

MINUTES

**Quarterly Meeting of the
Missouri Veterans Commission
Held, pursuant to notice
January 30, 2017 — 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; Member Mike Mowrer; Member Nancy Nelson; Member Chuck Wooten; Member Representative Steven Lynch; Member Representative Pat Conway, Member Senator Jill Schupp
Via Phone: Member Bill Wallace;
Absent: Member Senator Dan Brown; Ex-Officio Member Michael Dunbar

Guests and staff present:

1. Guests: David Kollore, Robert Crecelius, David Isaacks, Stephen Gaither, Jim Thorpe, Richard Heigert, Dewey Riehn, Tom Mundell, George Newell, Barbara Simpson, Kenny Goth, Olin Parks, Nelda Clifton, Dorothy Neal, Randy Whitehead, Nancy Cowen, Dennis Sweet, Chris Johnston, Lance Kellogg, Charles Goodin, Claudia Goodin, Betty Gonzales, Darlene Coats, Andrew Edwards, Laurence Truman, Michael Elmore, Bill Rieger, Cary Kellett, Curtis Gist, Kim Tatham, Glenn Tatham, James Hattaway, Chuck Beebe, Bryan Bradford, Dick Sanford, Carolyn Sanford, John Kerr, Pat Rowe Kerr, Dennis Sandbothe, Deborah Halter, Tom Goodin, Kathleen Fogarty, Patrick Baker, Joseph Pondrom, Richard Ivnik, Carol Thompson, Jon Sabala, Bill Tudor, Representative Charlie Davis, Charles Stapleton, Patricia Hall, Jack Buckley, Ron Carr, John Hathcock, Harold Goss, Melissa Mizio, Alex Hernandez, Lloyd Miller, Shawn Lee, Harry McLane, Debbie Griffin, Bryan Matthews, Stephen Gaither, Roger Waesler, Edward Linneberger
2. Staff: Larry Kay, Executive Director; Bryan Hunt, Deputy Director; Jill Talken, Executive Secretary; Kevin Hall, General Counsel; Daniel Bell, Public Information; Kim Packard, Director Homes Program; Stan Baughn, Director Cemetery Program; Doug Meyer, Director Veterans Service Program; Tim Norton, Director Facilities Operations; Julie Miller, Fiscal and Administrative Manager; Becky Wolken, Administrative Assistant; Kevin Onstott, Capital Improvement Specialist; John Hall, Procurement Officer; Melissa Wilding, Veteran Ombudsman; Melissa Skinner, HIPAA Compliance Officer

Plaque Presentation to outgoing Commissioner Senator Denny Hoskins

Welcome New Commissioners: Representative Pat Conway and Senator Jill Schupp

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. Commission Meeting Minutes October 31, 2016
Member Wooten made a motion to approve meeting minutes as written and Member Nelson seconded the motion. By a voice vote the minutes were passed unanimously as written.
- B. Commission Meeting CLOSED Minutes October 31, 2016
Member Wooten made a motion to approve meeting minutes as written and Member Mowrer seconded the motion. By a voice vote the minutes were passed unanimously as written.

III. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

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

- A. Budget Process - Governor's FY 2018 Recommendations are scheduled for release on Thursday, February 2, 2017. Information will be distributed to Commissioners once available.
- B. Ozark Greenways Meeting – Waiting for Governor's signature on grant easement.
- C. Senate Interim Committee on Long-Term Care Facilities - Committee Report distributed to Commissioners.
Recommendations: 1. Introduction and passage of legislation to establish a funding commitment for the construction of a new Veterans Home in Mexico to replace the existing multi-level facility, with an additional 50 beds to bring the total number of beds in Mexico to 200; 2. Exploration of potential public-private collaborations to provide care for Veterans who remain on waiting list or who choose to remain with their spouse or in their community in a private long-term care facility; 3. Determine if the VA would be willing to replace the Mexico Veterans Home with a 200 bed facility and provide a matching construction grant.
Director Kay informed the Commissioners that he and commission staff along with long-term care leaders met with the VA in Kansas City to discuss these issues. A potential meeting is being discussed in Washington, DC with the Federal Department of Veteran Affairs.
- D. A moment of silence in remembrance of James (Jim) S. Whitfield 1926-2016.
- E. Calendar - MAVO Legislative Days

IV. PROGRAM REPORTS

Program reports were delivered by Bryan Hunt, Deputy Director

V. STAFF REPORTS

Tim Norton, Director Facilities Operations reported on construction projects.

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

VI. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Legislative Update was delivered by Members Senator Schupp, Representative Lynch and Representative Conway.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

- A.** VSO Salary Increases – A directive was given July 2015 from the Commissioners, requesting \$600,000 for increase for VSO's salaries, \$200,000 was approved effective July 1, 2016. The Commission has submitted to the Department of Public Safety and the Office of Administration (OA) an additional increase of \$400,000 for FY2018. Included in this amount is \$18,000 for Program Secretarial Support. The Commission is still working with Human Resources and OA in changing classifications and pay range.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

Bryan Matthews, Medical Center Director, Veterans Health Care System of the Ozarks, Fayetteville Arkansas

1. CBOC Update: Springfield CBOC under construction with open date scheduled for end of 2018; Joplin CBOC is currently under contracting process; Mt. Vernon CBOC will close after completion of both Springfield and Joplin CBOC's.

Kathleen Fogarty, Director Kansas City VA Medical Center

1. Kansas City VA Medical Center Call Center opened
2. Construction Update: Veterans Welcome Center, New ER Department
3. Future Projects: Cameron CBOC (looking for new adequate space)
4. Kansas City VA Medical Center approved for Fisher House
5. Working with community on My VA
6. New Project: My Life, My Story –recorded stories of Veterans

Dr. Patricia Hall, Director John J. Pershing VA Medical Center, Poplar Bluff

1. Ribbon Cutting January 17, 2017 Salem Clinic
2. Construction Update: New Urgent Care, Cape Girardeau Clinic, new kitchen (National Guard will be cooking for patients during this process)

Rick Ivnik, Interim Director VA St. Louis Health Care System

1. Facility Update
2. Focus quality care

Stephen Gaither, Public Affairs Officer Harry S Truman Memorial Veterans' Hospital

1. Construction Update: New parking garage, new entrance, new patient care education center
2. Initiating development of a Community Veteran Engagement Board
3. Distribution Annual Report 2016

C. Missouri Association of Veterans Organizations (MAVO) – Tom Mundell, Chairman

1. Thanked the Commission for all they do for Veterans
2. MAVO Legislative Days

Dewey Riehn, VFW Legislative Chair discussed the 2017 MAVO Legislative Agenda

D. Missouri Military Preparedness Enhancement Commission (MMPEC)
– No Report

IX. VOTE TO GO INTO CLOSED SESSION

No Motion

X. VOTE TO GO INTO OPEN SESSION

No Motion

XI. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Monday, May 1, 2017 at 10:00 AM in Jefferson City, Missouri.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

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



Larry D. Kay, Secretary