



County of El Dorado

Board of Supervisors
Chambers
330 Fair Lane
Placerville, CA 95667

Minutes - Final

Veteran Affairs Commission

Todd Smith, District I - Alternate Robert Fischer

Roger Reynolds, District II - Alternate Donna Mullens-Becker

Christopher Vinton, 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, June 12, 2025

12:00 PM

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

**330 Fair Lane, Building A
Board of Supervisor Chambers
Placerville, CA 95667**

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: 7 - Commissioner Norton, Commissioner Welch, Alternate Mullens, Alternate Fischer, Chair Reynolds, Alternate Culver and Commissioner Vinton

Absent: 3 - Alternate Thompson, Commissioner Millham and Vice Chair Smith

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS AND WELCOME**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

1. [25-1038](#) Commission to review and approve mileage reimbursement for Veteran Affairs Commissioners for the month of May 2025.

Attachments: [May 2025 MILEAGE REIMBURSEMENT](#)

2. [25-1039](#) Commission to review and approve Veteran Affairs Commission May 8, 2025 meeting minutes.

Attachments: [Draft Minutes Veteran Affairs Commission 5-8-25](#)

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

Yes: 5 - Commissioner Norton, Commissioner Welch, Alternate Fischer, Chair Reynolds and Commissioner Vinton

END OF CONSENT CALENDAR**AGENDA ITEMS**

3. [25-1040](#) List of 2025 Veterans TOT Mini Grant Applications to be reviewed by the Veteran Affairs Commission. (No action required. Individual applications will be renewed separately for consideration and approval.)

Attachments: [2025 Veterans TOT Mini Grant Applications](#)

4. [25-1041](#) Arts and Culture El Dorado VA TOT Mini Grant to be reviewed and approved by the Veteran Affairs Commission for partial amount.

Attachments: [Arts and Culture ED](#)

Public Comment: D. Mullens-Becker, D. Zelinsky, T. Whalen

A motion was made to approve funding for Agenda Item 25-1041 by Commissioner Vinton; seconded by Commissioner Fischer.

Yes: 5 - Commissioner Norton, Commissioner Welch, Alternate Fischer, Chair Reynolds and Commissioner Vinton

5. [25-1043](#) Christmas Cheer Inc VA TOT Mini Grant Application to be reviewed and approved by the Veteran Affairs Commission for partial amount.

Attachments: [Christmas Cheer](#)

Public Comment: D. Williams, D. Zelinsky

A motion was made to approve funding for Agenda Item 25-1043 by Commissioner Vinton; seconded by Commissioner Fischer.

Yes: 5 - Commissioner Norton, Commissioner Welch, Alternate Fischer, Chair Reynolds and Commissioner Vinton

6. [25-1044](#) El Dorado Post 119 American Legion VA TOT Mini Grant Application to be reviewed and approved by the Veteran Affairs Commission for full amount.

Attachments: [El Dorado Post 119](#)

Public Comment: D. Zelinsky, L. McAdams, T. Whalen

A motion was made to approve funding for Agenda Item 25-1044 by Commissioner Vinton; seconded by Commissioner Welch.

Yes: 5 - Commissioner Norton, Commissioner Welch, Alternate Fischer, Chair Reynolds and Commissioner Vinton

7. [25-1045](#) Jakes Journey Home VA TOT Mini Grant Application to be reviewed and approved by the Veteran Affairs Commission for partial amount.

Attachments: [Jakes Journey Home](#)

Public Comment: D. Muirehead, D. Mullens-Becker, D. Zelinsky

A motion was made to approve funding for Agenda Item 25-1045 by Commissioner Vinton; seconded by Commissioner Welch.

Yes: 5 - Commissioner Norton, Commissioner Welch, Alternate Fischer, Chair Reynolds and Commissioner Vinton

8. [25-1046](#) Non-Profit Construction Corporation VA TOT Mini Grant Application to be reviewed and approved by the Veteran Affairs Commission for full amount.

Attachments: [Non-Profit Construction](#)

Public Comment: D. Zelinsky, D. Mullens-Becker, L. McAdams

A motion was made to approve funding for Agenda Item 25-1046 by Commissioner Vinton; seconded by Commissioner Fischer.

Yes: 5 - Commissioner Norton, Commissioner Welch, Alternate Fischer, Chair Reynolds and Commissioner Vinton

9. [25-1047](#) Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post 10165 VA TOT Mini Grant Application to be reviewed and approved by the Veteran Affairs Commission for full amount.

Attachments: [VFW Post 10165](#)

Public Comment: D. Zelinsky, L. McAdams

A motion was made to approve funding for Agenda Item 25-1047 by Commissioner Welch; seconded by Commissioner Vinton.

Yes: 5 - Commissioner Norton, Commissioner Welch, Alternate Fischer, Chair Reynolds and Commissioner Vinton

10. [25-1048](#) Veterans Affairs Commission to review the 2024 Annual Report and decide on a presentation date for the Board of Supervisors at 10:00 AM on August 12, August 19, or August 26.

Attachments: [Annual Report 2024 for Veterans Affairs](#)
[VAC Annual Committee-Commission Presentation 2025](#)

A motion to approve the presentation, report and present to the Board of Supervisors on August 26th at 10:00 AM was made by Commissioner Vinton; seconded by Commissioner Welch.

