



**County of El Dorado
T.O.T. Committee
Meeting Minutes**

Veteran Affairs Commission

Todd Smith, District I – Alternate Robert Fischer
Roger Reynolds, District II – Alternate Donna Mullens-Becker
Peter Wolfe, District III – Alternate Seth Culver
Ken Welch, District IV – Alternate Tim Thompson
Gary Norton, District V – N/A
Jon Brown, VSO, Secretary Ex-Officio
Courtney Frame, Recording Clerk of Veteran Affairs Commission

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**Thursday July 11, 2024 @ 1130 hours
330 Fair Lane, BOS Chamber
Placerville, CA 95667**

Veteran Affairs TOT Committee Agendas and Minutes are available online:

[https://www.edcgov.us/Government/Veterans/Pages/transient_occupancy_tax_\(tot\)_committee.aspx](https://www.edcgov.us/Government/Veterans/Pages/transient_occupancy_tax_(tot)_committee.aspx)

I. CALL TO ORDER – 11:31 AM

Roll Call Committee Members:

Roger Reynolds - Present

Donna Mullens-Becker – Present Gary Norton - Present

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA and APPROVAL OF MINUTES – May 9, 2024, meeting motion made by Donna to approve agenda and minutes from the May 9th meeting; seconded by Gary. Motion passes 3-0.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

A. Review 2024 VA TOT Grant Applications for recommendation to the El Dorado County Veteran Affairs Commission for approval.

The VA TOT committee went over the different Mini Grant Applications so Roger could email Kathy Haven the committee's reasoning for voting yes or no on different applications.

Calvary Chapel Food Ministry's application was declined because the funds being requested were to buy large refrigerators, but the fridges were not going to be used primarily for veterans.

The Center for Post Traumatic Growth's application was declined because their organization was unable to identify how many veterans were being helped with PTSD who were from El Dorado County.

El Dorado Post 119 of the American Legion was approved for the full amount because the grant was well written, and funds were being used to support veterans in need who live in the El Dorado County community.

The Gilmore Hero Foundation's application was approved for the full amount because they were very specific about how the funds were going to be spent.

The Shingle Springs Community Center's application was declined because funds were being used to remodel the facility and not being used specifically for veterans.

The Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 10165's application was approved for \$2500. The \$2500 will be used as emergency funds for helping veterans.

The Veterans of Foreign Wars Sierra Nevada Post 2680's application was approved for the full amount because they will use the funds from the grant to purchase food, bus passes, gas cards, and other items to help veterans in the El Dorado County Community.

Next, Gary asked if an organization that applied for the grant was denied. Roger let Gary know that the organization would be sent a letter letting them know why they were declined.

B. Review recommendation to fund a permanent .50 FTE Office Assistant (OA) for the El Dorado County Veteran Services Office. Last year, the TOT recommended allocating \$21,000 for an extra-help General Trainee to provide staff support to the Veteran Services office. The current proposal is to no longer fund the General Trainee, but to instead fund a .50 FTE (half time) OA at a cost of \$37,197. The difference between the two positions is \$16,197. ($\$21,000 + \$16,197 = \$37,197$). In reviewing the two positions, it was determined by Veteran Services staff that the OA would more comprehensively provide services than the General Trainee.

Donna wanted to clarify that funds for the 0.50 FTE Office Assistant would be used from the 2024/2025 VA TOT Annual funds, not from the Mini Grants that were just approved. Funds have increased for the position from \$21K to \$37K. Once the position is in place, the VA TOT hopes they will be able to find more funds for the position and increase the position to a 0.75 FTE Office Assistant. Next, the VA TOT Committee discussed the different annual grants they fund. Because they did not use all the funds for the first round of Mini Grants, they would like to conduct another round of Mini Grants after the Annual Grants are in place. The county should be cutting checks for the Mini Grants within the next couple of weeks. The VA TOT Committee wants to bring the 2024/2025 Annual Grants to the August Veteran Affairs Commission Meeting for approval.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comment is limited to three minutes per person.

No Public Comment

VII. ADJOURNMENT - 11:53 AM