



**TEXAS VETERANS COMMISSION
THIRD QUARTER COMMISSION MEETING (FY 2024)
Thursday, May 16, 2024, 9:00 a.m.
1801 Congress Ave, Board Room 4.300, Austin TX 78701**

MINUTES

I. OPENING

- A. Chairwoman Laura Koerner calls the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.
- B. Roll call:

Secretary Dale informs Chairwoman Koerner that there is a quorum.

Chairwoman Laura Koerner, Secretary Mary Dale, Commissioner Kevin Barber, Commissioner Mike Hernandez, and Commissioner Chuck Wright.
Executive Director Thomas P. Palladino was also present.

- C. Commissioner Mike Hernandez led the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag, and Commissioner Chuck Wright led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Texas Flag.
- D. Chip Osborne led the Commission in prayer.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

- A. Mike Burnet, Concho Valley Community Action Agency, Financial Assistance Renewal.
- B. Benjamin Miranda, Endeavors, Appreciation for funding support.
- C. Laura Knoll, Endeavors, provides client testimony and informs how future funding will be used.
- D. Tonya Parks, a private citizen representing her father, Bennie Gibson, complained against TVC employees and processes.
- E. Mitch Fuller, VFW, Legislative Director, Legislative Priorities & accolades to TVC.
- F. Tony Dale, Executive Secretary, Veteran Land Board, Veteran Cemeteries Memorial Events, Veteran State Homes visits.

III. CONSENT AGENDA

Action regarding approval of the Consent Agenda. Chair Koerner introduced the consent agenda and asked if there were any questions on the use of the consent agenda. She asked if any commissioner wanted to remove anything from it and place it on the FY 24, 3Q Commission Meeting agenda. Commissioners did not request to move anything to the FY24, 3Q Commission agenda.

- A. FY24, 2Q Commission Meeting Minutes, Feb 13, 2024.
- B. Proposed Quadrennial Rule Review Title 40, TAC, Part 15, Chapter 1461, Veterans Education.
- C. Veteran Services Advisory Committee Member Appointment – Holly Morrison
- D. Internal Auditor Selection
- E. Acceptance of Gifts

MOTION: Made by Commissioner Kevin Barber and seconded by Secretary Mary Dale to approve the items on the Consent Agenda.

VOTE: 5-0: Motion Passed.

IV. PRESENTATIONS

- A. FY24 Internal Audit Update – Daniel Graves, Weaver Risk Advisory Services
- B. Quarterly Presentations from the Advisory Committees.
 - i. Veterans County Service Officer Chair Report – meeting was canceled, no report
 - ii. Veteran Services Committee Chair Report – Earl Newsome

V. REPORTS

- A. **Report on Agency Departments and Programs.**
 - i. **Program Operations Division.** Charles Catoe, Division Director of Program Operations, provided the Commissioners with the training updates for HCAD, Claims, and Veterans Education Department.
 - ii. **Resource Management Division.** Chip Osborne, Division Director of Resource Management, provided the Commissioners with department updates.
 - a. Introductions of Interns and new CFO.
 - b. Appropriation Year 2024 Second Quarter Operating Statement: Stephanie Robinson, C.F.O. of the T.V.C. Finance Department, gave the Commissioners a detailed brief on the Appropriation Year 2024 Second Quarter Operating Statement.
- B. **Deputy Executive Director Report.** Shawn Deabay, Deputy Executive Director, provided updates.
 - i. Senate Veteran Affairs Committee discussed Interim Charges
 - a. Mental Health
 - b. Data Management System
 - c. Veterans Homelessness and affordable housing
 - ii. Dr. Krystle Matthews, Women Veterans Program Director, briefed on the Women’s Veteran Day Events around the state in the month of June 2024.
 - iii. Angela Woellner, Communications & Veteran Outreach Director
 - a. New website
 - b. Outreach events past and future
 - c. Social media analytics
- C. **Executive Director Report.** Thomas Palladino, Executive Director, provided a report on the agency's upcoming priorities
 - i. Strategic Plan
 - ii. Legislative Appropriations Request
 - iii. Texas Coordinating Council of Veteran Services
 - iv. Women Veterans Report
 - v. Testified at the Senate Veteran Affairs Committee meeting

VI. CONSIDERATIONS

- A. ***Action Regarding Election of Commission Officers (Vice Chair).*** Commissioner Kevin Barber nominated Commissioner Mary Lopez Dale as the Commission Vice Chair, and Commissioner Mary Dale accepted the nomination.

