

MINUTES

**Quarterly Meeting of the
Missouri Veterans Commission
Held, pursuant to notice
April 13, 2020 — 6:00 PM
WebEx Conference Call**

I. CALL TO ORDER

- Pledge of Allegiance
- Invocation: Representative Steve Lynch
- Roll Call

In attendance via Conference Call: Chairman Tim Noonan; Vice Chairman John Buckner; Commissioner Jose Dominguez; Commissioner Meredith Knopp; Commissioner Tim Smith; Commissioner Steve Lynch; Commissioner Wayne Wallingford; Ex-Officio Member Robert Hagedorn; Commissioner Jill Schupp
Absent: Commissioner Robert Sauls

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. Commission Meeting, Open Meeting Minutes, January 27, 2020
Commissioner Wallingford made a motion to approve minutes and Commissioner Smith seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved as written.

III. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The following topics were briefed:

- A. Each of the seven Veterans Home Directors and Medical Directors briefed on COVID-19 status of precautions at each home.
- Isolation and Quarantine unit establishment
- B. Director Link briefed on stellar work and dedication of MVC staff during this time

IV. PROGRAM REPORTS

- A. Jim Nugent, Director, Cemetery Program briefed:
- Cemeteries response and actions taken during Coronavirus
 - Military Honors suspended for time being; can be scheduled at a later date
- B. David Lee, Director, Veteran Services Program briefed:
- Veterans Service Officers are working remotely; all are still working
 - Compensation generated by Grant Partners
- C. Kristen Smith, HR Director briefed:
- Pandemic Pay Incentive
 - Increased Recruitment
 - Decrease use of unnecessary H&I workers
- D. Terressa Sherlock, Finance and Accounting Manager briefed:
- Projected decrease in funding and need to cut expenditures
 - The need to research other revenue sources
- E. Kevin Onstott, Director, Facilities briefed:
- Support to building Isolation and Quarantine units

VI. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

- Senator Schupp briefed reference Hospital Tax
- Representative Lynch briefed on Spouse Reciprocity

VII. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Dr. Keith Repko, St Louis VA Hospital Director briefed:
 - COVID-19 Precautions: Incoming screening procedures
- B. Dr. Trish Hall, Harry S Truman VA Hospital Director briefed:
 - Creating a Respiratory Triage Clinic
 - Sent staff to New Orleans to assist
- C. Dr. Donald Gagliano, Director, Poplar Bluff VA Hospital briefed:
 - Screening all that enter the hospital
 - Established a small Coronavirus ICU

VIII. NEXT MEETING

- Chairman Noonan announced that the next meeting will be held on Monday, July 27, 2020 at 9:00 AM at the Mt Vernon Veterans Home (This was changed due to COVID-19 pandemic)
- No Closed Session was conducted
- With no further business before the Commission, meeting was adjourned by unanimous vote.



Paul Kirchhoff, Secretary