Yes: 5 - Commissioner Norton, Commissioner Welch, Alternate Fischer, Chair Reynolds and Commissioner Vinton

EX-OFFICIO REPORT - RECEIVE AND FILE (Brown)

[25-1134](#) Veterans Service Officer (VSO) Brown reported that the Veterans Services Office would not be available for walk-ins on Tuesdays throughout June due to mandatory training for Veterans Service Representatives (VSRs). To accommodate the training, South Lake Tahoe services are being moved to Thursdays for the month of June. Brown also reported that he will be out of the office on June 19th and 20th to attend additional training for VSOs in Sacramento. Next, Brown reported that the California Association of County Veterans Service Officers (CACVSO) is working on proposed legislation, HR-3132, aimed at limiting the influence of for-profit "claim shark" representatives who may take advantage of veterans filing claims. Next, Brown reported that for the month of May, the Veterans Services Office recorded 124 walk-in visitors, 74 scheduled appointments, and 257 phone calls. Lastly, Brown reported that VSR II Tisha Holy has resumed in-person services in South Lake Tahoe on the second and third Tuesday of each month.

Attachments: [Veterans Services Ex-officio Report June 2025](#)

COMMITTEE REPORTS - RECEIVE AND FILE

- TOT (Transient Occupancy Tax) (Reynolds) - Commissioner Reynolds reported that the TOT Committee did not have a meeting this month.
- RULES (Welch) - Commissioner Welch stated there was nothing to report.
- HOUSING (Welch) - Commissioner Welch reported that he attended the opening of the Small Homes project in Sacramento. He also noted that there is an Assembly Bill under consideration that would allow El Dorado County to construct Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) homes in areas affected by the Caldor Fire.
- LEGISLATIVE (Smith) - Commissioner Smith was not available to provide a report.
- TRANSPORTATION (Thompson) - Whalen expressed gratitude to Edde, Jennifer, Mary, and Melody at the El Dorado Veteran Resources (EDVR) office for their efforts in dispatching calls for rides to medical appointments. He also extended his thanks to Tim Page, David Zelinsky, Chris Angie, and all the additional volunteer drivers for their dedication and support.
- BUDGET (Reynolds/Mullens-Becker) - Commissioner Reynolds reported that he reviewed the House Council budget with its members last week. The budget is designated for building improvements and special projects.
- EDUCATION & EMPLOYMENT (Mullens-Becker) - Commissioner Mullens-Becker stated there was nothing to report.
- OUTREACH (Reynolds) - Commissioner Reynolds reported that he is continuing to post on the Veterans Affairs Commission page and would appreciate assistance connecting the page to an Instagram account to help expand outreach.

Public Comment: D. Williams, T. Whalen

COMMUNICATIONS' REPORTS - RECEIVE AND FILE

• VETERANS MEMORIAL BUILDING – VETERANS HOUSE COUNCIL (Reynolds) - Commissioner Culver reported that the House Council met on June 5 and reviewed the budget. The Council voted to proceed with building repairs, including floor work, renovations to the lounge bar, and the addition of a new office upstairs. Next, Culver reported that an idea was proposed that would require organizations that hold fundraising events in the building to contribute an additional amount to help support the House Council's budget. Next, Culver reported that The Military Family Support Group (MFSG) reported that the El Dorado County Food Bank is no longer supplying them with meat, leading to a suspension of their No Vet Goes Hungry program. Next, Culver further reported that on September 10 at 6:00 p.m., in the Veterans Memorial Building Lounge, the Marine Corps League will dedicate a memorial wall in honor of Sky Mote. Next, Culver reported that a request was made to designate a No Parking space in front of the Veterans Memorial that was created by an Eagle Scout last fall. Lastly, Culver reported that the House Council leadership would be restructured in July. The Marine Corps League will assume the presidency of the Council, and the Building Manager will be replaced.

• AMERICAN LEGION SERVICE OFFICER (Zelinsky) - Zelinsky thanked Commissioner Vinton, who has been working with him to visit inmates in South Lake Tahoe. He reported that one of the inmates will be homeless upon release in August, and they were able to begin assisting that individual in advance. Next, Zelinsky reported that he has been collaborating with Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post 10165 Commander McAdams, Renee from Only Kindness, Mary from El Dorado Veteran Resources (EDVR), and VFW Post 2680 Commander Culver to support a homeless veteran they have assisted in the past. Next, Zelinsky reported that the Veterans Treatment Court recently held three graduations. Next, Zelinsky reported that South County presents challenges with transportation and communication for an older veteran living in the area. Next, Zelinsky reported that VFW Post 9241 Commander Wilson is helping a veteran in need of housing and they were unfortunately unable to get funding at the last TOT Mini-Grants. Commissioner Vinton reported that the VA TOT Committee was unable to give VFW Post 9241 was unable to give funds for a walk way, but they are interested in helping with housing.

Lastly, Zelinsky reported that he has also been working with VFW Post 795 Commander Millham.

• EDC VETERANS ALLIANCE - Commissioner Reynolds stated there was no one available from ECD Veterans Alliance to provide a report.

• VA VET CENTER/MILITARY FAMILY SUPPORT GROUP/EL DORADO VETERAN RESOURCES (Whalen) - Whalen reported that they are looking for more volunteer drivers.

• REGIONAL VETERAN EVENTS - Whalen reported that a Red White Blue and You Career and Resource Fair in Elk Grove Saturday, June 18th from 10 AM to 2 PM.

GOOD OF THE ORDER (COMMISSIONER ANNOUNCEMENTS)

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.

Public Comment: D. Mullens-Becker, T. Whalen

NEXT MEETING LOCATION, DATE & TIME

July 10, 2025 at 12:00 PM

330 Fair Lane, Building A

Board of Supervisors Chamber

Placerville, CA 95667

ADJOURNMENT - 1:23 PM