

OPEN MINUTES

**2nd Quarter Meeting of the
Missouri Veterans Commission
April 22, 2024 — 10:00 AM
Harry S Truman State Office Building
301 W. High Street, Room 492 - 4th Floor Auditorium
Jefferson City, MO 65101
WebEx Conference Call was established for public to join.**

- I. CALL TO ORDER
 1. Pledge of Allegiance
 2. Roll Call
 - A. Commissioners in attendance in person or via WebEx Conference Call:
 - i. Chair Kelly McClelland; Vice Chair Meredith Knopp; Commissioner Steve Maples; Commissioner Steve Roberts; Commissioner David Griffith; Commissioner Tim Smith; Commissioner Robert Sauls
 - ii. Absent: Commissioner Randy Alewel; Commissioner Rick Brattin
 - B. Chair Opening Comments
 - C. Recognition: DPS Team Member of the Month – Sheila Zook – Mt. Vernon
- II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
 1. 1st Quarter Commission Meeting Open Minutes from January 22, 2024
 2. 1st Quarter Commission Meeting Closed Minutes: NA
 3. Minutes were unanimously voted to approve by those in attendance as written
- III. COMMISSION UPDATES
 1. Facilities
 - A. St. Louis Veterans Home Renovation
 - i. C Unit construction, pending substantial completion
 - ii. A Unit is in design phase, anticipate bid 7/24
 - iii. Project remains over budget
 - B. COVID19 – VA Construction Grant
 - i. Flooring projects at Mt Vernon, Warrensburg, Cameron, and Mexico are in design phase with FMDC
 - ii. HVAC improvement for isolation and quarantine areas are in design phase with FMDC
 - iii. Wi-Fi upgrades for Warrensburg, Cameron, and Mt Vernon are in design phase with FMDC
 - iv. COVID19 grant projects must be completed by 9/17/26
 - C. Higginsville Cemetery
- IV. Columbarium wall addition in design phase with FMDC
 - St James Water & Sewer FAI 29-053, U230901
- V. In design phase with FMDC
 - Cape Facility Renovation FAI 29-043, U180501
- VI. In design phase with FMDC
 - St James Facility Renovation FAI 29-044, U150301
- VII. In design phase with FMDC
 1. Human Resources
 - A. Recruitment Campaign
 - i. Investment: \$400,000
 - ii. Timeframe: December 1, 2023 – November 30, 2024
 - iii. Audience: Prospective Homes Team Members

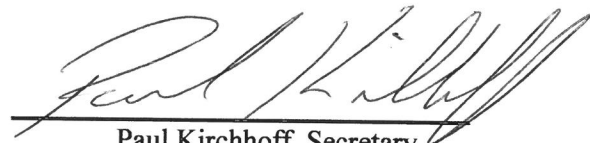
- B. VA Recruitment and Retention Grant
 - i. Timeframe: December 16, 2023 – July 2024
 - ii. Audience: Bedside Non-Supervisory Homes Nursing Staff
- C. Show Me's Got Talent – Employee Referral Program
 - i. Start: January 1, 2024
 - ii. Audience: All Non-HR Staff and Hiring Managers
- D. Staffing Rates for Direct Care Staff
- 2. Veteran Cemeteries Program
 - A. Recent Events
 - Bloomfield Peer Review April 11, 2024
Score 97%
 - B. Current Projects
 - Higginsville – Columbarium Wall (Est. completion 2025)
 - C. Future Projects
 - Springfield - Columbarium Wall (Up to 100% Reimbursable)
 - D. Upcoming Events:
 - Memorial Day Ceremonies May 27, 2024
 - a. Bloomfield 1 pm
 - b. Ft Wood 1 pm
 - c. Higginsville 1 pm
 - d. Jacksonville 9 am
 - e. Springfield 1 pm
 - E. Interments
- 3. Veteran Services Program
 - A. Direct Cost for MVC VSO Program
 - B. Benefits Awarded to Missouri Veterans by MVC Service Officers in Current and all Previous Fiscal Years Combined
 - C. Return on Investment Ratio FY23 - \$134 : \$1
 - D. Missouri Veteran Population: 406,753 (2021)
 - E. Ratio of VSOs to Veterans: 1:3,035
 - F. Relocated Osage Beach VSO office to Camdenton
 - G. Satisfaction Survey Results
- 4. Veteran Homes Program
 - A. Satisfaction Survey Results
 - B. 2024 Annual VA Certifications (Survey)
- 5. Full Certification
 - St. James
- 6. Survey Complete – awaiting Statement of Deficiencies
 - Mexico
- 7. Awaiting Survey
 - A. Cape
 - B. Cameron
 - C. Warrensburg
 - D. St. Louis
 - E. Mt. Vernon
- 8. Program Update
 - A. Completion of Flu Season, minimal outbreaks
 - B. Update to COVID guidelines in February for public only
 - C. Admissions/Recruitment/Retention remain focus
 - D. Current Census Total – 778 (63%)
 - An increase of 0.45% this quarter

