri State Veterans Home- Cameron

XII. ADJOURNMENT

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

Larry D. Kay, Secretary