

I. Call to Order; Roll Call 1:40pm by Chair Frank Lucier

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Approval of Agenda: May 27, 2020. Commissioner Joel Levitt motioned to approve agenda. Unanimous approval.

IV. Approval of Minutes: March 11, 2020 and February 26, 2020 Meeting Minutes will be approved at next meeting.

V. Public Comment: No public comments were made.

VI. Veterans Service Officer Report

- A. *Introduction of the new Commissioner Joseph Harbison III appointed March 24, 2020 to a four (4) year term*
Commission members all welcomed Joseph Harbison III. Chair Frank Lucier said with the addition of Harbison, the commission was now full.
- B. *Reappointment of Commissioners Levitt, Riordan and Shupe to new four (4) year terms*
Commissioners Levitt, Riordan and Shupe were all reappointed
- C. *VSO monthly report*
Napa County Veterans Services Officer Dell Pratt's update focused on the Veterans Office continuing to connect vets to their benefits, despite the COVID 19 pandemic. He said for a frame of reference during the period of January to April 2019, the office submitted 281 claims for benefits. During the period of January to April 2020, the office submitted 300 claims. Additionally, retro payments jumped from about \$380,000 to \$707, 000 during the timeframe. He shared that the office is servicing veterans and their families as best as they can by using phone appointments, email and referral services. He said he hopes to be in the office more beginning the week of June 1. He added that in-person appointments and home visits are still "a ways off from resuming."
CVSO D. Pratt also announced Travis McLain, a former Air Force master sergeant was hired as Veterans Service Representative and is "a great addition to the team."

VII. Old Business

- A. *Update, discussion & possible action on San Francisco VA Mental Health for Napa County Veterans*
LCSW Glynis Banks is currently working from home. She is providing mental health counseling via Zoom. She has been doing sessions over the phone and video chat. She has been connecting veterans to other VA systems in Vallejo and at Travis. Some veterans have been going to community-based therapists and paying out of pocket. Many veterans want face-to-face meetings. Once the shelter-in-place is over, veterans will go back to VA for mental health services while still keeping social distancing. She also stated that a project is under development to engage veterans. They would like to contact 2,000 vets who have VA enrollment but have had no contact with Mental Health or medical care in the last year.
- B. *Update discussion & possible action on the Napa County war dead list and creation of a memorial.*
The library has a list of Napa County war dead. To add a name to the list, one must contact the library. It is hoped to have a memorial up by next year. It was suggested that the list get published so that it can be vetted so people know if a name needs to be added.
- C. *Update, discussion & possible action on the Napa County Federal & State Legislative Platforms adopted 1/7/2020*
The Commission would like to meet with Supervisors Diane Dillion and Brad Wagenknecht. The Commission would like to see some type of medical person in Napa County work with veterans and have the ability to prescribe medications. Commission would also like to see transportation for veterans to get to facilities.

VIII. New Business

- A. *Presentation, discussion and possible action on the election of Commission officers (Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary) as pursuant to Commission Bylaws*
Frank Lucier was asked to continue to be chair of the commission. Vice chair Bernie Narvaez was re-elected to his position as was Secretary Rose Sheehan

- B. *Presentation, discussion and possible action on reviewing and updating the Veterans Resource List previously developed by the Napa County Veterans Coalition.*
The commission said the Veterans Resource List is not a valid list and has not been updated in 8-10 years. They will put together an ad hoc group to put together an updated list. Chair Frank Lucier will be a part of this group as will Commissioners Tom Sabo and Mark Riordan.

- C. *Commission house keeping issues, Committee meetings and reports.*
There is a plan to again put banners in Veterans Park denoting those who are active duty Napa County residents serving overseas. The banners would go up a week before Veterans Day. The planning for the banners will be discussed at the next commission meeting.

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IX. Standing Committee Reports

- A. *Presentation, discussion and possible action on the Jobs & Benefits Committee report*
No report made.

- B. *Presentation, discussion and possible action on the Physical & Mental Health Committee report*
No report made.

- C. *Presentation, discussion and possible action on the Transportation Committee report*
No report made.

X. Ad Hoc Committee Reports

- A. *Presentation, discussion and possible action on Veterans discount program and letter to businesses*
CVSO Senior Office Assistant, Anais Germán-Castañeda sent a picture to the Commission regarding the decals for the Veterans Discount Program. The letter from the Commission to various Chambers of Commerce in the County and other agencies was supposed to go out a few months ago. The final letter has been drafted and will be mailed next week. The Napa County Chamber of Commerce supported this a few years ago.

XI. Commissioner Reports

Joel Levitt asked to be assigned to a committee. He was put on the Physical & Mental Health Standing Committee.

XII. Future Agenda Items – County Public Information Officer, State Senator Bill Dodd, State Assemblywoman Cecilia Aguiar-Curry, Veterans Organizations, other Commissions.

XIII. Adjournment (by Motion)

Meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Next Meeting: June 24, 2020 at 1:30 p.m. Location to be determined in Supervisor District #2