



County of El Dorado

Board of Supervisors
Chambers
330 Fair Lane
Placerville, CA 95667

Minutes - Final Veterans Affairs Commission

Todd Smith, Vice Chair, District I - Alternate Robert Fischer
Roger Reynolds, District II - Alternate Donna Mullens-Becker
Seth Culver, Chair, District III - Alternate Alonso Aguilar
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, May 14, 2026

12:00 PM

<https://edcgov-us.zoom.us/j/86378230395>

330 Fair Lane, Building A
Board of Supervisors Chamber
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/86378230395>. 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 863 7823 0395. 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 - 12:08 PM**ROLL CALL**

Present: 10 - Commissioner Norton, Alternate Thompson, Commissioner Welch, Commissioner Millham, Alternate Mullens-Becker, Alternate Fischer, Commissioner Reynolds, Chair Culver, Vice Chair Smith and Alternate Aguilar

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. [26-0815](#) Commission to review and approve mileage reimbursement for the Veterans Affairs Commissioners for the month of April 2026.

Attachments: [April 2026 MILEAGE REIMBURSEMENT](#)

2. [26-0816](#) Commission to review and approve Veterans Affairs Commission April 9, 2026 meeting minutes.

Attachments: [Draft Minutes Veteran Affairs Commission 4-9-26](#)

Commissioner Mullens-Becker requested the Agenda Items 26-0817 and 26-0818 be switched, with Agenda Item 26-0818 heard first and Agenda Item 26-0817 heard second.

A motion was made by Commissioner Reynolds, seconded by Commissioner Smith to adopt the agenda and approve the consent calendar as amended.

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

END OF CONSENT CALENDAR

AGENDA ITEMS

3. [26-0847](#) Transportation Committee to review obstacles or items they have found that have hindered their abilities to provide transportation to veterans to the Veteran Affairs Commission.

El Dorado County Veteran Services Office Administrative Technician, Courtney Frame, requested item 26-0847 be moved to the Veterans Affairs Commission (VAC) June agenda due to time considerations and the length of the May agenda.

Public Comment: T. Whalen, C. Armstrong

A motion was made by Commissioner Reynolds, seconded by Commissioner Welch to have the Transportation Committee report to the VAC at their June meeting.

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

4. [26-0817](#) Receive recommendations from the TOT Committee for funding of the One Time Funding applications and vote to approve funding amounts for each applicant.

Attachments: [2026 May One Time Funding Applications - VAC Approved 5.14.26](#)

[2026 May One Time Funding Applications](#)

[2026 May One Time Funding Applications - Amended 5-11](#)

[VFW 10165 One Time Funding Application](#)

[Non-Profit Construction Corporation One Time Funding Application](#)

[SSgt Sky Mote Det 697 Marine Corps League One Time Funding App](#)

[El Dorado Post 119 American Legion One Time Funding Application](#)

[Military Family Support Group One Time Funding Application](#)

[El Dorado County HHSA Senior Nutrition One Time Funding Application](#)

[American Legion Post 795 One Time Funding Application](#)

[Tahoe Coalition for the Homeless One Time Funding Application](#)

Commissioner Mullens-Becker presented the TOT Committee's recommendations for funding of the One-Time Funding applications received through the El Dorado Community Foundation (EDCF). The TOT Committee recommended funding the One-Time applications as follows:

VFW 10165 \$0

Non-Profit Construction Corporation \$10,000

MCL SSgt. Sky Mote Det 697 \$5,000

El Dorado Post 119, American Legion \$10,000

Military Family Support Group \$0

EDC Health and Human Services Agency Sr. Nutrition \$20,000

American Legion Post 795 \$30,000

Tahoe Coalition for the Homeless \$0

Total Recommended Funding: \$75,000

Commissioner Mullens-Becker shared that one-time applications were established to provide funding to organizations assisting veterans with urgent or emergent needs and to reduce the TOT fund balance with EDCF. Commissioner Culver noted annual TOT funding for veterans is competing with other County funding needs and noted he would like to see organizations working with veterans seeking assistance to also help those veterans with budgeting. Commissioner Culver cautioned frugality and stated he doubts there will be one-time funding opportunities like this in the future. Commissioner Smith noted he spoke with his supervisor, and it was clear the TOT fund balance needed to be reduced and that he felt the Commission would accomplish that goal by funding these applications. Commissioner Mullens-Becker noted this would be the last time this level of funding would be available and recommended each Commissioner share with their supervisors that the VAC had approved distribution of the TOT fund balance. Commissioner Reynolds noted during the annual report to the Board of Supervisors last year, the Board had made it clear funding could be reduced if a high fund balance remained. Commission Mullens-Becker noted that the Mini-Grant and One-Time applications received all had merit and the TOT Committee spent a lot of time determining how to distribute funds in the best manner to support veterans.

