



**TEXAS VETERANS COMMISSION**  
**FY23, SPECIAL COMMISSION MEETING #2**  
**Thursday, Jul 13, 2023, 8:30 a.m.**  
**1701 Congress Ave, Room 1-111, Austin TX 78701**

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**MINUTES**

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**I. OPENING**

- a. Chairwoman Laura Koerner calls the meeting, which was scheduled to begin at 8:30 a.m., but due to technical difficulties with GoToWebinar, the meeting began at 9:11 a.m. A new GoToWebinar link was posted on the TVC website and the Admin Monitor link so the Commissioners and anyone wanting to make a public comment in the virtual environment could go to the new link and make their public comments.
- b. Roll call:

Secretary Dale informs Chairwoman Koerner that there is a quorum.

Chairwoman Laura Koerner, Vice-Chair Kimberlee Shaneyfelt, Secretary Mary Dale Commissioner Mike Hernandez, Commissioner Kevin Barber,  
Also present was Executive Director Thomas P. Palladino.

- c. Commissioner Mike Hernandez led the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag, and Commissioner Mary Dale led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Texas Flag.
- d. Chip Osborne led the Commission in prayer.

**II. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

**III. CONSIDERATIONS.**

**Chairwoman Koerner asked the Commission if they had any objections to changing the order of the meeting. No objections were made.**

**Agenda Item # 3.b. Action Regarding HB 2951 and the Proposed New Rule concerning the Service Dog Pilot program under the Fund for Veterans' Assistance General Provisions.** Elaine Zavala, Director of Fund for Veterans' Assistance, to give the report.

MOTION: Made by Commissioner Michael Hernandez and seconded by Secretary Mary Dale to approve the Proposed New Rule concerning the Service Dog Program under the FVA General Provisions.

VOTE: 5-0: Motion Passed.

**Agenda Item # 3.c. Discussion Regarding adding Adventure Therapy as an FVA category.** I will ask Chip Osborne, Division Director of Resource Management, to give the report. Chip will call up Blake Harris,

Director of Veteran Mental Health, to discuss the differences between Clinical Therapy and Adventure Therapy.”

MOTION: Made by Commissioner Kevin Barber to add Adventure Therapy under the FVA “General Assistance” grant category.

VOTE: 1-4 Motion Failed.

**Agenda Item #3.a. Presentation, and Discussion Regarding the 2024-2025 Request for Applications (RFA) document, this is for your review at this time.** Elaine Zavala, Director of the Fund for Veterans’ Assistance, to give the report.

The final RFA with annexes will be presented at the August Commission meeting for action.

No Action.

The Executive Director, Thomas Palladino, introduced TVC’s new employees to the Commission.

The next meeting is August 10, 2023, at 9:00, in the William B. Travis building, Room 1-111.


#### **IV. ADJOURNMENT.**

MOTION: Made by Commissioner Mike Hernandez and seconded by Secretary Mary Dale to adjourn the meeting.

VOTE: 5-0: Motion Passed

Chairwoman Koerner adjourned the meeting at 10:29 a.m.

Minutes Approved by:

  
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Mary Dale, Secretary