

# APPROVED BOD MEETING MINUTES



## Vietnam Veterans of America

8719 Colesville Road, Suite 100, Silver Spring, MD 20910 • Telephone (301) 585-4000

Main Fax (301) 585-0519 • Advocacy (301) 585-3180 • Communications (301) 585-2691 • Finance (301) 585-5542

[www.vva.org](http://www.vva.org)

*A Not-For-Profit Veterans Service Organization Chartered by the United States Congress*

### **Vietnam Veterans of America National Board of Directors Meeting October 7, 2011**

President John Rowan called to order the meeting of Vietnam Veterans of America National Board of Directors on Friday October 7, 2011, at 9:03 pm, at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Silver Spring, MD. National Treasurer Wayne Reynolds, recognized those who were ill and in need of prayer; and he remembered our military personnel. National Treasurer Reynolds delivered the opening prayer which was followed by a moment of silence and the Pledge of Allegiance.

The National Secretary conducted the roll call of the National Board of Directors. Present were:

John Rowan, President	Joe Jennings	Dick Southern
Fred Elliott, Vice President	Allen Manuel	Dan Stenvold
Bill Meeks, Secretary	John Margowski	Nancy Switzer *
Wayne Reynolds, Treasurer	Sara McVicker	Pastor Toro
Bob Barry	John Miner	Sandie Wilson
Pat Bessigano	Charlie Montgomery	Herb Worthington
Richard DeLong	Tom Owen	Jerry Yamamoto
Marsha Four	Felix Peterson	
Ken Holybee	Jackie Rector	

*\* AVVA President is a non-voting member of the National Board of Directors*

Excused: Fr. Phil Salois, Judy McCombs, and Dr. Tom Hall.

Also present: Joseph A. Sternburg, CFO/Staff Director, and Mike Swift, Parliamentarian.

Secretary Meeks conducted roll call of the State Council Presidents. Present were:

Alabama	Present	Montana	Present
Alaska	Present	Nebraska	Present
Arizona	Present	Nevada	Present
Arkansas	Absent	New Hampshire	Absent
California	Present	New Jersey	Present
Colorado	Absent	New Mexico	Absent
Connecticut	Present	New York	Present
Delaware	Absent	North Carolina	Present
Florida	Present	North Dakota	Present

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Georgia	Present	Ohio	Present
Idaho	Present	Oklahoma	Absent
Illinois	Absent	Oregon	Present
Indiana	Present	Pennsylvania	Present
Iowa	Present	Puerto Rico	Absent
Kansas	Present	Rhode Island	Present
Kentucky	Present	South Carolina	Present
Louisiana	Present	South Dakota	Present
Maine	Present	Tennessee	Present
Maryland	Present	Texas	Absent
Massachusetts	Present	Vermont	Present
Michigan	Present	Virginia	Present
Minnesota	Present	Washington	Present
Mississippi	Present	West Virginia	Present
Missouri	Present	Wisconsin	Present

### Preapproved Business

#### Affidavit of John Rowan, National President, Vietnam Veterans of America, Inc.

John Rowan, being duly sworn, deposes and says:

1. I am the National President of Vietnam Veterans of America, Inc. (VVA). The purpose of this affidavit is to comply with the requirements of Article I, Section 4.G. of the VVA Constitution which authorizes VVA's President to submit a question to the VVA Board of Directors for a vote in between Board meetings when he determines that the matter requires the Board's immediate attention.

2. On September 6, 2011, the following motions relative to the committee chairs and committee appointments were submitted to the Board by e-mail for a vote by e-mail or fax with instructions that votes are returned to LaVonja Cogdell by close of business September 8, 2011:

**Motion 1:** To approve Alan Oates as Chair of the Agent Orange/Dioxin Committee. Motion made by J. Rowan; seconded by B. Meeks; passed.

**Motion 2:** To approve Ric Davidge as Chair of the Government Affairs Committee. Motion made by J. Rowan; seconded by B. Meeks; passed.

**Motion 3:** To approve Sandy Miller as Chair of the Homeless Veterans Committee. Motion made by J. Rowan; seconded by B. Meeks; passed.

**Motion 4:** To approve Jerry Yamamoto as Chair of the Minority Affairs Committee. Motion made by J. Rowan; seconded by B. Meeks; passed.

**Motion 5:** To approve Gary Jones as Chair of the POW/MIA Committee.

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Motion made by J. Rowan; seconded by B. Meeks; passed.

**Motion 6:** To approve Tom Hall as Chair of the Post Traumatic Stress Disorder/Substance Abuse Committee.

Motion made by J. Rowan; seconded by B. Meeks; passed.

**Motion 7:** To approve Keith King as Chair of the Public Affairs Committee.

Motion made by J. Rowan; seconded by B. Meeks; failed.

**Motion 8:** To approve as Pat Bessigano as Chair of the Veterans Health Care Committee.

Motion made by J. Rowan; seconded by B. Meeks; passed.

