

Texas Veterans Commission Meeting Minutes

Special Commission Meeting (FY 2015)
December 9, 2014

I. **Call to order.**

Chairman Eliseo Cantu called to order the Special Commission Meeting of the Texas Veterans Commission (TVC) at 9:00 a.m. on December 9, 2014, at the John H. Reagan Building, 105 W. 15th Street, Room 110, Austin, Texas 78701.

The following Commissioners, constituting a quorum, were present:

Eliseo "Al" Cantu, Chairman
James H. Scott, Vice Chairman
Richard A. McLeon, IV, Secretary
Jake Ellzey, Commissioner
Daniel P. Moran, Commissioner

Also present was Thomas P. Palladino, Executive Director.

Also present: See the attached list.

Secretary McLeon gave the opening prayer. Vice Chairman Scott led the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag and Commissioner Ellzey led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Texas Flag.

II. **Public Comment.**

None.

III. **Presentation of Recognition to City of Austin Mayor, Lee Leffingwell.**

The Commission recognized City of Austin Mayor, Lee Leffingwell for his leadership on Veterans issues. The Commission presented a Certificate of Appreciation and a Texas Flag to Mayor Lee Leffingwell.

IV. **Report, presentation and/or action regarding Advisory Committees membership.**

Karen Fastenau, General Counsel, presented the report on the Advisory Committees membership. Ms. Fastenau notified the Commission there were some corrections made to the Advisory Committees membership terms subsequent to the First Quarterly Commission Meeting. Ms. Fastenau explained the corrections made to the Advisory Committees membership terms. Additionally, Ms. Fastenau notified the Commission that a Fund for Veterans' Assistance (FVA) Committee Member approved at the First

Quarterly Commission Meeting declined his appointment, and the FVA recommended Richard Hatfield to fill the vacancy. A copy of Mr. Hatfield's application was provided to the Commissioners prior to the meeting for review.

MOTION: Approve recommended Advisory Committees membership terms as presented and approve the recommended Fund for Veterans' Assistance Advisory Committee member.

MADE BY: Vice Chairman Scott

SECONDED BY: Commissioner Moran

ACTION: The motion passed unanimously.

V. Report, presentation and/or action regarding State of Texas Comptroller Post-Payment Audit.

Chip Osborne, Chief Financial Officer, presented to the Commission the State of Texas Comptroller Post-Payment Audit completed on TVC and TVC's Corrective Action Plan in response to the audit. Mr. Osborne highlighted findings identified in the audit, and presented TVC's corrective actions in response to these findings.

No motion to approve needed.

VI. Report, presentation and/or action regarding recommendations for Fund for Veterans' Assistance General Assistance, Series XV-A grants.

Sarah Tillman, Fund for Veterans' Assistance Interim Director, summarized the Fund for Veterans' Assistance grant process and timeline procedures for the General Assistance, Series XV-A grants. Ms. Tillman and Al Poteet, Fund for Veterans Assistance Advisory Committee Member, presented the recommended list of organizations for the Fund for Veterans Assistance General Assistance, Series XV-A grants.

The Fund for Veterans' Assistance Advisory Committee recommended a total of \$5,000,000 to be awarded to the following 38 organizations:

1. Adult Protective Services Partners: \$15,000 recommended.
2. American GI Forum: \$125,000 recommended.
3. Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Texas: \$200,000 recommended.
4. Burnet County: \$50,000 recommended.
5. Caritas of Austin: \$75,000 recommended.
6. Citizens Development Center: \$50,000 recommended.
7. Collin County: \$20,000 recommended.
8. Community Action Corporation of South Texas: \$200,000 recommended.
9. F7 Group Foundation: \$75,000 recommended.

10. Families In Crisis: \$300,000 recommended.
11. Family Eldercare: \$100,000 recommended.
12. Family Services of Greater Houston: \$200,000 recommended.
13. Goodwill Industries of Ft. Worth: \$20,000 recommended.
14. GreenPath: \$150,000 recommended.
15. Harris County: \$300,000 recommended.
16. Presbyterian Night Shelter: \$150,000 recommended.
17. Project Amistad: \$200,000 recommended.
18. Project Mend: \$150,000 recommended.
19. San Antonio Metropolitan Ministries: \$300,000 recommended.
20. Span: \$20,000 recommended.
21. StarCare - Lubbock Regional MHMR: \$300,000 recommended.
22. Valley Initiative for Development and Advancement: \$200,000 recommended.
23. El Paso Veterans Courts: \$150,000 recommended.
24. Legal Aid of Northwest Texas: \$150,000 recommended.
25. Lubbock County: \$15,000 recommended.
26. Nueces County CSCD: \$50,000 recommended.
27. Operation Comfort: \$200,000 recommended.
28. Operation Finally Home: \$75,000 recommended.
29. Operation Homefront: \$200,000 recommended.
30. San Augustine County: \$15,000 recommended.
31. Texas National Guard Family Support Foundation: \$300,000 recommended.
32. Texas RioGrande Legal Aid, Inc.: \$100,000 recommended.
33. Texas VFW Foundation: \$300,000 recommended.
34. Travis County: \$20,000 recommended
35. YWCA El Paso Del Norte Region: \$75,000 recommended.
36. Aware Central Texas: \$5,000 recommended.
37. Bexar County: \$75,000 recommended.
38. County of Upshur: \$70,000 recommended.

MOTION: Approve the recommended organizations for the Fund for Veterans' Assistance General Assistance, Series XV-A grants.

MADE BY: Vice Chairman Scott

SECONDED BY: Commissioner Moran

ACTION: The motion passed unanimously.

VII. Executive Session.

Executive Session was held from 9:50 a.m. to 10:20 a.m.

VIII. Discussion to set date, time, and location of next Commission meeting.

The Commission discussed the date, time, and location of the Second Quarterly

Commission meeting. TVC staff suggested the Second Quarterly Commission Meeting be scheduled on February 3, 2014 at 9:00 a.m. at the William B. Travis Building, Room 1-111. The Commission expressed no conflicts with the Second Quarterly Commission meeting date and agreed to accept this date, time, and location for the Second Quarterly Commission meeting.

IX. Adjourn.

Chairman Cantu recognized each Commissioner for closing statements. The Commissioners extended their gratitude to Texas Veterans Commission staff for all their support and hard work in serving our Texas Veterans.

MOTION: Adjourn.

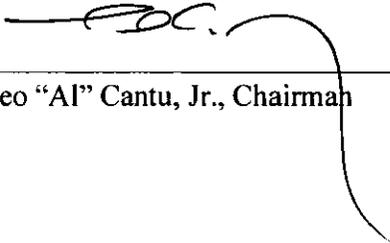
MADE BY: Vice Chairman Scott

SECONDED BY: Commissioner Ellzey

ACTION: The motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Cantu adjourned the meeting at 10:35 a.m.

Minutes Approved by:



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Al Cantu', is written above a horizontal line. A long, thin vertical line extends downwards from the end of the signature, crossing the horizontal line.

Eliseo "Al" Cantu, Jr., Chairman

TEXAS VETERANS COMMISSION
Special Commission Meeting
FY 2015 – December 9, 2014
9:00 a.m. – John H. Reagan Building – Room 110
Speakers & Visitors

Al Poteet
Member, Fund for Veterans' Assistance Advisory Committee

The Honorable Lee Leffingwell
Mayor, City of Austin

Janis Roznowski
Operation Comfort

Ken Wallingford
Veterans Land Board

Kevin Perez
Legislative Budget Board

Bill Wilson
Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs and Military Installations