

# Texas Veterans Commission Meeting Minutes

Commission Workshop  
January 27, 2010 – 3:00 p.m.

## I. Call to order

Chairman Rankin called to order the Commission Workshop of the Texas Veterans Commission at 3:10 p.m. on January 27, 2010, in the 6<sup>th</sup> Floor Boardroom of the Doubletree Hotel, 6505 North IH 35, Austin, Texas.

## II. Roll call

The following commissioners were present:

Karen S. Rankin, Chairman  
T.P. O'Mahoney, Vice-Chair  
Eliseo "Al" Cantu  
John B. McKinney

TVC Staff attending:

James E. Nier  
Charlie Buerschinger  
Tina Carnes  
David Nobles  
Bill Wilson  
Kevin Smith  
Jim Richman  
Connie Jacksits  
Irma Rodriguez  
Duncan McGhee

Shawn DeaBay  
Cheryl Sites  
Wyonda Laurence

Also present:

General Smith  
David Weaver  
Kyle Mitchell

## III. Discussion-Guidance for Advisory Committees

Chair Rankin began by mentioning the two topics of discussion for today's workshop: (1) Commission guidance to our three Advisory Committees and (2) the issue of the grant process for the Fund for Veterans' Assistance Advisory Committee.

Chair Rankin pointed out that guidance is already written in Chapter 434 of the Government Code and Texas Administrative Code 452.2. The Executive Director and Deputy Executive Director will meet with the chairs of the advisory committees to discuss the guidelines.

Chair Rankin then moved on to the Fund for Veterans' Assistance Advisory Committee and the grant process. They focused on issues such as checklists, certain definitions of eligibility and decisions on how to advertise or market that grants are available in all areas of Texas.

The Commissioners reviewed the FVA Funding Purposes listed below:

1. Emergency financial needs of veterans and their families
2. Transportation services – creation and augmentation of these services based on need
3. Family and/or individual counseling for PTSD and TBI
4. Employment training, education, and job placement
5. Housing assistance for homeless veterans
6. Family and child services
7. Legal services
8. Development of professional services networks
9. Enhance or improve veterans' assistance programs, including veterans' representation and counseling

Chair Rankin made a motion to accept the above nine purposes with a show of hands. The Commissioners unanimously approved the nine purposes.

Chair Rankin thanked General Smith and the FVA Advisory Committee for all their hard work and adjourned the workshop at 4:46pm.

Minutes Approved by:

  
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Karen S. Rankin, Chairman