

MINUTES

**4th Quarter Quarterly Meeting of the
Missouri Veterans Commission
October 25, 2021 — 10:00 AM
Harry S Truman State Office Building
301 W. High Street, Room 492
Jefferson City, MO**

WebEx Conference Call was established for public to join.

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Roll Call

Commissioners in attendance in room or via WebEx Conference Call:
Chair Kelly McClelland; Vice Chair Meredith Knopp; Commissioner Robert
Sauls; Commissioner Jill Schupp; Commissioner Chuck Basye; Commissioner
Steve Maples; Commissioner Tim Smith

Absent: Commissioner Randy Alewel; Commissioner Rick Brattin

IV. Chair Opening Comments

V. Recognition:

- A. Alice Youngermann, CNA of the Year, Cape Girardeau Veterans Home
- B. Janet Cook, Employee of the Year, Cape Girardeau Veterans Home
- C. David Hibler, Administrator of the Year, Cameron Veterans Home

VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. Open Quarterly Commission Meeting Minutes from July 26, 2021
- B. Closed Quarterly Commission Meeting Minutes from July 26, 2021
- C. Special Session Open Minutes from August 30, 2021
- D. All minutes were unanimously approved as written

VII. STAFF UPDATES & BRIEFS

- A. Veterans Health and Care Fund Recommended Expenditures and Vote
 - 1. This was to be presented later in the meeting; however, due to required early departure of a few Commissioners, this portion was moved forward in the meeting to ensure all could take part in voting.
 - 2. Items presented to the Commission and Voted on:
 - a. Wi-Fi Upgrades in Veterans Homes
 - b. Infection Control Maintenance and Repair
 - c. Infectious Disease Outbreak Plan and Training
 - d. Advanced Data Analysis
 - e. Veterans Service Officer Grant Program
 - f. Veterans Initiatives
 - During presentation, Commissioner Maples asked what this referred to and it was briefed that this was intended for housing assistance for homeless veterans in the St. Louis area.

- g. Veterans Services Portal
- 3. Chair McClelland asked for Motion to vote on all items as presented
 - a. Vice Chair Knopp Motioned for Vote and Commissioner Maples Seconded the Motion
 - b. All items unanimously passed in a Roll Call Vote

B. Executive Director Comprehensive Update Brief

- 1. COVID Update Brief
 - a. Currently 66% of staff are vaccinated
 - b. Currently 96% of Veterans are vaccinated
- 2. Facilities Update Briefed:
 - c. Status of Capital Improvements and funding status of projects
- 3. Human Resources Briefed
 - a. Vacancies and Turnover Rate
 - b. Recruitment Efforts
 - c. Presented new Recruitment Video
- 4. Veteran Cemeteries Program Briefed:
 - a. NCA Site Visit Schedule
 - b. Interments and capacity of columbarium walls
 - c. Satisfaction Survey Results
- 5. Veteran Services Program Briefed:
 - a. Return on Investment Ratio of Veterans Services Officers
 - b. Revised Region Map
- 6. Veteran Homes Program Briefed:
 - a. Annual COLA Resident Rate Increase
 - b. Satisfaction Survey Results
 - c. Annual VA Survey Certifications
 - d. Quality Measures
- 7. Fiscal Update:
 - a. New Decision Items for FY22 and FY23
 - b. Operational Support for Revenue Shortfall

VIII. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE: No Update at this time

IX. AGENCY PARTNERS UPDATE

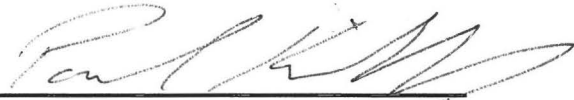
- A. Misti Marsh, St. Louis VA Region Director briefed:
 - 1. Continuing to encourage the COVID Vaccination
 - 2. Nov 22 deadline for VA Employees to receive the vaccination or not return to work
 - 3. St. Louis region exceeded several business line items this year
 - 4. Let Mitsi know if there are any Hardship Claims that need expedited
- B. John J. Pershing VAMC, Poplar Bluff, Associate Director, Chandra Miller briefed:
 - 1. New Medical Director Drew DeWitt will be out indefinitely
 - 2. Chandra Miller will be the Acting Director
- C. MAVO Chairman, Tom Goodin briefed:
 - 1. Biggest concern was funding the Missouri Veterans Trust Fund
 - 2. Has requested that the gaming boat admission be doubled
 - 3. Wants Adult Day Health Care to be implemented

X. **CHAIR COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chair McClelland made closing remarks and announced that the next Quarterly Commission meeting (1st Quarter) will be held on Monday, January 24, 2022 at 10:00 AM in the Truman State Office Building, Jefferson City, MO

XI. **ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business before the Commission, meeting was adjourned by unanimous vote.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul Kirchhoff", written over a horizontal line.

Paul Kirchhoff, Secretary