

Colorado Board of Veterans Affairs

April 7, 2023

Melissa Memorial Hospital

Holyoke, CO

CD 4

Opening

Ms. Hammon called the meeting to order at 0905. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and a moment of silence was held for POWs, MIAs, those deployed, their families, and all those killed in the line of duty.

Members Present

Pat Hammon, Chair

Sheila Scanlon, Vice-Chair

Lacey Golonka, Member

Longinos Gonzalez, Member

Sean Maday, Member

Jasmine Motupalli, Member

Raymond Taylor, Member

Staff Present

Michael Bruno, DMVA Deputy Executive Director

Deborah Salerno, DMVA Strategic Planner

David Callahan, CDVA Director

Angela Ingalls, VMC Director

Lisa Stamm, CDVA Grants Administrator

Dominic Edginton, State Veterans Service Officer-Northwest

Glen Marciniak, State Veterans Service Officer-Northeast

Carissa Snyder, CDVA Program Assistant

Beth Maxwell, CDVA Administrative Assistant

Guests Present

Rick Brown, Dolores County Veterans Service Officer

Rose Campbell, Colorado Office of Adult, Aging and Disability Services Communications Director

Mary Cornum, Veterans Coalition of the San Luis Valley

James Kliesen, Cheyenne County Veterans Service Officer

Duffy Laudick, Larimer County Veterans Service Officer

Adrian Medina, Pueblo County Veterans Service Officer

Richard Nagley, Veterans Coalition of the San Luis Valley

Diane Ricci, Jefferson County Veterans Service Officer

Sheldon Smith, Montrose/Ouray Counties Veterans Service Officer

Adam Sutton, Boulder County Veterans Service Officer

Eric Winterrowd, Arapahoe County Veterans Service Officer

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Taylor provided his corrections in advance of the meeting and they were included in the second draft distributed to the Board members. Mr. Maday corrected typographical errors on pages 2, 3, 4, and 5 and Ms. Scanlon clarified language under Board Member Remarks on page 4. Ms. Scanlon moved that the minutes be approved as corrected. Ms. Motupalli seconded.

Public Comments:

None

Veterans Community Living Centers

Ms. Campbell said

State VSO Reports

Southwest VSO: Mr. Moncibais reported on behalf of Ms. Cunningham. He said that February outreach included a Ute Veteran Benefit Event, a continuation of the monthly veteran collaborative, the Vets4Vets monthly breakfast meeting in Archuleta County, and the Woman Veteran monthly meeting in Montezuma County. Upcoming in March is the Colorado Commission of Indian Affairs quarterly meeting on March 16 and VSO Spring Training the

following week. Opportunities include her recent appointment as DMVA Tribal Liaison, tracking of VSO training in the state Learning Management System, and possibly meeting the director of the Albuquerque VAMC. Mr. Callahan will assist with this communication. Accomplishments include identifying a Congressional funding opportunity for the Southern Ute Tribe Veteran Center and a prospective survey to send to the veteran community. Continuing issues are the lack of Veteran Directed Care in the region, no DEERS office, limited shelters, transportation for homeless veterans, and a need for a town hall with the Albuquerque VAMC.

Northwest VSO: Mr. Moncibais reported on behalf of Mr. Edginton. He said that March outreach

Northeast VSO: Mr. Marciniak said that March outreach

Southeast VSO: Mr. Moncibais said that March outreach

Central VSO: Mr. Stem said February outreach included visits to Arapahoe, Adams, Broomfield, and El Paso Counties. Opportunities include identifying accredited VSOs and increasing partnerships with VBA Public Contact and the metro area VA clinics. A key accomplishment has been successful PACT Act claims. Issues are caseloads among metro VSOs and a need for more VSOs in the Denver area.

Old Business:

None

New Business

Ms. Hammon said that the VTF Grant application review training would be held after the conclusion of other business.

The Board recessed at 10:40 a.m. and resumed at 10:50 a.m.

Standing Reports

DMVA/DVA/Legislative: Mr. Callahan said

CCVSOA/NACVSO: Mr. Bosworth said

WROS: Both Ms. Iglesias and Mr. Coulter were unavailable and Ms. Hammon referred the Board to the Division's written report.

VMC: Mr. Callahan reported on behalf of Ms. Ingalls. He said that the only addition to the VMC's written report is the information about the additional funding for the honor guard stipend program.

Board Member Remarks

Mr. Taylor said

Ms. Scanlon said

Ms. Golonka said

Mr. Maday said

Mr. Gonzalez said

Ms. Hammon said

Veterans Issues

Ms. Hammon said issues captured at the meeting were shelter needs, particularly in southwestern Colorado, transportation problems statewide, communication difficulties with the Albuquerque VAMC, access to Community Care, access to housing, and access to mental health providers. There are VSO vacancies and a need for more VSOs in Colorado.

Upcoming Meetings

The next meeting is scheduled for April 5 in Holyoke. There will be a working group for the strategic plan. The May meeting will be VTF grant decisions. The September meeting will be prefaced by Board training in Grand Junction on September 08 and followed by the stated meeting in Moffat County on the following day, with a possible later start time.

May 5 – Bill Daniels Center (Denver County)	CD 1
June 2 – Lincoln County	CD 4
July – TBD	
August 4 – Otero County?	CD 3
September 9 – Moffat County	CD 3
October 6 – Eagle County	CD 1
November 3 – Denver County (tentative: Sobriety House)	CD 1
December 1 – Arapahoe County?	CD 4

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at

Work Session: Strategic Plan

Mr. Bruno