MOTION: Made by Commissioner Kevin Barber and seconded by Commissioner Mike Hernandez to accept the nomination of Commissioner Mary Dale as the Commissions Vice Chair.

VOTE: 5-0: Motion Passed.

Action Regarding Commission Officer elections (Secretary): Vice-Chair Mary Dale nominated Commissioner Kevin Barber, and Commissioner Kevin Barber accepted the nomination for Commission Secretary.

MOTION: Made by Vice-Chair Mary Dale and seconded by Commissioner Mike Hernandez to accept the nomination of Kevin Barber as the Commission's Secretary.

VOTE: 5-0: Motion Passed.

- B. **Action Regarding Texas Veterans Commission FY2024, TVC Veteran Employer Awards.** Anna Baker, Director of Veterans Employment, provided the Commissioners with the list of T.V.C.'s Employer Awards winners.

MOTION: Made by Secretary Kevin Barber and seconded by Commissioner Chuck Wright to accept the T.V.C. Employer Awards.

VOTE: 5-0: Motion Passed.

- C. **Action Regarding the 2025-2029 TVC Strategic Plan.** Angela Woellner, Communications, and Veteran Outreach Director provided a detailed report on the 2025-2029 Strategic Plan changes.

MOTION: Made by Commissioner Mike Hernandez and seconded by Vice Chair Mary Dale to approve the 2025-2029 TVC Strategic Plan.

VOTE: 5-0: Motion Passed.

Break: 10:30-10:50

- D. **Action Regarding Recommendations for 2023-2024 Fund for Veterans' Assistance Grant Renewals:**

- i. Veterans County Service Officer.
- ii. Veterans Treatment Court.
- iii. Housing for Texas Heroes.
- iv. Veterans Mental Health.
- v. General Assistance.

VETERANS COUNTY SERVICE OFFICER

Elaine Zavala, F.V.A. Director, presented the grant renewals for the 2023-2024 grant cycle, and Ms. Kerry Reyna, F.V.A. Advisory Committee Chair, presented the committee's recommended 2024-2025 grant applications for award. Elaine provided an overview of the grant cycle, and Ms. Kerry Reyna provided an overview of the grant recommendation process.

Elaine Zavala, F.V.A. Director, briefed," There were a total of 74 organizations that totaled just over \$18

million for the 2023-2024 grant year. The grants are bound to the renewal criteria set forth in the 2023-2024 Request for Applications. I would like the commission to consider the following motion allowing the 2023-2024 Housing for Texas Heroes grantees, renewed for the 2024-2025 grant year, to operate under the 2024-2025 request for applications (RFA)”. The 2024-2025 RFA includes the following:

- Only serve Veterans or Surviving Spouses who are classified as Very Low or Low-Income.
- Allow organizations to spend up to \$35,000 per veteran household.

“Do I hear a motion to allow 2023-2024 Housing for Texas Heroes grantees that are renewed to operate under the 2024-2025 RFA requirements?”

MOTION: Made by Secretary Kevin Barber and seconded by Commissioner Chuck Wright to approve the F.V.A. Advisory Committee's recommendations for 2023-2024 Housing for Texas Hero grantees, renewed to operate under the 2024-2025 RFA.

VOTE: 5-0: Motion Passed

Elaine Zavala, F.V.A. Director, briefed, “The grants are bound to the renewal criteria set forth in the 2023-2024 Request for Applications. I would like the commission to consider the following motion allowing the 2023-2024 Veterans Mental Health grantees, renewed for the 2024-2025 grant year, to operate under the 2024-2025 request for applications (RFA)”. The 2024-2025 RFA includes the following:

- Allowing Peer Support Grantees to conduct retreats, field trips, off-sites, seminars, and/or similar gatherings within their budget.
- Requiring Clinical Counseling Grantees to submit Mental Health Outcomes before treatment/services begin and after treatment/services end.

