

Minutes of Veterans Affairs Commission  
December 18, 2024

The meeting called to order at 4:30 p.m. in the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor meeting room.  
Members present were:

Robin Housley  
Mike Male - absent  
Michael Stigers - absent  
Shelly Howsare  
Bruce Jeffries

Minutes of the November 20, 2024 meeting were read. Commissioner Housley made the motion to accept, Commissioner Howsare seconded. Approved by all present.

December reports were reviewed. Reports were approved.

Old business: none to discuss

New business: The Oath of Service was given to Commissioner Jeffries.

Until Commissioner Male arrives we will skip ahead to News Releases. The Administrator shared the monthly numbers from the regional office. The report was explained for Commissioner Jeffries.

During October's meeting, Commissioner Male asked for a sheet with information on it regarding a plan of action in the absence of the VSO. The Administrator shared that with the Commission members and as to why it is important that no one other than a fellow VSO get into the files due to HIPAA.

The Administrator asked Commissioner Jeffries if he had any questions regarding the minutes or reports. He did ask some questions for clarification on the minutes so he understood them.

Commissioner Male arrived at 5 p.m.

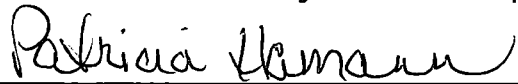
FY 25-26 budget presentation commenced. The Administrator prepared to separate budgets to the Commission. One with out the \$10,000 allocation and one with. Due to the current year's stipulation on using the funds and some possible other caveats being put on the next year's allocation, the Administrator opined that it might be better to plan on not having the \$10,000.

The Administrator asked if the state updates could be given side by side as to the reasoning of the budgets proposals. The Commission agreed. The Administrator stated that newly proposed legislation from the IDVA, presents as

if the IDVA is reaching further into the counties to control what the office does. They want to change the accreditation process in the code and be in charge of the how, who and where we get our education. It has also been mentioned that they will leverage the allocation to those requests. If we use the \$10,000 we will be forced to comply with their demands. Discussion was held.

The Administrator continued to explain the budget numbers, there isn't much of a change with or without the \$10,000 state allocation. Discussion was held. Commissioner Male made the motion to present both budgets to the Board of Supervisors with reasoning why the Commission would prefer the budget without the \$10,000 allocation. Commissioner Housley seconded, vote was unanimous from those in attendance.

Next Commissioner meeting will be held on January 15th, 2025 at 4:30 p.m. Motion made by Commissioner Jeffries, seconded by Commissioner Housley. Motion carried to adjourn at 5:55 p.m.



Patricia Hamann  
Patricia Hamann, Administrator