LAURA KOERNER

US Navy Veteran Chairwoman

KIMBERLEE SHANEYFELT

Colonel, US Air Force (Retired) Vice-Chair

MARY LOPEZ DALE

US Army Veteran Secretary



MIKE P. HERNANDEZ

Corporal, US Marine Corps (Retired) Member

KEVIN BARBER

US Army Veteran Member

THOMAS P. PALLADINO

Colonel, US Army (Retired)
Executive Director

TEXAS VETERANS COMMISSION

Fund For Veterans' Assistance Advisory Committee (FVAAC)
Annual Recommendation Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, April 12, 2023 at 8:30am
Stephen F Austin Building, 1700 Congress Ave, Room 172, Austin, TX, 78701
https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1605397357711667802

I. Call meeting to order.

• The meeting was called by Chair, Kerry Reyna at 8:30a.m. on April 12, 2023, at the Stephen F Austin Building, 1700 Congress Ave, Room 172, Austin TX 78701.

Roll Call

- Brian Allen
- Dan Ball
- Bobby Ehrig
- Jamilah James
- Luis Martinez
- John Perez
- Kerry Reyna
- Pete Rispoli
- Charles Wright

II. Public comment.

- There is no public comment.
- III. Approve minutes of the March 1-2, 2023, FVA Advisory Committee Presentation meeting.
 - Minutes were approved as is. (Technical difficulties: Cannot determine motions)
- IV. Presentation and discussion of current TVC grants eligible for renewal for the 2023-2024 grant period based on Commission's established renewal criteria.
 - Director, Jim Bracken, stated 91 organizations totaling \$21,380,000 are eligible for renewal.
- V. Discussion and/or action on recommendations to the Commission for FVA 2023-2024 Veteran County Service Officer grant applications.
 - Director, Jim Bracken, provided an overview of the grant process, program goals, Commission priorities, and needs assessment. He stated 121 applications were received for the 2023-2024 grant period. Of those, 84 applications were deemed eligible based on the program guidelines specified in the RFA. The 84 eligible applications amounted to \$20.7 million dollars.
 - Motion Passed: <u>Chuck Wright</u> motioned and <u>Bobby Ehrig</u> seconded to recommend FULL FUNDING of the VCSO organizations that received unanimous recommendations from the committee members during the preliminary ranking process.

recommendations from the committee members during the preliminary ranking process. 9 yeas, 0 nays.

- Motion Passed: <u>Dan Ball</u> motioned, and <u>Pete Rispoli</u> seconded to recommend FULL FUNDING for Ellis County VTC application \$110,000 for grant funding. 7 yeas, 2 nays.
- Motion Failed: Kerry Reyna motioned, and Pete Rispoli seconded to recommend FULL FUNDING for Liberty County VTC application \$45,000 for grant funding. 4 yeas, 5 nays.
- Motion Passed: <u>Pete Rispoli</u> motioned, and <u>John Perez</u> seconded to approve the 2023-2024 Veteran Treatment Court grant recommendations made by the Committee to take to the Commission for their approval. 9 yeas, 0 nays
- Motion Passed: <u>Luis Martinez</u> motioned, and <u>Chuck Wright</u> seconded to approve the 2023-2024 Liberty County Veteran Treatment Court grant not recommended made by the Committee to take to the Commission for their approval. 9 yeas, 0 nays

VII. Discussion and/or action on recommendations to the Commission for FVA 2023-2024 Housing for Texas Heroes (H4TH) grant applications.

- Chair, Kerry Reyna, stated there are 12 eligible H4TH applications this year requesting \$3,470,000.
- Motion Passed: <u>Brian Allen</u> motioned, and <u>Jamilah James</u> seconded to recommend FULL FUNDING of the H4TH organizations that received unanimous recommendations from the committee members during our preliminary ranking process. 8 yeas, 1 nay.