“Do I hear a motion to approve the 2023-2024 Veterans Mental Health grantees that are renewed to operate under the 2024-2025 RFA?”

MOTION: Made by Commissioner Mike Hernandez and seconded by Vice-Chair Mary Dale to approve the F.V.A. Advisory Committee's recommendations for 2023-2024 Veterans Mental Health grantees, renewed to operate under the 2024-2025 RFA.

VOTE: 5-0: Motion Passed

VETERAN COUNTY SERVICE OFFICER (V.C.S.O.) RENEWALS

There are three V.C.S.O. grant organizations seeking renewal that met or exceeded all the criteria. Awarding a total of \$900,000 in funding.

Cass County	\$ 300,000	Financial Assistance
Harris County	\$ 300,000	Financial Assistance
Zapata County	\$ 300,000	Home Modification
Total	\$900,000	

Veteran Treatment Court renewals:

No grants met or exceeded the renewal criteria specified in the RFA, so there are no grants to name in this category.

HOUSING FOR TEXAS HEROES RENEWALS

There are two Housing for Texas Hero grant organizations seeking renewal that met or exceeded the criteria totaling \$320,000:

Austin Habitat for Humanity	\$ 115,000
Harris County	\$ 205,000
Total	\$320,000

VETERAN MENTAL HEALTH RENEWALS

There is one Veterans Mental Health grant organization seeking renewal that met or exceeded the criteria totaling \$95,000

Equest	\$95,000	Clinical Counseling
Total	\$95,000	

GENERAL ASSISTANCE RENEWALS

There are 11 General Assistance grant organizations seeking renewal that met or exceeded the criteria totaling \$2,780,000.

Citizens Development Center DBA U&I	\$235,000	Employment Support
City of El Paso	\$50,000	Transportation Programs & Services
City of Fort Worth	\$300,000	Financial Assistance
CLC Inc.	\$500,000	Financial Assistance
Family Service Center of Houston and Harris County	\$300,000	Financial Assistance
Goodwill Industries of South Texas, Inc.	\$115,000	Employment Services
Hale County Meals on Wheels, Inc.	\$80,000	Supportive Services

Lone Star Legal Aid	\$300,000	Pro Bono Legal Services
NPower Inc.	\$300,000	Employment Support
Pecan Valley MHMR	\$300,000	Financial Assistance
Rolling Plains Management Corp.	\$300,000	Financial Assistance
Total	\$2,780,000	

“Pending your questions, that concludes the presentation for the recommended renewal applications. At this time, I would like the commission to consider renewing all 17 grants, totaling \$4,095,000.”

“Do I hear a motion to approve the organizations that met the 2023-2024 Renewal criteria for the 2024-2025 grant year in all categories as presented?”

MOTION: Made by Vice-Chair Mary Dale and seconded Commissioner Chuck Wright to approve the F.V.A. Advisory Committee's recommendations for the grant renewal applications that met all the criteria.

VOTE: 5-0: Motion Passed

E. Action regarding the recommendations for the 2024-2025 Fund for Veterans Assistance new Grants.

Elaine Zavala and Kerry Reyna will present the grants recommended by the F.V.A. Advisory Committee.

Elaine Zavala provided an overview of the complete 2024-2025 grant cycle. Kerry Reyna will present the committee’s recommended 2024-025 grant applications for award. A total of 180 applications were submitted by the deadline. After FVA staff completed the eligibility screening, 155 applications were deemed eligible based on program guidelines specified in the RFA. The 155 applications totaled over \$32,890,000 in requested funds.

Kerry Reyna, FVA Advisory Committee Chair, provided an overview of the advisory committee process. Ms. Reyna will present the committee’s recommended grant applications to you.

VETERAN COUNTY SERVICE OFFICER

A total of nine applications are recommended for award, totaling \$1,755,000 in funding.

