

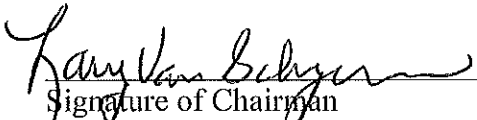


OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS


State of Oklahoma
Oklahoma Veterans Commission
Notarial Statement of Acknowledgment in a representative capacity
Oklahoma Veterans Commission Meeting Minutes
Minutes for: November 22nd, 2019

State of Oklahoma
County of Oklahoma


The above mentioned minutes of the Oklahoma Veterans Commission were submitted to and approved by the members of the Oklahoma Veterans Commission by majority vote in open meeting on January 31, 2020. These minutes are a true and correct representation of the happenings that took place on the above mentioned meeting date.


Signature of Chairman
Larry Van Schuyver
Oklahoma Veterans Commission




Signature of Recording Clerk
Jennifer Bloomfield
Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs

The foregoing instrument was subscribed to me on this 31st day of January, 2020 by Commissioner Larry Van Schuyver as Chairman of the Oklahoma Veterans Commission.


Upon my Seal and Signature
Notarial Officer



**OKLAHOMA VETERANS COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
November 22nd, 2019
Claremore Veterans Center
3001 W. Blue Starr Drive
Claremore, OK 74017**

NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETING:

The Oklahoma Veterans Commission held a regular meeting on **Friday, November 22nd, 2019, at 10:00 AM** at the Claremore Veterans Center, 3001 W. Blue Starr Drive, Claremore, OK. A Notice of this meeting was filed with the Secretary of State's Office on December 7, 2018.

AGENDA:

Friday, November 22nd, 2019 10:00 AM

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 10:00am

II. DETETERMINATION OF QUORUM

a. ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTION OF COMMISSIONERS

The Clerk called the roll and the roll is as follows:

Ball	Present
Costillow	Present
Jackson	Present
Lasser	Absent
LeDay-Mauney	Late (10:18am)
Richey	Absent
Secor	Present
Smithson	Absent
Van Schuyver	Present

The Clerk notified the Chairman that there was a Quorum

b. DECLARATION OF QUORUM

The Chairman declared a Quorum

III. ANNOUNCEMENT REGARDING SIGN-IN FOR OPEN PUBLIC COMMENTS (Refer to Agenda Item X)

The Chairman announced to the gallery that individuals that wished to speak during Public Comment were to sign in prior to speaking.

IV. INVOCATION

Commissioner Ball led the Invocation

V. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Chairman led the Pledge of Allegiance

VI. OKLAHOMA VETERANS COMMISSION

a. DISCUSSION OF AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 25th, 2019 OKLAHOMA VETERANS COMMISSION MEETING.

i. Action

The Chairman stated that the Clerk was waiting for OMES to address a computer issue concerning the October 2019 Minutes. The Chairman requested a motion to postpone the approval of the October 2019 Minutes.

Commissioner Secor provided the Motion to postpone the approval of the October 2019 Minutes to the January meeting.

Commissioner Jackson provided the second.

The Clerk called the vote and the vote is as follows:

Ball	Aye
Costillow	Aye
Jackson	Aye
Lasser	Absent
LeDay-Mauney	Late (10:18am)
Richey	Absent
Secor	Aye
Smithson	Absent
Van Schuyver	Aye

The vote was 5 Aye, 0 Nay, with 4 Commissioners not present for the vote.

Motion passes

b. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING TOWN HALL MEETINGS AND TRAVEL OF COMMISSIONERS SINCE PRIOR REGULAR MEETING ON OCTOBER 25th, 2019.

i. Written Travel Reports Filed by Commissioners

The Commissioners provided the Clerk with the written travel documentation.

ii. Presentation of Summary Travel Reports by Commissioners in Lieu of Written Reports

Ball Reported visiting the Ponca City Veterans Day event, as well as the event in Langston. Attended the VA Symposium, Veterans forum at the Capitol, and the Military Hall of Fame banquet. Reported attending the town hall meeting at the Claremore facility.

Costillow Reporting attending the Military Hall of Fame banquet as well as an event on Veterans Day at the History Museum.