City Of Fort Worth	Housing for Texas Heroes	\$ 300,000
Deep East Texas Council of Govts and Econ Dev District	Housing for Texas Heroes	\$ 235,000
Rebuilding Together Houston	Housing for Texas Heroes	\$ 500,000
Montgomery County Habitat for Humanity, Inc	Housing for Texas Heroes	\$ 180,000

Motion Passed: <u>Chuck Wright</u> motioned, and <u>Luis Martinez</u> seconded to recommend FULL FUNDING of the H4TH applications that received 8 of 9 recommendations from the committee members during our preliminary ranking process. 7 yeas, 2 nays.

C L C Inc	Housing for Texas Heroes	\$ 385,000
Council On Alcohol and Drug Abuse Coastal Bend	Housing for Texas Heroes	\$ 300,000
Central Texas Opportunities, Inc.	Housing for Texas Heroes	\$ 300,000

- Motion Passed: <u>Dan Ball</u> motioned, and <u>Jamilah James</u> seconded to recommend FULL
 FUNDING for Meals on Wheels of Tarrant County for \$395,000 in H4TH grant funding. 5 yeas, 4
 nays.
- Motion Failed: <u>Jamilah James</u> motioned, and <u>Kerry Reyna</u> seconded to recommend FULL FUNDING for Rebuilding Together Austin for \$205,000 in H4TH grant funding. 1 yeas, 8 nays.
- Motion Passed: <u>Bobby Ehrig</u> motioned, and <u>Dan Ball</u> seconded to recommend FULL FUNDING for Alamo Area Council of Governments for \$500,000 in H4TH grant funding. 7 yeas, 2 nays.

• Motion Passed: <u>Brian Allen</u> motioned, and <u>Jamilah James</u> seconded to approve all 11 2023-2024 Veteran Mental Health grant recommendations made by the Committee to take to the Commission for their approval. 9 yeas, 0 nays

IX. Discussion and/or action on recommendations to the Commission for FVA 2023-2024 General Assistance (GA) grant applications.

- Chair, Kerry Reyna, stated there are 45 eligible General Assistance applications this year requesting \$10,567,000. Chuck Wright recused himself from ranking the GA grant applications due to a conflict of interest.
- Motion Passed: <u>Brian Allen</u> motioned, and <u>John Perez</u> seconded to recommend FULL FUNDING of the GA organizations that received unanimous recommendations from the committee members during our preliminary ranking process. 8 yeas, 0 nays.

Rolling Plains Management Corporation	Financial Assistance	\$ 300,000
Pecan Valley MHMR	Financial Assistance	\$ 300,000
Northwest Assistance Ministries	Financial Assistance	\$ 300,000
Goodwill Industries of South Texas, Inc.	Employment Support	\$ 115,000
Central Texas Opportunities, Inc.	Financial Assistance	\$ 300,000
Citizens Development Center	Employment Support	\$ 235,000
Ark Tex Council of Governments	Financial Assistance	\$ 5,000
Community Action Corporation of South Texas	Financial Assistance	\$ 300,000
Fort Bend Senior Citizens Meals On Wheels & Much Much More	Support Services	\$ 180,000
East Texas Council of Governments	Transport Programs & Svcs	\$ 250,000
Hale County Meals on Wheels, Inc.	Support Services	\$ 80,000
Lone Star Legal Aid	Pro Bono Legal Services	\$ 300,000
Family Support Services of Amarillo, Inc.	Support Services	\$ 265,000
NPower Inc.	Employment Support	\$ 300,000

- Motion Failed: <u>Pete Rispoli</u> motioned, and <u>Dan Ball</u> seconded to recommend FULL FUNDING of the GA applications that received 7 of 8 recommendations from the committee members during our preliminary ranking process. 2 yeas, 6 nays.
- Motion Passed: <u>Bobby Ehrig</u> motioned, and <u>Jamilah James</u> seconded to recommend FULL FUNDING for Dept of Texas Veterans of Foreign Wars Found for \$500,000 in Financial Assistance grant funding. 7 yeas, 1 nay.
- Motion Passed: <u>Jamilah James</u> motioned, and <u>John Perez</u> seconded to recommend FULL FUNDING for City of Fort Worth for \$300,000 in Financial Assistance grant funding. 6 yeas, 2 nays.

yeas, 1 nay by Mr. Brian Allen.

Signed - Chair Kerry Reyna

17 JAN 24

Date