Bexar County Commissioners Court	\$ 300,000	Financial Assistance
Harris County	\$ 295,000	Peer Support Services
Hays County	\$ 250,000	Financial Assistance
Hidalgo County	\$ 300,000	Peer Support Services

Liberty County	\$ 50,000	Financial Assistance
Val Verde County	\$ 50,000	Transportation Programs
Webb County	\$ 160,000	Transportation Programs
Willacy County	\$ 150,000	Financial Assistance
Zapata County	\$ 200,000	Financial Assistance
Total	\$ 1,755,000	

“Pending your questions, that concludes the presentation for the recommended Veteran County Service Officer grant applications.”

“Do I hear a motion to approve the 2024-2025 Veteran County Service Officer grant applications recommended by the F.V.A. Advisory Committee?”

MOTION: Made by Commissioner Chuck Wright and seconded by Commissioner Mike Hernandez approve the F.V.A. Advisory Committee's recommendations for the V.C.S.O. grant category.

VOTE: 5-0: Motion Passed

VETERAN TREATMENT COURT

There are 14 applications, all recommended for award, totaling \$3,380,000 for award.

Bexar County Commissioners Court	\$ 250,000
Bexar County Misdemeanor VTC	\$ 300,000
City of Dallas	\$ 50,000
Collin County	\$ 400,000
Comal County	\$ 210,000
Dallas County	\$ 300,000
Galveston County	\$ 270,000
Hays County	\$ 350,000
Montgomery County	\$ 255,000
Nueces County	\$ 200,000
Potter County	\$ 240,000
Tarrant County	\$ 200,000

Travis County	\$ 50,000
Webb County	\$ 305,000
Total	\$ 3,380,000

“Pending your questions, that concludes the presentation for Veteran Treatment Court Applications.”

“Do I hear a motion to approve the 2024-2025 Veteran Treatment Court grant applications recommended by the F.V.A. Advisory Committee?”

MOTION: Made by Secretary Kevin Barber and seconded by Vice-Chair Mary Dale to approve the F.V.A. Advisory Committee's recommendations for the 2024-2025 Veteran Treatment Court grant category.

VOTE: 5-0: Motion Passed

Housing for Texas Heroes

19 Housing for Texas Heroes grant applications were submitted; the committee recommends 16 applications totaling \$5,850,000.

Adults and Youth United Development Association	\$ 495,000
Central Texas Opportunities, Inc.	\$ 495,000
City of Laredo	\$ 300,000
Easter Seals Central Texas Inc.	\$ 500,000
Fort Hood Area Habitat for Humanity	\$ 250,000
Golden Crescent Habitat for Humanity	\$ 300,000
Garland Area Habitat for Humanity	\$ 500,000
Habitat for Humanity of Smith County	\$ 250,000
Meals on Wheels and More Inc.	\$ 500,000
Meals On Wheels Of Tarrant County	\$ 265,000
Meals on Wheels San Antonio	\$ 305,000
Northeast Texas Habitat for Humanity	\$ 230,000
Operation Finally Home	\$ 500,000
Panhandle Community Services	\$ 500,000
Rolling Plains Management Corporation	\$ 300,000

The Salvation Army - Waco	\$ 160,000
Total	\$ 5,850,000

“Pending your questions, that concludes the presentation for the recommended Housing for Texas Heroes applications.”

“Do I hear a motion to approve the 2024-2025 Housing for Texas Heroes grant applications recommended by the F.V.A. Advisory Committee?”

MOTION: Made by Commissioner Chuck Wright and seconded by Vice-Chair Mary Dale to approve the F.V.A. Advisory Committee's amended recommendations for the Housing for Texas Heroes grant category.

VOTE: 5-0: Motion Passed

VETERAN MENTAL HEALTH

The Governor and Texas Legislature approved HB 2951, creating the Veteran Service Dog Program within our Mental Health Grant Program.

There were four service dog applications submitted for the pilot program, totaling \$985,000.