Jackson	Reported visiting Sulphur Veterans Center
Lasser	Absent
LeDay-Mauney	Late (10:18am) reported via written report visiting the Lawton Veterans Center as well as the Women Veterans event in Norman.
Richey	Absent
Secor	Reported Visiting Lawton Veterans Center
Smithson	Absent
Van Schuyver	Reported visiting all seven Veterans Centers

VII. INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME TO VISITORS AND GUESTS

The Chairman welcomed the visitors and guests, and requested that they introduce themselves to the Commission.

VIII. OKLAHOMA SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS AND MILITARY

a. BEN ROBINSON, CABINET SECRETARY TO GOVERNOR STITT, REPORT WITH POSSIBLE DISCUSSION ON THE FOLLOWING:

i. Governor's Cabinet Meeting

The Secretary addressed the Commission and updated them on the progress from the Governor's Cabinet Meetings. He stated that these are now traveling meetings, and places the Cabinet out in the community. He stated that he is receiving a great response from the community regarding what the ODVA is currently doing.

ii. Veteran's Day Events

The Secretary stated that he attended events in Ada, as well as at the Oklahoma History Museum. He then went to the VA Hospital, and on to Norman. He stated that he also attended an event Muskogee as well as McAlester, and then on to Stillwater.

iii. Pilot Program

The Secretary stated that he was passionate about putting the power of his office behind the Pilot Program. He stated that the concerns brought up in the last Commission meeting about the Administrative costs were worth conversation. He presented a hand out to the Commission to further detail the program.

An electronic copy of that handout is attached to these recorded minutes.

Commissioner LeDay-Mauney arrived at 10:18am during the discussion of the Pilot Program.

iv. Suicide Prevention

The Secretary stated that it was heartbreaking to know that 17 Veterans across the United States commit suicide every day. He stated that in the state of Oklahoma, there were 109 in 2016, 85 in 2017, and he was struggling to find the numbers for 2018. He stated that he would defer to the Director to speak about the Task Force.

v. Pay for Success Summit

The Secretary stated that he would like to hold off on speaking about this topic at this time. He stated that he was waiting on a date, and would be in touch via email once that date was provided.

vi. Incarceration

The Secretary stated that he was currently working on the beginning stages of a Battle Buddy program. He stated that this program would pair military individuals with incarcerated individuals to begin a dialogue. The idea being to create a “Rope to Hope”, for when the individual moves closer to release, we have set the individual up to be successful.

IX. OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

a. JOEL KINTSEL, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT WITH POSSIBLE DISCUSSION ON THE FOLLOWING: 55:53

i. Travel Update

A. Centers Visited

The Director stated that he visited the Sulphur facility for the final Employee Town Hall. He stated that there were four meetings in total at the Sulphur location.

The Director stated that between the Employee Town Hall meetings, and the Resident & Family Town Hall meetings, he has attended 28 in total in the last 6-8 weeks. He stated that he is in the process of combining data from those meetings, and will develop an action plan based on the feedback to share with the Commission.

The Director also stated that he traveled to the Lawton facility for the Blackhawk event.

B. Tribal Veteran Summit in Washington, DC

The Director stated he attended the Summit along with an estimated 150 other individuals. He stated that roughly 2/3 of the attendees were from Oklahoma. He stated that there was great discussion about various things that could be done to support Veterans employment, Veteran owned businesses, as well as claims and benefits. The Director stated that the Vice President also made an appearance, and it came to light that his father was a Veteran of the 45th in WWII.

C. Other Travel

The Director stated that he traveled to Langston on Veterans Day weekend.

ii. Agency Program Updates

A. Meeting with US Rep. Mark Wayne Mullin

The Director stated that he attended a meeting with US. Rep. Mark Mullin and some of the Veteran leadership from eastern Oklahoma at Ft. Gibson. He stated that some of the topics discussed were the new Sallisaw location, as well as a small hospital location that had struggled over the last few years. The topic of possibly sharing a Doctor with that facility and the new Sallisaw location was explored.

B. Suicide Task Force Discussion with USDVA

The Director thanked the Secretary for his involvement in the program thus far. He stated that the Secretary, as well as himself were of the mind that "Even one is one too many". He stated that there have been several meetings in the past from various agencies, however not much action. The Director stated that he was excited for the work this Task Force was determined to accomplish.

C. Compliance Program Administrator Selection

The Director stated that Cami McKinney had accepted the position of the ODVA Compliance Program Administrator.

