



County of El Dorado

Board of Supervisors
Chambers
330 Fair Lane
Placerville, CA 95667

Minutes - Draft

Veteran Affairs Commission

Todd Smith, District I - Alternate Robert Fischer
Roger Reynolds, District II - Alternate Donna Mullens-Becker
Peter Wolfe, District III - Alternate Seth Culver
Ken Welch, District IV - Alternate Tim Thompson
Gary Norton, District V - Alternate Thomas Millham
Jon Brown, VSO, Secretary Ex-Officio
Courtney Frame, Recording Clerk of Veteran Affairs
Commission

Thursday, November 14, 2024

12:00 PM

<https://edcgov-us.zoom.us/j/91249101434>

El Dorado Hills Fire Station #85
1050 Wilson Blvd.
El Dorado Hills, CA 95762

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION INSTRUCTIONS: The Commission meeting room will be open to the public. The meeting will continue to be live-streamed via Zoom. By participating in this meeting, you acknowledge that you are being recorded.

To observe the live stream of the Commission meeting go to <https://edcgov-us.zoom.us/j/91249101434>. Members of the public may address the Commission in-person or via Zoom to make a public comment. The public should call into 530-621-7603 or 530-621-7610. The Meeting ID is 912 4910 1434. Please note you will not be able to join the live-stream until the posted meeting start time. If you are joining the meeting via zoom and wish to make a comment on an item, press the "raise hand" button. If you are joining the meeting by phone, press *9 to indicate a desire to make a comment. Speakers will be limited to 3 minutes.

Although the County strives to offer remote participation, be advised that remote Zoom participation is provided for convenience only. In the event of a technological malfunction, the only assurance of live comments being received by the Commission is to attend in person. Except for a noticed teleconference meeting, the Commission reserves the right to conduct the meeting without remote access if there is a malfunction.

If you choose not to observe the Commission meeting but wish to make a comment on a specific agenda item, please submit your comment in writing. You are encouraged to submit your comment in writing by 4:00 PM on the Tuesday before the meeting to ensure the Commission has adequate time to review. Please submit your comment to the Clerk of the Board at edc.cob@edcgov.us. Your comment will be placed into the record and forwarded to Commission members.

PROTOCOLS FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comment will be received at designated periods as called by the Commission Chair.

Individuals will have three minutes to address the Commission. Except with the consent of the Commission, individuals shall be allowed to speak to an item only once.

Individual Commission members may ask clarifying questions but will not engage in substantive dialogue with persons providing input to the Commission.

If a person providing input to the Commission creates a disruption by refusing to follow Commission guidelines, the Commission Chair may take the following actions:

Step 1. Request the person adhere to Commission guidelines. If the person refuses, the Commission Chair may turn off the speaker's microphone.

Step 2. If the disruption continues, the Commission Chair may order a recess of the Commission meeting.

Step 3. If the disruption continues, the Commission Chair may order the removal of the person from the Commission meeting.

CALL TO ORDER - PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG - 12:00 PM

ROLL CALL

- Present:** 8 - Vice Chair Smith, Alternate Mullens, Commissioner Reynolds, Commissioner Norton, Chair Welch, Alternate Fischer, Alternate Culver and Vice Chair Millham
- Absent:** 2 - Alternate Thompson and Commissioner Wolfe

Commissioner Culver was not present for Roll Call, he arrived during Agenda Items.

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS AND WELCOME

Commissioner Welch asked for a moment of silence for District I Supervisor John Hidahl.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA AND APPROVAL OF CONSENT CALENDAR

All items on the Consent Calendar are to be approved by one motion unless a Commission member requests separate action on a specific item including moving items to or from the Consent Calendar and adopt the Agenda and the Consent Calendar for discussion. At the appropriate time as called by the Chair, members of the public may make a comment on matters on the Consent Calendar prior to Commission action.

CONSENT CALENDAR

- 24-1969** Commission to review and approve mileage reimbursement for Veteran Affairs Commissioners for the month of October 2024.

Attachments: [October 2024 MILEAGE REIMBURSEMENT](#)

- 24-1970** Commission to review an approve Veteran Affairs Commission October 10, 2024 meeting minutes.