K9s For Warriors, Inc.	\$ 130,000	Service Dog
Canine Companions for Independence	\$ 100,000	Service Dog
Patriot PAWS Service Dogs	\$ 500,000	Service Dog
Austin Dog Alliance	\$ 255,000	Service Dog
Total	\$ 985,000	Service Dog

Continuing with the Veteran Mental Health grant category.

There were 29 grant applications submitted, the committee recommends 24 applications totaling \$5,535,000.

Samaritan Center for Counseling and Pastoral Care, Inc.	\$ 500,000	Clinical Counseling
Project Amistad	\$ 100,000	Clinical Counseling
Baylor Research Institute	\$ 500,000	Clinical Counseling
Concho Valley Center for Human Advancement	\$ 95,000	Peer Support Services
Family Endeavors, Inc.	\$ 500,000	Clinical Counseling
Cenikor Foundation	\$ 340,000	Clinical Counseling

West Texas Counseling & Guidance, Inc	\$ 500,000	Clinical Counseling
Riding Unlimited, Inc.	\$ 135,000	Clinical Counseling
Castle Cares Community Ministires	\$ 150,000	Clinical Counseling
Easter Seals of Greater Houston, Inc.	\$ 300,000	Clinical Counseling
Heart of Texas Region Mental Health Mental Retardation Center	\$ 250,000	Clinical Counseling
Refuge Services, Inc.	\$ 200,000	Clinical Counseling
Collin County	\$ 270,000	Clinical Counseling
Bexar County Misdemeanor Veterans Treatment Court	\$ 300,000	Peer Support Services
Outdoor Association for True Heroes Inc	\$ 150,000	Peer Support Services
Henry's Home Horse and Human Sanctuary	\$ 50,000	Peer Support Services
Family Service Center of Galveston County	\$ 280,000	Clinical Counseling
Caritas of Austin	\$ 65,000	Peer Support Services
Sabine Valley Regional Mhmr Center	\$ 145,000	Peer Support Services
Grace After Fire	\$ 150,000	Peer Support Services
Austin-Travis County Mental Health and Mental Retardation Center	\$ 340,000	Clinical Counseling
Brazos County	\$ 5,000	Clinical Counseling
Outsiders Anonymous	\$ 110,000	Peer Support Services
Marriage Management Consultants	\$ 100,000	Peer Support Services
Total	\$ 5,535,000	

“Pending your questions, that concludes the presentation for the recommended Veterans Mental Health applications.”

“Do I hear a motion to approve the 2024-2025 Veteran Mental Health

MOTION: Made by Secretary Kevin Barber and seconded by Commissioner Chuck Wright to approve the 2024-2025 F.V.A. Advisory Committee recommendations for the Veteran Mental Health grant applications that met the renewal criteria.

VOTE: 5-0: Motion Passed

GENERAL ASSISTANCE

There were 77 grant applications submitted; the committee recommends 67 applications totaling \$15,385,000.

1	Goodwill Industries of Ft. Worth Inc.	\$ 50,000	Employment Support
2	Community Council of South Central Texas	\$ 300,000	Financial Assistance
3	The Salvation Army - Corpus Christi	\$ 300,000	Financial Assistance
4	Hidalgo County	\$ 300,000	Financial Assistance
5	Project Amistad	\$ 300,000	Financial Assistance
6	Grace After Fire	\$ 200,000	Financial Assistance
7	Goodwill Industries of Houston	\$ 190,000	Employment Support
8	Feonix - Mobility Rising	\$ 150,000	Financial Assistance
9	Honor Veterans Now	\$ 500,000	Support Services
10	Fort Bend County	\$ 300,000	Financial Assistance
11	Big Brothers Big Sisters of South Texas, Inc.	\$ 20,000	Support Services
12	Families in Crisis Incorporated	\$ 300,000	Financial Assistance
13	San Antonio Metropolitan Ministry, Inc.	\$ 300,000	Financial Assistance
14	The Salvation Army, El Paso	\$ 250,000	Financial Assistance
15	The Salvation Army, San Antonio	\$ 300,000	Financial Assistance
16	Easter Seals of Greater Houston, Inc.	\$ 150,000	Financial Assistance
17	Caritas of Waco	\$ 200,000	Financial Assistance
18	Panhandle Community Services	\$ 300,000	Financial Assistance
19	Houston Area Urban League	\$ 500,000	Support Services
20	TBI Warrior Foundation	\$ 150,000	Employment Support
21	The Salvation Army - Amarillo	\$ 105,000	Homeless Support