D. ODVA Legislative Priorities and Agency Request Bills

The Director briefly touched on the following, seeking the Commission's approval to move forward.

a. Military Retiree Income Tax Exemption

b. Sales Tax Exemption for Surviving Spouses of 100% SCD Veterans

c. State Use Exemption

d. Sharing of Information by OK Tax Commission

e. Eligibility of Veterans for In-State Tuition at Public Universities

The Chairman called for a break at 11:30am

The Chairman called the meeting back to order at 11:40am

b. **SARAH LANE, DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S AND GENERAL COUNSEL'S REPORT WITH POSSIBLE DISCUSSION ON THE FOLLOWING:**

i. Travel Report

A. Centers Visited

The Deputy stated she had visited the Lawton facility as previously mentioned by the Director. She stated that she also attended an event at the Clinton Veterans Center, as well as visited the Sulphur center for their Holiday meal.

B. Farmer Veteran Coalition, Austin, TX

The Deputy stated that she traveled to the Farmer Veteran Coalition with Women Veterans Coordinator Lisa Mussett. An electronic copy of this presentation is attached to these recorded minutes.

C. Other Travel

The Deputy stated that she traveled to Ponca City with Commissioner Ball for their Veterans Day celebration on November 2nd. She stated that she also joined the Claremore center staff for the 5k in Tulsa, Oklahoma. She stated that she also visited the Elgin and Ft. Gibson state cemeteries this month.

ii. Agency Program Updates

A. Closeout of Employee Town Hall Meetings

The Deputy stated that all employee town hall meetings had been completed, and that she hopes to have data to present to the Commission soon.

B. OVC Holiday Meal Schedule

The Deputy provided the Commission with dates for the holiday meal schedule for all seven centers.

C. OK Arts Council Projects

1. OVC Sallisaw Art Source Selection Update

The Deputy stated that ODVA is working with the Oklahoma Arts Council to select the vendor for the artwork that is to be displayed at the Sallisaw location. The Deputy stated that an initial request for proposals was submitted and the response was overwhelming in excess of 80 proposals from all over the world. She stated that was then narrowed to roughly 12, and then narrowed once again down to five. On December 17th, presentations will be made from those final five, with the final selections being made from those presentations.

2. Presentation at January 2020 Meeting

The Deputy stated that the Oklahoma Arts Council would be presenting to the Commission at the quarterly meeting in Oklahoma City at the January 31st Commission meeting.

D. Website

An electronic copy of this presentation is attached to these recorded minutes.

E. Cemetery Update

The Deputy stated that the design contractor has been selected. She stated there would be a design kick-off meeting on December 11th in Ardmore. She stated that the design packet is due by early May 2020.

iii. Change Order

A. Change Order (\$\$ 1,842,060.50) – Orcutt-Winslow – Sallisaw (Talihina Replacement) Veteran Center - OMES CAP#19273AE (+CAP FEE \$27,630.91), During the August meeting, the Commission approved a change order to Increase purchase order by \$1,780,958.71 to as a result of the building square footage increasing and requiring additional scope/services. The August Change Order was not executed and a new Change order was submitted to also incorporate additional scope/services for the sub-consultants related to the 10,000 sf metal maintenance building and the expanded Environmental Assessment requested by the VA. This new request increased by approximately \$61,110.79.

a. Action

Commissioner Secor provided the Motion to approve the change order
Commissioner Ball provided the second.

The Clerk called the vote and the vote is as follows:

Ball	Aye
Costillow	Aye
Jackson	Aye
Lasser	Absent
LeDay-Mauney	Aye
Richey	Absent
Secor	Aye
Smithson	Absent
Van Schuyver	Aye

The vote was 6 Aye, 0 Nay, with 3 Commissioners not present for the vote.

