



## **CALIFORNIA VETERANS BOARD**

**Meeting Minutes #732**

**June 16, 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 Barstow Veterans Home, Chula Vista 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/INVOCATION**

### **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 new Secretary of the California Department of Veterans Affairs, Peter Gravett.

Deputy Secretary Administration Jack Kirwan introduced the Department staff, our new Deputy Secretary for Veterans Homes Robin Umberg, Deputy Secretary Legal Affairs Rob Wilson, Assistant Deputy Secretary Lynn Scott, Assistant Secretary Financial Services Joy Hempstead, Hospital Administrator Neal Asper, and Hospital Administrator Brenda Manke.

### **MINUTES**

Executive Officer, Bonnie Kelly

### **RECOMMENDATION**

Approve the minutes of the April 14, 2011 Board minutes.  
Member Chong moved to approve the minutes. Member Richards seconded.  
Motion unanimously approved and carried.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

### **OLD BUSINESS**

## **DEPARTMENT FORUM**

### **A. Budget**

Joy Hempstead updated the Board on the May revise budget hearing to discuss the adult day health care delay in Ventura and Lancaster, and also the skilled nursing at West Los Angeles delayed opening from September 2011 to February 2012. The total saved from these delays is \$21,000,000.

### **B. Homes Update**

Robin Umberg reported that she is in a thirty day assessment phase. The issues she will be looking at are good use for available bed space as it relates to homeless veterans, and addressing strong fiscal stewardship.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **A. Discussion of Board responsibilities of policy making issues relative to the Military and Veterans Codes.**

Member Dacier felt the Board should become more active in listening to the Veterans and the advocacy role in the development of policy at the Department level. Member Richards would like notice of the Board meetings to go out in advance of the agenda to encourage more Veterans organizations to attend the meetings. Dr. Chong felt the Home Administrators should be encouraged to attend and contribute to the meetings.

### **B. Schedule of Board Meetings for the Remainder of 2011**

Due to the Executive Order restricting non-essential travel, the Board will hold the remainder of the year's meetings by video conference.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Communications:** Member Dacier requested approval to follow-up with members of the Allied Council's Communication Committee to consult and advise them on the Two Year Strategic Plan for KVET, and a web portal between Homes. The intent is to leverage the use of the Broadcast resource for the good of all of the Homes. Member Dacier will develop a risk assessment, and draft a policy outlining the guidelines for the operation of the portal.

**MEETING ADJOURNED AT 10:45 AM.**