

MINUTES

**Quarterly Meeting of the
Missouri Veterans Commission
Held, pursuant to notice
October 28, 2019 — 9:00 AM
Jefferson State Office Building,
205 Jefferson Street
1st Floor State Board of Education Room
Jefferson City, MO**

- I. **Prior to Meeting:** The Commission recognized Veterans Service Officers Bill Gillette and James Wielert for their efforts in gaining benefits and a significant back payment for a Veteran and his family.

II. **CALL TO ORDER**

- Pledge of Allegiance
- Invocation: Representative Steve Lynch
- Roll Call

In attendance: Chairman Tim Noonan; Commissioner Jose Dominguez; Commissioner Meredith Knopp; Commissioner Tim Smith; Commissioner Steve Lynch; Commissioner Wayne Wallingford; Commissioner Robert Sauls; Ex-Officio Member Robert Hagedorn

On the phone: Vice Chairman John Buckner; Commissioner Jill Schupp

III. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- A. Commission Meeting, Open Meeting Minutes, July 29, 2019
Commissioner Sauls made a motion to approve minutes and Commissioner Dominguez seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved as written.
- B. There was no Closed Session at previous meeting.

IV. **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

The following topics were briefed:

- A. Korean War Commemoration on 11 November
- B. Lyndall Fraker: Medical Marijuana update
- C. Tim Yaeker: Veterans Feasibility Study update
- D. Key Position Update: Ryon Richmond: MVC Deputy Director

IV. **PROGRAM REPORTS**

- A. Kevin Colyott, Assistant Director, Veteran Services Program briefed:
- Veterans Health Information Exchange; electronic records
 - House Bill 547 requiring set up Veterans' Treatment Courts
 - Income generated by MVC Veterans Service Officers
- B. Randall Watson, Director, Veteran Services Program briefed:

- Veterans Innovation Task Force update
- C. Jim Nugent, Director, Cemetery Program briefed:
 - Suicide Prevention
 - Cemeteries update: Wreaths Across America; December 14, 2019
- D. Brenda Ezell, Director, Homes Operations and Brad Haggard, Assistant Director, Homes Program briefed:
 - Survey results
 - Investing in our Workforce
 - Retention and Turnover
- E. Melissa Skinner, HIPAA Compliance Officer briefed:
 - Resident cost per month
 - Private sector costs in MVC market
 - Last MVC rate increase: 2015 – Requested \$250.00/month increase
 - Chairman Noonan challenged MVC to reduce expenditures by 20%
- F. Kevin Onstott, Director, Facilities briefed:
 - Capital Improvements: In progress and future

VI. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

- Session is closed: No Update
- Commissioner Jill Schupp recently attended a Suicide Prevention seminar and wants to work with MVC Suicide Prevention Manager

VII. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Dr. Trish Hall, Harry S Truman VA Hospital Director briefed:
 - HST VAMC is Number 1 place to work 3 years in a row
 - Courtesy Shuttle to and from new parking garage
 - No Smoking anywhere on HST VAMC grounds
- B. VFW briefed on upcoming Suicide Prevention event to be held at VFW Headquarters in Jefferson City

VIII. NEXT MEETING

- Chairman Noonan announced that the next meeting will be held on Monday, January 27, 2020 at 9:00 AM at the Jefferson State Office Building, 205 Jefferson Street, 1st Floor, State Board of Education Room, Jefferson City, Missouri.

IX. VOTE TO GO INTO CLOSED SESSION

- The Commission voted to adjourn to closed session to discuss matters relating to legal actions, causes of action or litigation pursuant to Section 610.021 (1); pursuant to Section 610.021 (3); pursuant to Section 610.021 (9); and pursuant to Section 610.021 (14) RSMo.
- The meeting was reopened.
- With no further business before the Commission, meeting was adjourned.



 Grace Link, Secretary