**Motion 9:** To approve Terry Hubert as Chair of the Veterans Incarcerated Committee.

Motion made by J. Rowan; seconded by B. Meeks; passed.

**Motion 10:** To approve Marsha Four as Chair of the Women Veterans Committee.

Motion made by J. Rowan; seconded by B. Meeks; passed.

**Motion 11:** To approve Jim Blount as Chair of the Credentials Committee.

Motion made by J. Rowan; seconded by B. Meeks; passed.

**Motion 12:** To approve Scott DeArman as Chair of the Elections Committee.

Motion made by J. Rowan; seconded by B. Meeks; passed.

**Motion 13:** To approve Dan Stenvold as Chair of the Rules Committee.

Motion made by J. Rowan; seconded by B. Meeks; passed.

**Motion 14:** To approve Al Huber as Chair of the National Disciplinary Committee.

Motion made by J. Rowan; seconded by B. Meeks; passed.

**Motion 15:** To approve Craig Tonjes as Chair of the Disaster Relief Task Force.

Motion made by J. Rowan; seconded by B. Meeks; passed.

**Motion 16:** To approve Judy McCombs as the National VAVS Representative.

Motion made by J. Rowan; seconded by B. Meeks; passed.

**Motion 17:** To approve Fr. Philip Salois as the National Chaplain.

Motion made by J. Rowan; seconded by B. Meeks; passed.

**Motion 18:** To approve Tom Berger as Executive Director, Veterans Health Council.

Motion made by J. Rowan; seconded by B. Meeks; passed.

**Motion 19:** To approve Fred Elliott as AVVA Special Advisor.

Motion made by J. Rowan; seconded by B. Meeks; passed.

**Motion 20:** To approve Barry Hagge as Chair of the Constitution Committee.

Motion made by J. Rowan; seconded by B. Meeks; failed.

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**Motion 21:** To approve Charlie Hobbs as Chair of the Membership Affairs Committee.

Motion made by J. Rowan; seconded by B. Meeks; passed.

**Motion 22:** To approve John Margowski as Chair of the Veterans Benefits Committee.

Motion made by J. Rowan; seconded by B. Meeks; passed.

**Motion 23:** To approve Ned Foote as Chair of the Finance Committee.

Motion made by J. Rowan; seconded by B. Meeks; passed.

**Motion 24:** To approve David Simmons as Chair of the Veterans Against Drugs Task Force.

Motion made by J. Rowan; seconded by B. Meeks; passed.

3. On September 8, 2011, the National Secretary notified me that the vote of each Board member who voted on the motions was as follows:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
John Rowan

### **National President/J. Rowan**

President Rowan submitted a written report and here were a few highlights from that report:

- September 13-15 Headquarters – resettled operations and had a meeting with all of the Officers.
- September 15 – Attended the launch of the Veterans Aid Foundation at the Plaza Hotel in Manhattan.
- September 17 – Attended the Chapter 32 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner.
- September 21 – Had lunch with Michael Piro (West Point Class of 2001; two tour Iraq veteran) to discuss developing an RFP for the “Service Rep Locator” web site.
- September 22 – Spoke before a meeting of Temple Post 19 of the Masonic War Veterans of the Grand Lodge of New York about the Veterans Health Council and the health issues related to military service.

### **National Vice President/F. Elliott**

Vice President Elliott provided a written report and here were a few highlights from that report:

- Reviewed VVA Personnel Policy Manual.
- Attended the Rochester Veterans Outreach Center’s “Coming Home From War” discussion series season opener.
- Attended the American Gold Star Mothers dinner on September 24<sup>th</sup> in Virginia.
- Attended the American Gold Star Mothers ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery on September 25<sup>th</sup>.

### **National Treasurer/W. Reynolds**

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Treasurer Reynolds provided a written report and here were a few highlights from that report:

- Reviewing all VVA MOUs and contracts since President Rowan designated me as the Compliance Officer pending BOD approval.
- Attended the American Gold Star Mothers dinner on September 24<sup>th</sup> in Virginia.
- Met with Fox and Associates on September 29<sup>th</sup> in Chicago, IL to discuss financials and The VVA Veteran.

### **National Secretary/B. Meeks**

Secretary Meeks provided a written report on his activities since the September trip to the National office and here were a few highlights from that report:

- Provided revisions to the existing E-Rules of Order Policy.
- Traveled to El Paso, Texas on September 16-18, 2011 for President Rowan to present the VVA Achievement Medal to LTC Bob Chisolm (USA, retired) of VVA Chapter 844 who served in WWII, Korea and Vietnam during his military career.
- The soon to be former Secretary's Site will be closed by mid-October, numerous BOD polices, the approved BOD minutes, membership policies and other documents will be transferred to the VVA web site for your viewing pleasure.
- Provided VVA business updates on a continual basis to the National BOD, VVA Committee Chairs and VVA State Council Presidents.