22	Wheelchairs for Warriors	\$ 150,000	Support Services
23	Caritas of Austin	\$ 125,000	Financial Assistance
24	Tropical Texas Behavior Health	\$ 300,000	Financial Assistance
25	Goodwill Industries of Central Texas	\$ 300,000	Financial Assistance
26	Volunteers of America Texas, Inc.	\$ 295,000	Financial Assistance
27	Meals on Wheels Montgomery County	\$ 300,000	Support Services
28	The Salvation Army - Waco	\$ 250,000	Financial Assistance
29	USA CARES INC	\$ 500,000	Financial Assistance
30	Texoma Area Paratransit System Inc	\$ 40,000	Transportation Programs
31	Foundation Communities	\$ 100,000	Financial Assistance
32	Trinity County	\$ 180,000	Financial Assistance
33	The Salvation Army - Lufkin	\$ 100,000	Financial Assistance
34	Burnet County	\$ 75,000	Transportation Programs
35	Catholic Charities of Central Texas	\$ 300,000	Financial Assistance
36	Meals On Wheels Of Tarrant County	\$ 300,000	Support Services
37	Deep East Texas Council of Governments	\$ 70,000	Financial Assistance
38	Nueces County	\$ 150,000	Financial Assistance
39	Adults and Youth United Development Association Inc	\$ 190,000	Financial Assistance
40	San Antonio Food Bank	\$ 300,000	Support Services
41	Transition Skills Training Inc	\$ 50,000	Small Business Support
42	Communities In Schools of Greater Central Texas	\$ 300,000	Support Services

43	United Way of Johnson County Inc	\$ 300,000	Homeless Support
44	United Way of Denton County	\$ 300,000	Financial Assistance
45	American GI Forum National Veterans Outreach Program	\$ 500,000	Homeless Support
46	Veterans Center of North Texas	\$ 300,000	Financial Assistance
47	Central Texas Council of Governments	\$ 300,000	Financial Assistance
48	Interfaith Ministries for Greater Houston	\$ 300,000	Support Services
49	Family Pathfinders of Tarrant County	\$ 125,000	Support Services
50	Katy Christian Ministries	\$ 230,000	Financial Assistance
51	Meals on Wheels San Antonio	\$ 300,000	Support Services
52	After Military Service	\$ 150,000	Financial Assistance
53	Catholic Charities Archdiocese of San Antonio Inc	\$ 300,000	Financial Assistance
54	Bring Everyone In The Zone	\$ 200,000	Financial Assistance
55	Combined Arms	\$ 90,000	Homeless Support
56	Rise-Resource Information Support and Empowerment	\$ 145,000	Transportation Programs
57	The Salvation Army, Grayson County	\$ 100,000	Financial Assistance
58	Next Step Inc	\$ 80,000	Employment Support
59	Project MEND	\$ 300,000	Support Services
60	Making Dreams Real, Inc.	\$ 95,000	Homeless Support
61	Brazos County	\$ 5,000	Employment Support
62	Stephen Siller Tunnel to Towers Foundation	\$ 300,000	Homeless Support
63	Family Endeavors, Inc.	\$ 500,000	Financial Assistance
64	Heroes Night Out Inc.	\$ 150,000	Financial Assistance

65	West Central Texas Regional Foundation	\$ 300,000	Financial Assistance
66	Hope for the Warriors	\$ 215,000	Financial Assistance
67	The Salvation Army - Midland	\$ 260,000	Homeless Support
		\$ 15,385,000	Total

“Pending your questions, that concludes the presentation for the recommended General Assistance applications.”

“Do I hear a motion to approve the 2024-2025 General Assistance applications recommended by the FVA Advisory Committee?”

