

Minutes of Veterans Affairs Commission
March 13, 2024

The meeting called to order at 4:30 p.m. in the Board of Supervisors meeting room. Members present were:

Robin Housley
Mike Male
Shelly Howsare
Bill VanWaes arrived at 4:35
Absent Chair Bell, active duty training

Minutes of the February 21, 2024 meeting were read. Commissioner Housley made the motion to accept, Commissioner Howsare. Approved by all present.

March reports were reviewed. Reports were approved.

Old business: The Administrator updated the Commission on legislative bills and the process deadlines. The Veterans Affairs bills will make it through the 2nd funnel.

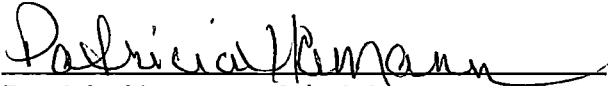
Allocation expenditures were discussed. The Administrator will be using the allocation for expenses that are eligible in order to keep the budget numbers down as much as possible. That will make the number easier to meet for maintenance of effort next year.

New business: The Administrator handed out a public release that was printed in the newspapers and will be in our newsletter. It announced the opening of healthcare to those exposed to toxins. The Veteran doesn't have to be deployed anymore, just show they were exposed to toxins. This basically just opened up the VA to the Veterans previously not eligible due to income. If they had a MOS that had exposure to jet fuel, brake dust, diesel fuel and the list goes on they meet the criteria.

The Administrator then shared a map of the designated areas for agent orange and burn pits. This is helpful when referring Veterans to get assistance.

Spring School was discussed, the dates are April 15-18th.

Next Commissioner meeting will be held on April 24th, 2024 at 4:30 p.m. so that Commissioner Bell can attend. Motion made by Commissioner Howsley, seconded by Commissioner VanWaes. Motion carried to adjourn at 4:55 p.m.


Patricia Hamann, Administrator