Secretary Meeks returned the proper sequence to the agenda by inserting "Preliminary Business" which should have occurred before the Officers began their reports.

### **Preliminary Business**

Secretary Meeks submitted the motion to accept the agenda and it was amended by adding two items: 1) To add item under Saturday's Unfinished Business add "Motion to Rescind the Chair of the Public Affairs Committee" after Computer Systems Update; and 2) under Saturday's New Business add "Motion to Appoint the VVA Leadership Conference Committee."

#### **Motion 25**

**To accept the BOD meeting agenda as amended.**

**Without objection motion passed.**

**Yes: 23**

**No: 0**

**Non Vote: 1**

**Not Present: 0**

Secretary Meeks submitted the following motion:

#### **Motion 26**

**To accept the BOD meeting minutes from August 16, 2011 in Reno, NV as amended.**

**Without objection motion passed.**

**Yes: 23**

**No: 0**

**Non Vote: 1**

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**Not Present: 0**

Secretary Meeks submitted the following motion:

**Motion 27**

**To accept the Bod meeting minutes of August 20, 2011 in Reno, NV.**

**Without objection motion passed.**

**Yes: 23**

**No: 0**

**Non Vote: 1**

**Not Present: 0**

Secretary Meeks submitted the following motion to approve the Consent Calendar:

**October 7, 2011 - Consent Calendar Motions**

1. To extend the term of office of the National Treasurer as the Compliance Officer for the 2011-2013 term of office.
2. To appoint Jill Mishkel, Terry Nolan, Adolph Gardner and Ben Humphries to the **VVA Election Committee**. (at no cost to VVA National)
3. To appoint Thomas Burke (Vice Chair), Allen Manuel, Sara McVicker, John Miner, and Sandie Wilson to the **VVA Finance Committee** and National Treasurer Wayne Reynolds as Special Advisor. (at no cost to VVA National)
4. To appoint Sandy Miller (Vice Chair), Sara McVicker, Beverly Stewart, Tom Berger, Tom Hall, John Wallace, Jackie Rector, Pat Bessigano, and Patricia Dumin as members of the **VVA Women Veterans Committee** and Nancy Switzer (AVVA), Billee Culin and Joan Furey as a Special Advisor. (at no cost to VVA National)
5. To appoint Steve Mackey (Vice Chair), John Weiss, Richard Lindbeck, Len Ignatowski, Charlie Montgomery, Richard DeLong, Carol Schetrompf, Tom Myerchin, Dick Southern, Carol Baker, Rex Moody, Bob Barry, and Jim Pace as members, plus Bill Meeks, Jr., Cathy Keister (AVVA), and Johnny Pancrazio as Special Advisors and Michael Najarian VVA Staff Advisor also Ernestine Horton as VVA Staff Coordinator of the **VVA Membership Affairs Committee**. (at no cost to VVA National)
6. To appoint Paul Crowell (Vice Chair), Herb Worthington, Dennis Andras, Ted Wilkinson, Richard DeLong, Patty Dumin, Ivan Freeland, Ken Diegel, Adolph Gardner, Billie Culin, Raymond Bates, John Weiss, Paul Richards, as members of the **Veterans Against Drugs Task Force** and to add Kathy Andras, Elaine Simmons, Patsy Varnell, Felicea Catopano, Nancy Nix, and Margaret Wojciechowicz and Donna Crowell as AVVA Special Advisors and to add Pat Gultieri as Special Advisor. (at no cost to VVA National)
7. To appoint Connie Steers (Vice Chair), Dave Simmons, Tommy Gipson, Felix "Pete" Peterson, Joe Jennings, Paul Crowell, Ric Davidge, Ron Speight, Tom Meinhardt, Alvin Roberts, Cecilio Besares, Virgie Hibbler, Pastor Toro, and Tom Wilson as members of the **VVA Minority Affairs Committee**, plus Joe Wynn as Special Advisor and Mary Miller AVVA Advisor. (at no cost to VVA National)