MOTION: Made by Commissioner Mike Hernandez and seconded by Secretary Kevin Barber to approve the F.V.A. Advisory Committee recommendations for General Assistance grant renewal category.

VOTE: 5-0: Motion Passed

“Commissioners at this time, I would like to return to the agenda item 6D to consider renewing grants that for various reasons, did not meet the renewal criteria. Upon completion we will come back to item 6E to consider organizations who were not recommended by the FVA Advisory Committee.

For the commission to consider renewing grant organizations that did not meet the renewal criteria, the commission will need to waive the provision in the 2023-2024 Request for Application that specifies that requirement.”

The Commission may, in its sole discretion, exercise the option to renew the grant for one (1) additional one (1) year period. To be considered for renewal, grantees are expected to:

1. Meet 60% of annual performance and funding expenditures by the end of February, which is the eighth (8th) month of the grant period (July 1st – February 28th).
2. Have no unresolved compliance findings.

“Do I hear a motion to waive the renewal criteria listed in the 2023-2024 Request for Application to enable the commission to renew additional grants that did not meet the renewal criteria?”

MOTION: Made by Vice-Chair Mary Dale and seconded by Commissioner Chuck Wright to waive the renewal criteria listed in the 2023-2024 Request for Applications to enable the commission to renew additional grants that did not meet the renewal criteria.

VOTE: 5-0: Motion Passed

VETERAN COUNTY SERVICE OFFICER

“Does any commissioner have a motion to renew any organization that did not meet the renewal criteria? Please state the organization and the amount you would like to renew it for.”

Cameron County	\$120,000	Financial Assistance
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MOTION: Made by Chair Laura Koerner and seconded by Secretary Kevin Barber to approve the renewal of the Cameron County VCSO grant request in the amount of \$120,000.

VOTE: 5-0: Motion Passed

Williamson County	\$210,000	Financial Assistance
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MOTION: Made by Vice-Chair Mary Dale and seconded by Secretary Kevin Barber to approve the renewal of the Williamson County VCSO grant request in the amount of \$210,000.

VOTE: 5-0: Motion Passed

Veteran Treatment Court

“Does any commissioner have a motion to renew any organization that did not meet the renewal criteria? Please state the organization and the amount you would like to renew it for.”

McLennan County	\$100,000
Williamson County	\$210,000
Brazoria County Veterans Court Program	\$75,000
Ellis County	\$110,000

MOTION: Made by Secretary Kevin Barber and seconded by Commissioner Mike Hernandez to approve the renewal of the above Veteran Treatment Court grant requests totaling \$495,000.

VOTE: 5-0: Motion Passed

Guadalupe County Veteran Treatment Court	\$100,000
El Paso County	\$300,000

AMENDED MOTION: Made by Chair Laura Koerner and seconded by Commissioner Mary Dale to approve the renewal of all the above Veteran Treatment Court grant requests totaling \$400,000.

VOTE: 5-0: Motion Passed.

HOUSING FOR TEXAS HEROES

“Does any commissioner have a motion to renew any organization that did not meet the renewal criteria? Please state the organization and the amount you would like to renew it for.”

Rebuilding together Houston	\$500,000	Home Modification
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MOTION: Made by Commissioner Chuck Wright and seconded by Secretary Kevin Barber to approve the renewal of the Rebuilding Together Houston grant totaling \$500,000.

VOTE: 5-0: Motion Passed.

VETERAN MENTAL HEALTH

“Does any commissioner have a motion to renew any organization that did not meet the renewal criteria? Please state the organization and the amount you would like to renew it for.”

Pecan Valley MHMR	\$300,000	Clinical Counseling
Jake E’s Riding Round Up	\$135,000	Clinical Counseling
Tropical Texas Behavior Health	\$500,000	Clinical Counseling

MOTION: Made by Vice-Chair Mary Dale and seconded by Commissioner Chuck Wright to approve the renewal of the Pecan Valley MHMR, Jake E’s Riding Round Up, and Tropical Texas Behavioral Health grants totaling \$935,000.

VOTE: 5-0: Motion Passed.