Public Comment: T. Whalen, C. Armstrong, D. Zelinsky, L. MacAdams

A motion was made by Commissioner Culver, seconded by Commissioner Welch to approve \$35,000 in One Time funding as recommended by the TOT Committee excluding El Dorado Post 119, American Legion and American Legion Post 795.

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

A motion was made by Commissioner Culver, seconded by Commissioner Smith to approve \$10,000 in One Time funding to American Legion El Dorado Post 119 and approve \$30,000 in One Time funding to American Legion Post 795.

Yes: 3 - Commissioner Welch, Chair Culver and Vice Chair Smith

Recused: 2 - Commissioner Norton and Commissioner Reynolds

5. [26-0818](#) Receive recommendations from the TOT Committee for funding of the annual Mini Grant applications and vote to approve funding amounts to each applicant.

Attachments: [2026 Veterans TOT Mini Grant Applications - VAC Approved 5.14.26](#)

[2026 Veterans TOT Mini Grant Applications](#)

[ED Post 119 Mini Grant](#)

[Elder Community Fund Mini Grant](#)

[Growlersburg VFW Mini Grant](#)

[Guns Up Mini Grant](#)

[Hearts Landing Ranch Mini Grant](#)

[Housing El Dorado Mini Grant](#)

[Jakes Journey Home Mini Grant](#)

[Military Family Support Group Mini Grant](#)

[Nonprofit Construction Mini Grant](#)

[RRuff Healing Heroes Mini Grant](#)

[Sierra Nevada Post 2680 Mini Grant](#)

[SSGT Sky Mote 697 Mini Grant](#)

[Stars and Stripes Dog Rescue Mini Grant](#)

[Tahoe Coalition Homeless Mini Grant](#)

[Victory Village Mini Grant](#)

Commissioner Mullens-Becker presented the TOT Committee's recommendations for funding of the 2026 TOT Mini-Grant applications received through the El Dorado Community Foundation. The TOT Committee recommended funding the 2026 Mini-Grant applications as follows:

El Dorado Post 119, American Legion \$20,000

Growlersburg, VFW Post 9241 \$10,000

Guns Up! \$0

Elders Community Fund \$0

Hearts Landing Ranch \$15,000

Housing El Dorado \$20,000

Jakes Journey Home \$5,000

Military Family Support Group \$10,000

Non-Profit Construction Corporation \$0

RRUFF Healing Heroes \$15,600

Sierra Nevada Post No. 2680, VFW \$15,000

Marine Corps League SSgt Sky Mote Det 697 \$10,000

Stars and Stripes Dog Rescue \$0

Tahoe Coalition for the Homeless \$20,000

Victory Village Inc. \$20,000

Total Recommended Funding: \$160,600

The Commissioners discussed reallocating the funding recommendation from RRUFF Healing Heroes to Non-Profit Construction Corporation and Stars and Stripes Dog Rescue. Commissioner Mullens-Becker noted motions for funding to El Dorado Post 119,

American Legion; Growlersburg, VFW Post 9241; and Sierra Nevada Post 2680, VFW would be separate motions. Commissioner Mullens-Becker shared RRUFF Healing Heroes could be reduced to \$7,800 to fund one service dog for one veteran, with \$5,000 added to Non-Profit Construction Corporation for transportation, and \$5,000 added to Stars and Stripes Dog Rescue. Commissioner Culver asked if RRUFF Healing Heroes was reduced to \$7,800 and \$5,000 allocated to Non-Profit Construction, would only \$2,800 be available for Stars and Stripes Dog Rescue. Commissioner Mullens-Becker shared the TOT fund balance at EDCF had enough available to cover the \$2,200 difference to fully fund Stars and Stripes Dog Rescue at \$5,000. Commissioner Mullens-Becker shared these changes would leave approximately \$9,800 in TOT fund balance with EDCF to cover administrative costs and would bring the total 2026 Mini-Grant awards to \$162,800. Commissioner Culver noted the total funding to approve would be \$117,800 indicating El Dorado Post 119, American Legion; Growlersburg, VFW 9241; and Sierra Nevada Post 2680 would be separate from that total. Commissioner Mullens-Becker confirmed the first motion could be to approve \$117,800 for the 2026 Mini-Grants to include decreasing \$7,800 from RRUFF Healing Heroes, adding \$5,000 for transportation to Non-Profit Construction Corporation, and adding \$5,000 to Stars and Stripes Dog Rescue.

Public Comment: D. Zelinsky, C. Armstrong, D. Muirhead, T. Whalen

A motion was made by Commissioner Culver, seconded by Commissioner Smith to approve the recommended funding of the 2026 TOT Mini-Grants in the amount of \$117,800 with modifications to RRuff Healing Heroes to reduce their funding to \$7,800, and provide \$5,000 to Non-Profit Construction Corporation and \$5,000 to Stars and Stripes Dog Rescue.