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8. To approve the VVA Credit Card Policy from Finance Committee.
9. To approve Councilor, Buchanan, and Mitchell as the VVA auditors for the FYE 2-28-12 year in accordance with VVA Constitution, Amended 08/18/2011, Article IV, General Provisions, Section 1 – Finance, paragraph D, from Finance Committee.
10. To appoint Tom Insley, Tom George, Bill Messer, Grant Coates, Craig Tonjes, Dottie Barickman, and Bruce Whitaker as members, plus Mary Miller (AVVA) and Ken Holybee as Specials Advisors of the **VVA Constitution Committee**. (at no cost to VVA National)
11. To appoint Tom Burke (Vice Chair), Allen Manuel, Richard DeLong, Connie Christiansen as members and Wayne Miller and Steven Konstenius as Special Advisors to the **VVA Veterans Incarcerated Committee**. (at no cost to VVA National)
12. To appoint Jim Pace (Vice Chair), Ned Foote, Dick Southern, Herb Worthington, Felix “Pete” Peterson, Joe Jennings, Sandie Wilson, Jerry Klein, Pat Pudetti, Peter Bessigano, Pastor Toro, and Paul Richard as members, Nancy Switzer (AVVA), Sharon Hobbs (AVVA), AJ Paige (AVVA), and Lori Paige as Special Advisors of the **VVA Veterans Benefits Committee**. (at no cost to VVA National)
13. To appoint the following individuals to the **VVA Homeless Veterans Committee**: Marsha Four (Vice Chair), Pat Bessigano, TP Hubert, Tom Hall, Tom Berger, Ric Davidge, Jerry Yamamoto as members, and John Driscoll (NCHV Consultant), Suzanne Blohm-Weber (AVVA), and Nancy Switzer (AVVA) as Special Advisors. (at no cost to VVA National)
14. To appoint Fr. Phil Salois (Vice Chair), Sandy Miller, Dan Stenvold, Jacqueline Rector, Marsha Four, Pat Bessigano, Dr. Ed Ryan, and Jerry Yamamoto as members and Dr. Tom Berger (Special Advisor) of the **VVA PTSD/Substance Abuse Committee**. (at no cost to VVA National)
15. To rescind BOD Motion # 5 of August 1987 – “That VVA National Office will inform State Councils and Local Chapters of nationally sponsored events (e.g. Clyde Beatty – Cole Brothers Circus), when events come into local areas.”
16. To rescind BOD Motion # 11 of January 1994 – “To translate our materials into formal Spanish”

### **Motion 28**

**To accept the Consent Calendar.  
Without objection motion passed.**

**Yes: 23**

**No: 0**

**Non Vote: 1**

**Not Present: 0**

### **Reports**

**Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America/ N. Switzer**

## **APPROVED BOD MEETING MINUTES**

AVVA President Switzer provided a written report and here were a few highlights from that report:

- Upcoming AVVA Leadership Conference in Irving, Texas in 2012.
- Update on AVVA Service Officer Program.
- Medals of America comments.
- Update on the Paper Safe.
- Update on Survivor Benefits Pamphlet.
- Update on Hospice Foundation of America (HFA).
- AVVA BOD passed motion to approve the Membership Directory.

### **Conference of State Council Presidents/C. Montgomery**

CSCP President Montgomery noted that the CSCP had a very productive meeting on Thursday October 6<sup>th</sup>. State Councils are working with the chapters that had their tax-exempt status revoked by the IRS and the CSCP is preparing for their off-site meeting on January 26-29, 2012 in Daytona Beach, FL.

### **National Meetings and Special Events/W. Guidry**

Wes Guidry distributed a chart with RFP's listed for hosting the 2015 VVA National Convention and provided insight on the most favorable packages. After Board Members provided comments on certain RFP's, Wes Guidry was asked to narrow the field to three (3) and his response was: 1) Springfield, IL; 2) Albuquerque, NM; and 3) Norfolk, VA. It was the consensus of the VVA Board of Directors that Wes Guidry should continue to negotiate with the three (3) selected locations and return to the VVA BOD with the best offer negotiated.

### **Veterans Health Council/Dr. T. Berger**

Dr. Berger spoke on several topics being worked on either presently or in the past by the Veterans Health Council (VHC):

- VHC presentation before Veterans Committee of National Rifle Association
- VHC partnership with joint American Psychological Association/University of Utah group re: clinical best practices for military and veteran suicide prevention
- VHC television ad campaign featuring Pat Sajak
- VHC/VVA attempt to expand "Veterans Healthcare Screening" events with NFL's Cleveland Browns and Dallas Cowboys
- VHC's prostate cancer screening video campaign

### **IT Department/C. Engle**

Carol Engle noted the iMIS data conversion was completed months ago. We have run into some issues with implementation. iMIS is more challenging than we were led to believe it would be. However, iMIS is the software VVA needs to move forward. This association management system is very different from our legacy database. The staff, me included, requires more training and ongoing training. We are in process of obtaining more training. Trying to get the departments trained and able to use iMIS along with continuing programming issues related to the Events module for VVA's Convention contributed to delays that are impacting us now.

### **Government Affairs Executive Director/R. Weidman**



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Rick Weidman introduced Colonel David W. Sutherland who is the Special Assistant to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff at the Department of Defense Warrior and Family Support Office.

### **Guest Speaker/Colonel David W. Sutherland**

Colonel Sutherland gave an inspiring speech on his combat activities and his men under his command such as Staff Sgt. Donnie Dixon of Miami, FL who was a KIA on September 29, 2007. Colonel Sutherland noted combat leaves lasting nightmares, yet our troops continue and fight to accomplish their mission. Military families must cope with the loss their love ones and now those same families need us now.