GENERAL ASSISTANCE

“Does any commissioner have a motion to renew any organization that did not meet the renewal criteria? Please state the organization and the amount you would like to renew it for.”

Alamo Area Council of Governments	\$300,000	Transportation Programs
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Austin-Travis County MHMR Center DBA Integral Care	\$260,000	Homeless Support
Bandera County Committee on Aging, Inc.	\$300,000	Financial Assistance
Central Texas Opportunities	\$300,000	Financial Assistance
Child Crisis Center of El Paso	\$197,000	Supportive Services
Community Action Corporation of South Texas	\$300,000	Financial Assistance
Concho Valley Community Action Agency	\$300,000	Financial Assistance
Impact A Hero	\$145,000	Financial Assistance
Lubbock Regional MHMR Center	\$255,000	Financial Assistance
United States Veterans Initiative (U.S. Vets)	\$300,000	Homeless Support
United Way of Tarrant County	\$275,000	Referral Services
YWCA El Paso del Norte Region	\$300,000	Supportive Services
Total	\$3,232,000	

MOTION: Made by Vice-Chair Mary Dale and seconded by Secretary Kevin Barber to approve the renewal of the above grants totaling \$3,232,000

VOTE: 5-0: Motion Passed.

Homeless Veterans Services of Dallas	\$100,000	Referral Services
Texas National Guard Family Support Foundation	\$300,000	Financial Assistance
Total	\$400,000	

MOTION: Made by Commissioner Chuck Wright and seconded by Commissioner Mike Hernandez to approve the renewal of the above grants totaling \$400,000.

VOTE: 5-0: Motion Passed.

Returning to Recommendations for FY2024-2025 FVA Grants, Agenda Item 6E

HOUSING FOR TEXAS HEROES

“Does any commissioner have a motion to recommend any organization not recommended by the committee? Please state the organization and the amount you would like to approve them for.

Concho Valley Community Action Agency	\$500,000	Home Modification
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MOTION: Made by Chair Laura Koerner and seconded by Commissioner Kevin Barber to approve the above grants.

VOTE: 5-0: Motion Passed.

VETERAN MENTAL HEALTH

“Does any commissioner have a motion to recommend any organization not recommended by the committee? Please state the organization and the amount you would like to approve them for.

No recommendations.

General Assistance

“Does any commissioner have a motion to recommend any organization not recommended by the committee? Please state the organization and the amount you would like to approve them for.

Houston Volunteer Lawyers	\$200,000	Pro Bono Legal Services
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MOTION: Made by Chair Laura Koerner and seconded by Secretary Kevin Barber to approve the above grants.

VOTE: 5-0: Motion Passed.

Veteran Mental Health

American Odysseus Sailing Foundation	\$100,000	Peer Support Services
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MOTION: Made by Secretary Kevin Barber and seconded by Chair Laura Koerner to approve the above grants.

VOTE: 5-0: Motion Passed.

Returning to 2023-2024 FVA Grant Renewals, Item 6D

Austin Bar Foundation	\$130,000	Pro Bono Legal Services
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MOTION: Made by Vice-Chair Mary Dale and seconded by Secretary Kevin Barber to approve the above grants.

VOTE: 5-0: Motion Passed

VII. Executive Session. None.

VIII. Discuss and take action on the items considered in Executive Session. There were no items to act on.

IX. Discussion about setting the date, time, and location of the next Commission Meeting

The Commission agreed that the 4th Quarterly Commission Meeting of F.Y. 2024 would be held on Thursday, August 15, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. HQ Austin TX, George H.W. Bush building, 4th floor board room.


X. Adjournment.

Chairwoman Koerner asked each Commissioner for any closing remarks.

Each Commissioner and the Executive Director extended their gratitude to the Texas Veterans Commission staff, Chairwoman Koerner, and the participating organizations for their support and hard work in serving Texas Veterans. Chairwoman Koerner provided closing remarks as well.

Chairwoman Koerner adjourned the meeting at 12:39 p.m.

Minutes Approved by:



Kevin Barber, Secretary