Attachments: [Draft Minutes Veteran Affairs Commission 10-10-24](#)

END OF CONSENT CALENDAR

A motion to adopt the agenda and approve the consent calendar was made by Commissioner Welch; seconded by Commissioner Reynolds.

- Yes:** 4 - Vice Chair Smith, Commissioner Reynolds, Commissioner Norton and Chair Welch

- Absent:** 2 - Alternate Thompson and Commissioner Wolfe

AGENDA ITEMS

24-1971 The Veteran Affairs Transient Occupancy Tax Committee (VA TOT) will present their recommendations for the TOT Annual Grants. The Veteran Affairs Commission will vote on the TOT Annual Grants for the Fiscal Year 2024/2025.

Commissioner Mullens-Becker referred to the fiscal year 2024/2025 TOT Annual Grants table provided and reported that the TOT Committee was recommending the 2024/2025 VA TOT Annual Grant amounts be similar to the 2023/2024 Annual Grants. Mullens-Becker reported that the Military Family Support Group (MFSG) would be receiving both their 2023/2024 and 2024/2025 Annual Grants at the same time, totaling \$16,000 because their TOT contract was not able to be executed in 2023/2024. Next, Mullens-Becker reported that TOT funding would be supporting a .50 FTE Office Assistant for the Veteran Services Office (as approved in the VAC July 11, 2024 VAC meeting). Next, Mullens-Becker reported that \$59,803 would be allocated to the El Dorado Community Foundation for future Mini Grants.

Attachments: [FY 24-25 TOT Annual Grants](#)

A motion to approve the VA TOT 2024/2025 Annual Grants was made by Commissioner Reynolds; seconded by Commissioner Norton.

Yes: 5 - Vice Chair Smith, Commissioner Reynolds, Commissioner Norton, Chair Welch and Alternate Culver

Absent: 2 - Alternate Thompson and Commissioner Wolfe

24-1972 Commission to approve and vote for a new Veteran Affairs Commission Chair.

A motion to approve Commissioner Reynolds as the new Veteran Affairs Commission Chair was made by Commissioner Welch; seconded by Commissioner Norton.

Yes: 4 - Vice Chair Smith, Commissioner Norton, Chair Welch and Alternate Culver

Absent: 2 - Alternate Thompson and Commissioner Wolfe

Abstained: 1 - Commissioner Reynolds

EX-OFFICIO REPORT - RECEIVE AND FILE (Brown)

24-2078

Veterans Service Officer Brown reported that the new Office Assistant position for Veteran Services had been posted and closed, and interviews would be conducted within the next few weeks. Next, Brown reported that the California Association of County Veterans Service Officers Fall Training Conference was attended by all Veterans Service Representatives (VSR) in the office. This training covered all continuing education requirements for the VSR staff. Next, Brown reported that for the month of October, the Veteran Services Office received 355 incoming phone calls, 119 scheduled appointments, and 146 walk-in visitors. Lastly, Brown reported that VSR II Tisha Holy will not be able to drive to South Lake Tahoe for in-person appointments during the winter months when driving conditions are difficult. When she is unable to travel to Tahoe, Holy will be providing telephone appointments to ensure veterans in the South Lake Tahoe area receive the services they need.

Attachments: [Veterans Services Ex-officio Report November 2024](#)

COMMITTEE REPORTS - RECEIVE AND FILE

- TOT (Transient Occupancy Tax) (Reynolds) - Commissioner Welch stated that the TOT Committee had informed the VAC of current updates during Agenda Item 24-1971 and did not require an additional report.
- RULES (Welch) - Commissioner Welch stated there was nothing new to report on Rules.
- HOUSING (Welch) - Commissioner Welch stated there was nothing new to report on Housing.
- LEGISLATIVE (Smith) - Commissioner Smith stated there was nothing new to report on Legislative.
- TRANSPORTATION (Thompson) - Zelinsky reported that El Dorado Veteran Resources (EDVR) along with Tim Page has been helpful with providing rides to veterans.
- BUDGET (Reynolds/Mullens-Becker) - Commissioner Welch stated that the TOT Committee had informed the VAC of the current budget updates and did not require an additional report.
- EDUCATION & EMPLOYMENT (Mullens-Becker) - Commissioner Mullens-Becker stated there was nothing new to report on Education and Employment.
- OUTREACH (Reynolds) - Commissioner Reynolds stated there was nothing new to report on Outreach.