### **Meeting recesses: 11:10 am**

### **Saturday, October 8, 2011 (con't)**

The meeting of VVA National Board of Directors reconvened at 9:01 am on Saturday, October 8, 2011. Wayne Reynolds officiated the opening prayer followed by a Moment of Silence.

The National Secretary conducted the roll call of the National Board of Directors. Present were:

John Rowan, President	Joe Jennings	Dick Southern
Fred Elliott, Vice President	Allen Manuel	Dan Stenvold
Bill Meeks, Secretary	John Margowski	Nancy Switzer *
Wayne Reynolds, Treasurer	Sara McVicker	Pastor Toro
Bob Barry	John Miner	Sandie Wilson
Pat Bessigano	Charlie Montgomery	Herb Worthington
Richard DeLong	Tom Owen	Jerry Yamamoto
Marsha Four	Felix Peterson	
Ken Holybee	Jackie Rector	

*\* AVVA President is a non-voting member of the National Board of Directors*

Excused: Fr. Phil Salois, Judy McCombs, and Dr. Tom Hall.

Also present: Joseph A. Sternburg, CFO/Staff Director, and Mike Swift, Parliamentarian.

Secretary Meeks conducted roll call of the State Council Presidents. Present were:

Alabama	Present	Montana	Present
Alaska	Present	Nebraska	Present
Arizona	Present	Nevada	Present
Arkansas	Absent	New Hampshire	Absent
California	Present	New Jersey	Present
Colorado	Absent	New Mexico	Absent
Connecticut	Present	New York	Present
Delaware	Absent	North Carolina	Present
Florida	Present	North Dakota	Present
Georgia	Present	Ohio	Present

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Idaho	Present	Oklahoma	Absent
Illinois	Absent	Oregon	Present
Indiana	Present	Pennsylvania	Present
Iowa	Present	Puerto Rico	Absent
Kansas	Present	Rhode Island	Present
Kentucky	Present	South Carolina	Present
Louisiana	Present	South Dakota	Present
Maine	Present	Tennessee	Present
Maryland	Present	Texas	Absent
Massachusetts	Present	Vermont	Present
Michigan	Present	Virginia	Present
Minnesota	Present	Washington	Present
Mississippi	Present	West Virginia	Present
Missouri	Present	Wisconsin	Present

**Preliminary Business**

**Finance Committee Report**

Committee Chairman Ned Foote presented the following motions out of committee:

**Motion 29**

**To increase the Membership Department Cost Center budget by \$25,000, funding to be allocated \$17,500 to the Temporary Help expense line and \$7,500 to be allocated to the Printing expense line. Funding to accomplish the above to be taken from the President’s Salary line (\$12,000 from unused salary) and \$13,000 to be taken from Prior Year Excesses.**

**Without objection motion passed.**

**Yes: 23**

**No: 0**

**Non Vote: 1**

**Not Present: 0**

**Motion 30**

**To amend the Budget Oversight Policy by adding the following to the end of the “Purpose” paragraph to wit: In 2008, the VVA Board of Directors directed that all consultant monthly reports would be reviewed by the Finance Committee’s Budget Oversight Sub-Committee and reported out as part of the Finance Committee’s quarterly report to the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors further directed that consultants who do not submit monthly reports to the Finance Committee’s Budget Oversight Sub-Committee will have their payments suspended until the reports have been submitted.**

**Without objection motion passed.**

**Yes: 23**

**No: 0**

**Non Vote: 1**

**Not Present: 0**

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**Motion 31**

**Move to close out the Mike Nash Scholarship Program and disburse the funds allocated to this program, over the next two years.**

**Without objection motion passed.**

**Yes: 23**

**No: 0**

**Non Vote: 1**

**Not Present: 0**

**Motion 32**

**Move that all VVA State Councils and Chapters currently on the IRS Revocation List (noncompliance with 990-N filing requirements) or on future IRS Revocation List, other than those already revoked through the VVA process, be automatically placed in a Suspended status as being in noncompliance of the VVA Constitution dated August 18, 2011, Article IV, General Provisions, Section 1 – Finance to wit: “Each Chapter and State Council shall conform to all applicable Federal, state, and local laws...”**

**That all State Councils and Chapters placed in a Suspended status as per the above, will immediately receive a “certified receipt requested” letter signed by the VVA Treasurer or VVA Chief Financial Officer and sent to the State Council/Chapter address as carried in the VVA database (uncertified copy sent to State Council President and Regional Director – e-mail copy acceptable), explaining the reason for this status, and options for resolution of this revocation per IRS guidelines, (either State Council or Chapter VVA revocation or submission of an IRS 1024 requesting IRS exemption).**

**That all State Councils and Chapters placed in a Suspended status as per the above will have one hundred and twenty days (120) from the date of the above certified receipt date to submit a letter to VVA National requesting revocation of the respective State Council or Chapter or a copy of the IRS 1024 and certification that the IRS 1024 has been submitted to the IRS. Letters returned as “undeliverable” or absence of either of the aforementioned documents will mean instant VVA revocation with no appeal for the respective State Council/Chapter.**

**Without objection motion passed.**

**Yes: 23**

**No: 0**

**Non Vote: 1**

**Not Present: 0**

**Presentation**

A presentation by Region 9 Director Dick Southern of the sheet music autographed by Johnny Rivers which was given away to Chapter 887 in Angeles City in the Philippines at the VVA 15<sup>th</sup> National Convention. Chapter 887 in turn donated the music to VVA National; Director Southern had the music framed for future display somewhere within the National office.

