



CALIFORNIA VETERANS BOARD

Meeting Minutes #730

February 17, 2011



Tom Moran, Chair
Thomas Richards, Vice Chair
Vernon Chong, Board Member

Donna L. Dacier, Board Member
Derek McGinnis, Board Member

The California Veterans Board met by video conference between the West Los Angeles Veterans Home and the California Department of Veterans Affairs in Sacramento at 9:00 AM.

ROLL CALL

Present: Tom Moran, Chair, Thomas Richards, Vice Chair, Vernon Chong, Member, Donna Dacier, Member, Derek McGinnis, Member
Chairman Moran presided.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

WELCOMING REMARKS/INTRODUCTIONS

Chairman Moran welcomed the group in attendance and thanked them for attending the meeting. The Chair then asked the Board Members to introduce themselves and give a little of their background. He then introduced the Acting Secretary of the California Department of Veterans Affairs, Rocky Chavez.

Secretary Chavez welcomed the group and introduced the Department staff, Acting Undersecretary Jack Kirwan, Deputy Secretary Veterans Homes Stan Oppgaard, Deputy Secretary Women Veterans Barbara Ward, Deputy Secretary Farm and Home Jim Lowrey, Deputy Secretary Legal Affairs Rob Wilson.

MINUTES

Executive Officer, Bonnie Kelly

RECOMMENDATION

Approve the minutes of the December 2, 2010 Board minutes.

Member Chong moved to approve the minutes. Member Richards seconded.

Motion unanimously approved and carried.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Policy C-10 Revision

The Policy and Procedures Committee introduced a revision to the Admission of Veterans and Veterans' Spouses policy to address the new homes that do not have independent living facilities.

Member Chong made a motion to table the policy until our April Board Meeting. Member McGinnis moved to second the motion. Motion unanimously approved and carried.

DEPARTMENT FORUM

- A. Operation Welcome Home and CVSO Funding**
Acting Secretary Chavez updated the Board on the latest status of the funding for the OWH Program, Regional Collaboratives, and CVSO Funding.
- B. Homes Update**
Stan Opegard reported on the census status of the Homes, the efforts to recruit new residents, and the progress of the new homes.
- C. Farm and Homes Report**
Jim Lowrey presented an overview on: discontinuing the variable rate component of the contract of sale, the Legacy Disability Insurance Program, district office reductions, interest rate change, a multi-family program concept on adjacent land at the Homes, and the kick-off of the KeepYour Home California Program.
- D. Status on Juan Nelmidia Appeal – Rob Wilson**
Mr. Wilson advised that Mr. Nelmidia's attorney has been in contact with the Department to negotiate a settlement. At this time, the settlement that was presented was not acceptable, and the appeal is going forward to the Administrative Law Judge.
- E. Significant Matters**
There were no legal issues to report for this meeting.
- F. Women Veterans**
Barbara Ward updated the Board on the planning progress of this year's Women's Conference to be held in San Diego.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Receive/Refer Appeal – Timothy Taylor**
The Board voted unanimously to receive Mr. Taylor's appeal and refer the matter to the Department for hearing.

COMMENTS BY BOARD MEMBERS

ADJOURNMENT

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 11:45 AM.