COMMUNICATIONS' REPORTS - RECEIVE AND FILE

- VETERANS MEMORIAL BUILDING – VETERANS HOUSE COUNCIL (Reynolds) - Reynolds reported that a meeting was held on November 7th for the House Council at the Veterans Memorial Building (VMB). At the meeting, Commander MacAdams informed the House Council that the oven repairs were completed and that Quilts of Valor was changing its name to Quilts of Honor. Next, Reynolds reported that the VMB Use Agreement contract was being worked on by the County, MacAdams, and Diane Muirhead, Treasurer for the House Council. Next, Reynolds reported that work is being done to the Prisoner of War display to prevent damage. Next, Reynolds reported that MacAdams has been working on a newsletter for the different veteran organizations. Next, Reynolds reported that a committee was being set up to review the VMB Bylaws. Next, Commissioner Culver reported that there was a discussion of a suggested donation price for non-veteran organizations wanting to use the VMB. Lastly, Culver stated that the VMB was working on a checklist for organizations using the VMB to check for damages.
- AMERICAN LEGION SERVICE OFFICER (Zelinsky) - Zelinsky reported that District Church has been working with EDVR on transportation for veterans. District Church, with help from EDVR, will pass out turkey dinners on Sunday, November 24th from 1 PM to 3 PM at District Church. Zelinsky reported that District Church's youth group is interested in volunteering for the veteran community. Next, Zelinsky reported collaborating with Steve Ferry to assist a veteran with transportation to their job. Lastly, Zelinsky introduced his guest, Tom Millham, who discussed assisting veterans in the South Lake Tahoe area.
 - Tom Millham, Commander of the American Legion Post 795 and new District V Alternate Commissioner, discussed resources being used to help veterans. Millham reported that he assisted several veterans in the South Lake Tahoe community with obtaining jobs, housing, transportation, and replacing heating units.
 - Vivian Chase, from District Church, was unavailable to provide a report on the church's involvement in the veteran community.
- EDC VETERANS ALLIANCE (Wolfe) - Commissioner Culver reported that despite the rainy weather, 150 people attended the Veterans Day Memorial Service. The event was successfully moved indoors.
- VA VET CENTER/MILITARY FAMILY SUPPORT GROUP/EL DORADO VETERAN RESOURCES (Whalen) - Diane Muirhead reported that MFSG had an abundance of wheelchairs, walkers, and hospital beds available for the veteran community. Next, Muirhead reported that the MFSG helped veterans with paying their propane bills, RV repairs, PG&E bills, and provided gas cards and mortgage payments. Next, Muirhead reported that Julie Tucker from Department of Housing and Urban Development - Veteran Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) will have office hours on the first Friday of every month from 1 PM to 3 PM at the VMB. Next, Muirhead reported that the turkey dinner giveaway with District Church was from 1 PM to 3 PM, and veterans interested needed to sign up with EDVR. Next, Muirhead reported that the Fleet Reserve Association (FRA) would be hosting a Pearl Harbor Memorial Service on December 7th at 9 AM at the VMB. Lastly, Muirhead reported that MFSG had been contacted by the Office of Identification at Fort Knox, which had found an El Dorado County veteran who died in a Japanese prison camp in the Philippines during World War II. MFSG is working with the family to help lay the body to rest.
- REGIONAL VETERAN EVENTS - Commissioner Welch reported that there was nothing new to report for Regional Veteran Events.

GOOD OF THE ORDER (COMMISSIONER ANNOUNCEMENTS)

Commissioner Welch reported that Georgetown will host a turkey dinner with the VFW on November 26th from 3 PM to 7 PM, at no charge.

OPEN FORUM

Open Forum is an opportunity for members of the public to address the Veteran Affairs Commission on subject matter that is not on their meeting agenda and within their jurisdiction. Public comments during Open Forum are limited to three minutes per person. The Commission Chair may limit public comment during Open Forum.

NEXT MEETING LOCATION, DATE & TIME

December 12, 2024 at 12:00 PM

330 Fair Lane, Building A

Conference Room D

Placerville, CA 95667

ADJOURNMENT - 12:43 PM