- E. Reasons to Celebrate
 - i. DPS Employee of the Month – Sheila Zook – Mt. Vernon
 - ii. Leadership Education Retreat – May
 - iii. St. James Opening 3rd unit in April
 - iv. National Nurses Week: May 6 – 12
 - v. National Nursing Home Week: May 13 – 17
- F. Clinical Quality Measures
- G. Staffing Measures
- 9. Fiscal Update
 - MVC MAJOR FUNDS REVIEW
 - i. Veterans Commission Capital Improvement Trust Fund

• Headquarters	• Veterans Recognition
• Cemeteries Program	• Capital Improvement Needs of Homes and Cemeteries
• Veterans Service Officer Program	• Maintenance and Repair needs of all MVC Programs
• Utilities for Homes and Cemeteries	• Homes Fund Solvency
• State Veterans Grant Partners	

- ii. Veterans Homes Fund
 - Veterans Homes Operations (Payroll, Fringe, Supplies, and Services)
 - iii. Veterans Health and Care Fund – Medical Marijuana (not owned by MVC)
 - Homes Funds Solvency
 - iv. Veterans Assistance Fund – Medical Marijuana
 - Wi-Fi in Veterans Homes, Data Science, Communication, and Infection Control
 - v. Veterans, Health, and Community Reinvestment Fund (not owned by MVC)
 - Adult Use Marijuana
 - vi. Veterans Reinvestment Fund – Adult Use Marijuana
 - Homes Fund Solvency
 - vii. Expenditures and Balances
 - viii. Transfers into Veterans Assistance Fund
 - ix. Transfers into Veterans Homes Fund
 - x. FY24 Veterans Assistance Spending Plan
 - xi. Flow Chart for Recreational Marijuana
- VIII. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE:
- 1. Representative David Griffith
 - A. Briefed on the status of multiple bills
 - HB 1495; HB 1496; HB 1494; HB 2100; HJR 74; SB 912
 - B. Continuing to work on MVC funding
 - C. Starting a pod cast
 - 2. Representative Robert Sauls briefed on status of HB 1419
 - 3. Senator Steve Roberts briefed on focus on MVC budget
- IX. AGENCY PARTNERS UPDATE
- MAVO provided an update on the following:
 - A. MAVO Priorities during this session
 - i. Wants 100% MVC funding
 - ii. Property Tax bill
 - iii. SB 912 and HB 1495
 - iv. HB 1490 (Claim Sharks)
 - B. Rally in the Rotunda
 - C. Staying engaged with legislators

- X. CHAIR COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
1. July 22, 2024 at Missouri Veterans Home – Mexico: Mexico Missouri
 2. October 28, 2024 at Harry S Truman State Office Building, 301 West High Street, Jefferson City
- XI. VOTE TO GO TO CLOSED SESSION
1. Motion made by Commissioner Griffith
 2. Seconded by Commissioner Smith
 3. By a roll call vote, the motion was passed:
 - A. Chair Kelly McClelland – Aye
 - B. Vice Chair Meredith Knopp – Aye
 - C. Commissioner Steve Maples – Aye
 - D. Commissioner Steve Roberts – Aye
 - E. Commissioner David Griffith – Aye
 - F. Commissioner Tim Smith – Aye
 - G. Commissioner Robert Sauls – Aye
 - H. Commissioner Brattin – Absent
 - I. Commissioner Alewel – Absent
- XII. RETURNED TO OPEN SESSION
- With no further business, motion to adjourn was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.
- XIII. ADJOURNMENT



Paul Kirchhoff, Secretary