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### Veterans Benefits Program Director's Report/J. Vale

Jim Vale spoke about participation by VVA in a Friend-of-the-Court Brief to be filed in the U.S. Court of Appeals due to the longstanding problems that disabled veterans face in the VA claims adjudication system. He noted there are 900 VVA accredited representatives nationwide.

- Staff Changes
- VSF Funding
- Service Officer Training
- VetPro Database
- VVA/AVVA MOU

### Household Goods Donation Program/T. Corey

Former VVA President Tom Corey gave a verbal report on the status of the HGDP for Quentin Butcher who was unable to attend the BOD meeting.

### Committee – MOTIONS ONLY

Agent Orange/Dioxin – A. Oates – None

Constitution – L. DeLong – None

Economic Opportunities – R. Davidge:

#### Motion 33

**To appoint James Wilfoug (Special Advisor), Ted Daywalt, Paul Ignosh (Special Advisor), Ric Davidge, Bob Hesser, Marc Goldschuitt, Bob Caswell, Dennis Andras, Dave Johnston, Calvin Gross as members and Joe Wynn (Special Advisor) to the VVA Economic Opportunities Committee. (at no cost to VVA National)**

**Without objection motion passed.**

**Yes: 23**

**No: 0**

**Non Vote: 1**

**Not Present: 0**

*\*This motion was amended on January 14, 2012, by board vote – Motion 25*

Minority Affairs – J. Yamamoto:

#### Motion 34

**To appoint Donna-Marie Crowell as a Special Advisor to the VVA Minority Affairs Committee. (at no cost to VVA National)**

**Without objection motion passed.**

**Yes: 23**

**No: 0**

**Non Vote: 1**

**Not Present: 0**

POW/MIA – G. Coates - None

Membership Affairs – C. Hobbs:

#### Motion 35

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**To appoint Pete Bessigano to the VVA Membership Affairs Committee. (at no cost to VVA National)**

**Without objection motion passed.**

**Yes: 23**

**No: 0**

**Non Vote: 1**

**Not Present: 0**

Public Affairs – G. Coates - None  
Veterans Incarcerated – T.P. Hubert:

**Motion 36**

**To appoint Virgie Hibbler and Dave Simmons as members, Penny Meinhardt (AVVA) and John Cheney as Special Advisors to the VVA Veterans Incarcerated Committee. (at no cost to VVA National)**

**Without objection motion passed.**

**Yes: 23**

**No: 0**

**Non Vote: 1**

**Not Present: 0**

Veterans Benefits – J. Margowski:

**Motion 37**

**To approve the MOU between VVA and AVVA to allow dual accreditation of each organizations' Service Officers (Representatives). (at no cost to VVA National)**

**Without objection motion passed.**

**Yes: 23**

**No: 0**

**Non Vote: 1**

**Not Present: 0**

**Motion 38**

**The VVA VBC requests VVA BOD approval for VVA to join the National Veterans Services Program (NVLSP) as a veterans' organization, at no cost, as a friend to the court brief.**

**Without objection motion passed.**

**Yes: 23**

**No: 0**

**Non Vote: 1**

**Not Present: 0**

PTSD and Substance Abuse – D. Stenvold:

**Motion 39**

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**To move Wayne Reynolds from “Advisor” to “Member.” Add Dave Johnson, Bob Barry, Paul Crowell, Tom Devlin as members, and Donna Crowell, Kathy Andras, Frances Cartier, Beverly Thomas as Special Advisors to the VVA PTSD and Substance Abuse Committee. (at no cost to VVA National)**

**Without objection motion passed.**

**Yes: 23**

**No: 0**

**Non Vote: 1**

**Not Present: 0**

Women Veterans – M. Four:

**Motion 40**

**To add Leslie DeLong and Dottie Barickman to the VVA Women Veterans Committee. (at no cost to VVA National)**

**Without objection motion passed.**

**Yes: 23**

**No: 0**

**Non Vote: 1**

**Not Present: 0**

Homeless Veterans – S. Miller:

**Motion 41**

**To add Tom Johnson, Sharon Hobbs (AVVA Special Advisor) and John Weiss (CSCP Liaison) to the VVA Homeless Veterans Committee. (at no cost to VVA National)**

**Without objection motion passed.**

**Yes: 23**

**No: 0**

**Non Vote: 1**

**Not Present: 0**

Veterans Healthcare – P. Bessigano:

**Motion 42**

**To appoint Sandie Wilson (Vice Chair), Marsha Four, Tom Berger, Sandy Miller, John Margowski, Tom Devlin, Tom Owens, Sara McVicker, Jerry Yamamoto, and Tom Johnson as members of the VVA Veterans Healthcare Committee. To appoint Nancy Switzer and Frances Cartier as AVVA Special Advisors and Rick Weidman and Bernie Edelman as VVA Staff Special Advisors to the Committee. (at no cost to VVA National)**

**Without objection motion passed.**

**Yes: 23**

**No: 0**

**Non Vote: 1**

**Not Present: 0**

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Government Affairs – R. Davidge:

**Motion 43**

**To appoint Ted Daywalt (Vice Chair), Wayne Gatewood, Jr., John Margowski, Dennis Andras, Stephen Carr, Jacqueline Rector, Frank Barry, Sandy Miller, Pat Bessigano, Tom Hall, Keith King, Terry Hubert, Jerry Yamamoto, Pat Toro, Marsha Four, and Alan Oates as members to the VVA Government Affairs Committee. Add Nancy Switzer as AVVA Special Advisor to the Committee. (at no cost to VVA National)**

**Without objection motion passed.**

**Yes: 23**

**No: 0**

**Non Vote: 1**

**Not Present: 0**

**Motion 44**

**That John Rowan and each member of the Board of Directors send a letter to their respective Senators asking that the Senate pass a law making March 29<sup>th</sup> Vietnam Veterans Day.**

**Without objection motion passed.**

**Yes: 23**

**No: 0**

**Non Vote: 1**

**Not Present: 0**

**Motion 45**

**That President Rowan on behalf of all VVA members, CSCP and Board of Directors send a letter to all U.S. Senators asking them to support the letter from Senator Casey to the Secretary of the Army to extend the award of the Combat Medic Badge to the Korean War and all following conflicts to include Vietnam.**

**Without objection motion passed.**

**Yes: 23**

**No: 0**

**Non Vote: 1**

**Not Present: 0**

Veterans Against Drugs – D. Simmons - None

**Lunch: 11:15 am**

**Saturday, October 8, 2011, (con't)**

**APPROVED BOD MEETING MINUTES**

The meeting of VVA National Board of Directors reconvened at 1:17 pm on Saturday, October 8, 2011.

**Unfinished Business**

**2012 VVA/AVVA Membership Directory**

Secretary Meeks presented the motion:

**Motion 46**

**For VVA to enter into contract with Harris Connect, LLC to publish the 2012 Edition Vietnam Veterans of America, Inc. and Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America, Inc. titled Members Today Project Agreement.  
Without objection motion passed.**

**Yes: 23**

**No: 0**

**Non Vote: 1**

**Not Present: 0**

**Computer Systems Update**

Treasurer Reynolds provided the report during Board Training on Thursday 10-6-11.

**To Remove the Chair of the VVA Public Affairs Committee**

Motion made by Region 7 Director Allen Manuel and seconded by Region 4 Director Bob Barry:

**Motion 47**

**To remove the Chair of the VVA Public Affairs Committee.  
President Rowan called for a Roll Call vote and Secretary Meeks recorded the individual vote of the BOD members, motion passed.**

**Yes: 22**

**No: 1**

**Non Vote: 1**

**Not Present: 0**

**VVA and AVVA MOU**

Motion made by Treasurer Reynolds and seconded by Vice President Elliott:

**Motion 48**

**To accept the revisions to the VVA/AVVA MOU as adopted by the AVVA Board of Directors.  
Without objection motion passed.**

**Yes: 23**

**No: 0**

**Non Vote: 1**

**Not Present: 0**

**New Business**



**APPROVED BOD MEETING MINUTES**

**E-Rules of Order**

Motion made by Secretary Meeks and after discussion the motion was amended by a friendly amendment by Vice President Elliott:

**Motion 49**

**To amend the BOD E-Rules of Order which was originally adopted October 6, 2007 and amended August 10, 2010. To amend item # 11 to read: “If an E-motion is submitted by a member as noted on the chart on page 3 and seconded on BEDS, the Secretary will call for a YES or NO vote on BEDS; Notification of such a vote will be posted on BEDS and by e-mail (bod@vva.org) to the members.”**

**Without objection motion passed.**

**Yes: 23**

**No: 0**

**Non Vote: 1**

**Not Present: 0**

**Appointment of Economic Opportunities Committee Chair**

Motion made by President Rowan:

**Motion 50**

**To appoint Francis Barry as Chair of the VVA Economic Opportunities Committee.**

**Without objection motion passed.**

**Yes: 23**

**No: 0**

**Non Vote: 1**

**Not Present: 0**

**Appointment of POW/MIA Committee Chair**

Motion made by President Rowan:

**Motion 51**

**To appoint Daniel K. Tucker as Chair of the VVA POW/MIA Committee.**

**Without objection motion passed.**

**Yes: 23**

**No: 0**

**Non Vote: 1**

**Not Present: 0**

**Chapter 931 Member Status**

Motion made by Region 7 Director Allen Manuel and seconded by Region 9 Director Dick Southern:

**Motion 52**

**APPROVED BOD MEETING MINUTES**

**To transfer VVA LMP # 289884 to at large membership status and restrict any transfer from that membership status by the member without prior BOD approval.**

**Without objection motion passed.**

**Yes: 23**

**No: 0**

**Non Vote: 1**

**Not Present: 0**

**Motion on Litigation Undertaken in VVA's Name**

Motion made by Secretary Meeks:

**Motion 53**

**To amend BOD Motion # 27 of January 1995 – “That litigation undertaken in VVA’s name, whether as a plaintiff or as an amicus must be reviewed by the (strike National Service Representative, replace with) Director of Veterans Benefits, endorsed by a majority of the (strike Veterans Advocacy Committee, replace with) Veterans Benefits Committee and approved by the National Board of Directors.”**

**Without objection motion passed.**

**Yes: 23**

**No: 0**

**Non Vote: 1**

**Not Present: 0**

**Litigation Undertaken in VVA's Name**

Motion made by Secretary Meeks and after discussion the motion was amended by a friendly amendment by Sara McVicker:

**Motion 54**

**To give Regional Directors the responsibility for chapters in jurisdictions within their respective region that have no state council and to require regional Directors to report the compliance of such Chapter(s) with VVA, federal, and jurisdictions, non-profit reporting requirements.**

**Without objection motion passed.**

**Yes: 23**

**No: 0**

**Non Vote: 1**

**Not Present: 0**

**National Jewish Chaplains Memorial**

Motion made by Treasurer Reynolds and seconded by Vice President Elliott:

**Motion 55**

**VVA endorse the establishment of The National Jewish Chaplains Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.**

**Without objection motion passed.**

**APPROVED BOD MEETING MINUTES**

**Yes: 23**  
**No: 0**  
**Non Vote: 1**  
**Not Present: 0**

**Habitat for Humanity International**

Motion made by President Rowan:

**Motion 56**

**That VVA endorses the efforts of Habitat for Humanity International to build homes in Vietnam and encourages Vietnam Veterans participation. (at no cost to VVA National)**

**Without objection motion passed.**

**Yes: 23**  
**No: 0**  
**Non Vote: 1**  
**Not Present: 0**

**Appointment of Constitution Committee Chair**

Motion made by President Rowan:

**Motion 57**

**To appoint Leslie DeLong as Chair of the VVA Constitution Committee.**

**Without objection motion passed.**

**Yes: 23**  
**No: 0**  
**Non Vote: 1**  
**Not Present: 0**

**2012 VVA Leadership Conference Committee**

Motion made by President Rowan:

**Motion 58**

**To appoint the following to the 2012 VVA Leadership Conference Committee: Fred Elliott (VP), Pete Peterson (ALDir.), Allen Manuel (RD 7), Buster Newberry (SCP TX), with Pete Peterson (Chair) and Nancy Switzer as AVVA Special Advisor.**

**Without objection motion passed.**

**Yes: 23**  
**No: 0**  
**Non Vote: 1**  
**Not Present: 0**

**Chapter Charter Revocation**

Motion made by Secretary Meeks:

**Motion 59**

## APPROVED BOD MEETING MINUTES

**To revoke the charter of Chapter 599. At the request of the VA SCP: The VA SC has done all we needed to do to keep the Chapter and the efforts failed to rejuvenate the membership.**

**Without objection motion passed.**

**Yes: 23**

**No: 0**

**Non Vote: 1**

**Not Present: 0**

### **Committee Reports Only:**

#### **Written reports (digital requested) submitted to National Secretary**

Agent Orange/Dioxin – D. Stenvold – provided a verbal report.

Constitution – L. DeLong – provided a verbal report and written report.

Economic Opportunities – R. Davidge - provided a verbal report.

Minority Affairs – J. Yamamoto – provided a verbal report.

POW/MIA – G. Coates – provided no report.

Membership Affairs – C. Hobbs – provided a verbal report and written report.

Public Affairs – G. Coates – provided no report.

Veterans Incarcerated – T.P. Hubert – provided a verbal report and written report.

Veterans Benefits – J. Margowski – provided a verbal report.

PTSD and Substance Abuse – D. Stenvold - provided no report.

Women Veterans – M. Four – provided a verbal report.

Homeless Veterans – S. Miller – provided a verbal report.

Veterans Healthcare – P. Bessigano – provided a verbal report.

Government Affairs – R. Davidge – provided a verbal report.

Veterans Against Drugs – D. Simmons - provided a verbal report.

The meeting adjourned at 1:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Bill Meeks, Jr.

National Secretary

Approved: January 13, 2012