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

A motion was made by Commissioner Culver, seconded by Commissioner Smith to approve \$20,000 in funding to El Dorado Post 119, American Legion.

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

Recused: 1 - Commissioner Reynolds

A motion was made by Commissioner Culver, seconded by Commissioner Reynolds to approve \$10,000 in funding to Growlersburg VFW Post 9241.

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

Recused: 1 - Commissioner Welch

A motion was made by Commissioner Reynolds, seconded by Commissioner Welch to approve \$15,000 in funding to Sierra Nevada VFW Post 2680.

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

Recused: 1 - Chair Culver

EX-OFFICIO REPORT - RECEIVE AND FILE (Brown)

[26-0900](#)

Attachments: [May 2026 Ex-Officio Report](#)

COMMITTEE REPORTS - RECEIVE AND FILE

- TOT (Transient Occupancy Tax) (Reynolds) - Commissioner Culver stated there was nothing additional to report.
- RULES (Culver/Smith) - Commissioner Smith reported there was nothing to report.
- HOUSING (Welch) - Commissioner Welch reported there was nothing to report.
- LEGISLATIVE (Smith) - Commissioner Smith reported there was nothing to report.
- TRANSPORTATION (Thompson) - Commissioner Culver stated we would review the Transportation Committee at the June VAC meeting.
- BUDGET (Reynolds/Mullens-Becker) - Commissioner Culver stated there was nothing additional to report.
- EDUCATION & EMPLOYMENT (Mullens-Becker/Fischer) - Commissioner Fischer reported on a CalTap webinar series available on their website covering topics on Veteran Homes of California on May 7th, Honoring Veterans for Burial Benefits on May 14th, and Veteran Caregiver Support on May 21st.
- OUTREACH (Reynolds) - Commissioner Reynolds reported there was nothing to report.

Public Comment: C. Armstrong

COMMUNICATIONS' REPORTS - RECEIVE AND FILE

- **VETERANS MEMORIAL BUILDING – VETERANS HOUSE COUNCIL (Reynolds) -** Commissioner Culver reported at the Veterans Memorial Building (VMB) House Council meeting the building manger is still working with El Dorado County of building repairs. Culver reported that both the fridge and the grill were in need of repairs. The VMB House Council was still working on getting funds returned from insurance.
- **AMERICAN LEGION SERVICE OFFICER (Zelinsky) -** David Zelinsky reported on the different veterans he has helped in the El Dorado County community with the assistance from the El Dorado Veteran Services Office, El Dorado County Sheriff's Office, and the veteran organizations throughout the community.
- **EDC VETERANS ALLIANCE -** Joe Thuesen reported that the El Dorado County (EDC) Veterans Alliance was preparing for Memorial Day. The EDC Veterans Alliance thanked VSO Brown for all his hard work on the El Dorado County Veterans Monument bricks and stones applications.
- **VA VET CENTER/MILITARY FAMILY SUPPORT GROUP/EL DORADO VETERAN RESOURCES (Whalen) -** Tim Whalen reported that Military Family Support Group (MFSG) and El Dorado Veteran Resources (EDVR) holds a food give away at the VMB on the second and fourth Wednesdays. Next, Whalen reported on the different veterans they are working to hep in the community and donations received that will be available year round and at the Veterans Stand Down. Lastly, Whalen reported that their donations of wheelchairs and scooters are much appreciated and there is little turnaround time from when they receive them to when they go to a veteran in need.
- **REGIONAL VETERAN EVENTS -** Tim Whalen reported there will be a Veterans Appreciation Day hosted by the Nevada County Veteran Services Office held on Saturday May 16th at the Grass Valley Airport from 8am to 3pm. Next, Whalen reported there will be a Homeless Resource Fair at Detert Park in Jackson on May 17th and May 18th. Next, Whalen reported that Volunteers of America is having an all day Health Care Fair on Thursday, May 21st at Nations Finest. Next, Whalen reported that on May 23, 24, and 25 the Citrus Heights VA Center Van would be in Manteca for a Veteran Appreciation Celebration. Commission Culver reported that Richards Akins memorial service will be held on June 6th at 11 AM at the VMB. Leonard MacAdams reported the Veterans of Foreign Wars 10165 would be hosting a BBQ at the VMB after the Memorial Day event at the El Dorado County Veterans Monument.

GOOD OF THE ORDER (COMMISSIONER ANNOUNCEMENTS)

Commissioner Smith thanked the TOT Committee for all their hard work on both the Mini-Grant Applications and the One Time Funding Applications.

Commissioner Culver reported the VAC would be reviewing the TOT Committee membership at the June VAC meeting.

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: T. Millham, C. Armstrong

NEXT MEETING LOCATION, DATE & TIME

June 11, 2026 at 12:00 PM

330 Fair Lane, Building A

Board of Supervisors Chamber

Placerville, CA 95667

ADJOURNMENT - 1:52 PM