Motion passes

c. **CAMI MCKINNEY, COMPLIANCE PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT WITH POSSIBLE DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING:**

i. Status of CMS Certification of Oklahoma Veterans Center, Talihina Division

The Compliance Administrator stated that Talihina had their survey in July, their plan of correction was accepted, and in October it was reviewed. The Talihina facility was found to be in substantial compliance. She stated that they have met the state guidelines, and are currently waiting on the paperwork to finalize the process.

d. **ERIN KENNEDY, ODVA DEPUTY GENERAL COUNSEL, REPORT WITH POSSIBLE DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING:**

i. **PROPOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO TITLE 25 O.S. §307(B)(4) CONFIDENTIAL COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN A PUBLIC BODY AND ITS ATTORNEY CONCERNING A PENDING INVESTIGATION, CLAIM, OR ACTION IF THE PUBLIC BODY, WITH**

THE ADVICE OF ITS ATTORNEY, DETERMINES THAT DISCLOSURE WILL SERIOUSLY IMPAIR THE ABILITY OF THE PUBLIC BODY TO PROCESS THE CLAIM OR CONDUCT A PENDING INVESTIGATION, LITIGATION, OR PROCEEDING IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST.

**A. Possible Discussion and Action to Adjourn to Executive Session
a. Action**

Commissioner Secor provided the Motion to enter into Executive Session
Commissioner Costillow provided the second.

The Clerk called the vote and the vote is as follows:

Ball	Aye
Costillow	Aye
Jackson	Aye
Lasser	Absent
LeDay-Mauney	Aye
Richey	Absent
Secor	Aye
Smithson	Absent
Van Schuyver	Aye

The vote was 6 Aye, 0 Nay, with 3 Commissioners not present for the vote.

Motion passes

Commission entered into Executive Session at 12:24pm

**B. Update Regarding Pending Investigations
C. Action to Return to Open Meeting from Executive Session
a. Action**

Commissioner Secor provided the Motion to return to open meeting
Commissioner Costillow provided the second.

The Clerk called the vote and the vote is as follows:

Ball	Aye
Costillow	Aye
Jackson	Aye
Lasser	Absent
LeDay-Mauney	Aye
Richey	Absent
Secor	Aye
Smithson	Absent
Van Schuyver	Aye

The vote was 6 Aye, 0 Nay, with 3 Commissioners not present for the vote.

Motion passes

Commission returned to open meeting at 12:34pm

The Chairman called for a break at 12:35pm

The Chairman called the meeting back to order at 12:55pm

e. **AMY HAMMETT, CLAREMORE ADMINISTRATOR, REPORT WITH POSSIBLE DISCUSSION ON THE FOLLOWING:**

- i. Administrator Acknowledgements
- ii. Overtime
- iii. Vacancies
- iv. GALT
- v. Workers Compensation Update
- vi. Census
- vii. Average Occupancy
- viii. Total Days of Care

An electronic copy of this presentation is attached to these recorded minutes.

X. OPEN PUBLIC COMMENTS

The Oklahoma Veterans Commission shall hear public comments limited to only matters that are listed on the current meeting Agenda. Topics that are outside the scope of the present agenda will not be recognized. Individuals requesting to speak are required to sign-in onsite at the meeting prior to the commencement of the meeting. Speakers must provide the speaker's name, address, email or phone number, and the subject on which they wish to speak. Open public comments are limited to not more than five minutes per person. The Board Chairman may interrupt and/or terminate any presentation during public comment which is disruptive to the meeting or does not conform to the procedures outlined under this section. The Board Chairman reserves and retains the right to interrupt, terminate, or postpone public comments as necessary to effectuate the management of the public meeting.

There were no public comments

XI. NEW BUSINESS

Pursuant to 25 O.S. § 311, "New Business" shall mean any matter not known about or which could not have been reasonably foreseen prior to the time of posting (twenty-four hours prior to the meeting).

Commissioner Ball would like to have a list of Legislative Reports, as well as Bill numbers for tracking.

XII. CARRYOVER TOPICS DEFERRED TO FUTURE AGENDA

- a. Employee Recognition Program

XIII. SUBMISSION AND DISCUSSION OF POSSIBLE AGENDA ITEMS BY THE OKLAHOMA VETERANS COMMISSION FOR THE NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING.

The Executive Director would like to discuss communication with the Sheriff's Office re: Facility security.

XIV. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING TO INCLUDE POSSIBLE CANCELLATION OR MODIFICATION OF THE DATE, TIME, OR LOCATION.

Friday, January 31st, 2020, 10:00AM
Vezev Veterans Complex
2132 NE 36th Street
Oklahoma City, OK 73111

XV. ADJOURNMENT

- a. CHAIRMAN
i. Motion

Commissioner Secor provided the Motion to adjourn
Commissioner LeDay-Mauney provided the second.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:25pm