



Minutes of the General Business Meeting Winter Sacramento County Conference

Opening

The regular meeting of the CACVSO General Business Meeting was called to order on February 27, 2023, by President, Rhonda Murphy. Proceeding with Pledge of Allegiance by Harry Hitchings and Invocation by Grant Gautsche.

Counties Present

All counties were present at time of roll call excluding Contra Costa, Del Norte, Inyo-Mono, Mendocino, Shasta, and Sierra.

New VSO/VSR Introductions

Kyle Pennington of Fresno; Jose Lopez of Kern and Rachel Cesar of Placer.

President welcomed the new introductions and advised them to not hesitate to reach out to her or their peers if they need anything!

Approval of Minutes

Discussion: None.

Proposal: Approve minutes submitted electronically November 1, 2023, for Fall-Nevada Conference.

Motion: Dell Pratt

Seconded: Ken Cruickshank

Passed

Correspondence President, Rhonda Murphy

Discussion: None.

President Report President, Rhonda Murphy

Discussion: As I start my second year as your President my focus is to get our committees back on track. I would like to see more involvement from more members of the Association. The Executive board has reviewed and recommends removing old ad-hoc committees that are no longer needed, along with combining some that are redundant. If you are on more than one committee, I would ask that you choose your favorite so that others are able join and be more active in the Association.

I want to encourage all of you to get involved. Starting with the summer conference I would like to start meeting with the committee chairs for a President breakfast on Monday before the committee meetings. There will be more to follow on this.

I also would like to see Committee Chairs use our zoom platform to meet before the actual conference and have their reports ready to give at the general business meeting. If you are a committee chair of an active committee, you should never have “No report”. There should always be an update on what that committee has been working on. Also, if you have slides to present, please get them to the AV committee and the Secretary so they can be viewed by the Association during your presentation and be put on our website.

Since we met last in October, the Eboard was able to meet at our third annual retreat in Paso Robles, it was very productive. I also had the opportunity to attend the NACVSO Leadership Summit in Washington DC with Marvin King 1st Vice President and David West who is on the NACVSO training team. We were able to meet with several of our Federal Legislatures to help promote the passing of the CVSO Act and other VSO concerns at the National level. NACVSO President Nichole Coleman will be speaking to us this week regarding NACVSO and what they have been up to. If you are interested in getting involved in NACVSO please reach out to me.

Treasurer Report Treasurer, Ryan Kegley

Discussion: Power point provided discussing registration, conference cost, hospitality, disaster relief, budget overview, and current balances.

Proposal: To accept Treasurer report.

Motion: Scott Holwell

Seconded: Harry Hitchings

Passed

Executive Director Report Chair, Marion Moses

Discussion: Conference updates. Sam Isdell no longer with us for time and place. Marisol Jimenez has stepped up to take her place. Yuba-Sutter Registration Site for next conference will be posted following conference. Encourage to register early and will close mid to late May. County paying by check, please register early so that payment is received in timely manner.

NACVSO membership is paid by CACVSO for VSO's, they have updated their website so they will now have an online registration process. Once website goes live mid-late March, you will have to go onto your profile and renew membership online. VSO's will select pay by invoice option so you can print to pdf and email to executive director for payment to be processed. An email reminder will go out.

Legislative Report Chair, Scott Holwell

Discussion: Provided handout via email and discussed 2023 Legislative Session, 2023 Key Legislation, Important dates, New California Representation Maps, Military and veterans Affairs Committee, Senate Committee on Military and Veterans Affairs, and 2023 Legislation info on bills. Will provide reports to newsletter to open up to full membership. Looking at providing training for legislative day in the future.

Proposal: To accept Legislative report

Motion: Bob Johns

Seconded: Tom Jackson

Passed

By-Laws Report Chair, Dell Pratt

Discussion: To promote transparency, the Bylaws Committee recommends future updates to Bylaws (except for minor administrative corrections): Be developed and coordinated through the appropriate Standing Committee. For example, to change an Award or Citation, the Citations Committee would develop and coordinate the recommendation. The recommendation would then come to the Bylaws Committee for review – then to the Executive Board for discussion/review. Any questions, concerns would be coordinated between the Bylaws Committee and Standing Committee. Parliamentarian would read the suggested update/change twice before the Association – with a Vote after the 2d reading.

Proposal: Article XII, Sections 11, 12, & 13. Delete the current verbiage in Section 11 and replace with “Section 11. Mentorship Committee”. (Duties specified immediately after). Section 12 would add “Section 12. Women, Minority and Underrepresented Veterans Committee”. (Duties specified). Section 13 would be the Current Section 11.

Motion: Scott Holwell
Seconded: George Dixon
Passed

Proposal: Article VIII, Election of Officers – Section 1. The proposal is for the President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, the Sergeant-at-Arms and one trustee to be elected at each **WINTER conference** and assume the offices (be installed) immediately at the Banquet. Fall Conferences are now Virtual – elections during Winter Conference allow for better coordination.

Motion: David West
Seconded: Ken Cruickshank
Passed

Proposal: Article X, Executive Committee – Section 1. Add **Training Committee Chair** to Executive Committee as a **Voting** member. Training is a vital element of CACVSO – integral to Association success.

Motion: Chris Mancebo
Seconded: Grant Gautsche
Passed

Proposal: Article V, Meetings – Section 6. The Executive Committee has traditionally met the Sunday evening prior to Conference – at the conference location. Emerging times and trends have made Virtual Meetings a viable option for flexibility and more participation/attendance by Association members (at the invitation of the President). The proposal up for vote is to **Remove** the “**same place**” requirement for the Executive Committee meetings and specifically allow Virtual Executive Committee meetings.

Motion: David West
Seconded: Alfred Sims
Passed

Administrative Updates:

Article IX, Section 13. ADD – Define Role & Duties of Contracted Treasurer Position.

Article IX, Section 2. Duties of 1st Vice President. Add “Member of Finance Committee”. (Aligns with Article XII, Section 4 – Composition of Finance Committee.

Article XII, Section 7. Nominating Committee. Add “Junior Past President as member”. (Clarifies composition of committee). Specify committees, membership status.

Veterans Home Report Chair, Deborah Esque

Discussion: Provided handout via email/power point on Veteran Homes admissions, contact information updates and levels of care for each home.

Funding Process Report Chair, Grant Gautsche

Discussion: Hire Jack Kirwan back as consultant and we have \$ in our budget, \$125 hr, complete within \$5,000 possibly extended if needed.

Proposal: To accept entire slate of nominations.

Motion: Sean Stephens

Seconded: George Dixon

Passed

Strategic Planning Report Chair, Marvin King

Discussion: Strategic Plan is a series of statements used by an agency to help guide that agency through discussions and decision over a 3-to-5-year period. These statements look at what the agency’s purpose is, what direction the agency is heading, and then project where this agency will be at the end of this time-period. It is used to guide that agency in its daily activities and set its course such that at the end of this 3-to-5-year period the agency has accomplished their goals, placing that agency where it planned to be.

In 2022, this association decided that we needed updating our Strategic Plan. As most of everyone knows, I was selected to take this project on. This project started with an email questionnaire being sent to the membership. These inputs were consolidated and used as the beginning point or the basis of our Strategic Plan. This information was briefed to everyone in our November conference.

Since that time and over the course of the past several months, a team of 6 CACVSO members (Rochelle Arnold, Bill Cook, Maurice Delmar, Marisol Jimenez and Elena Kim) have been assembled to draft our plan. Meeting was scheduled to discuss what our Mission, Vision, and Value statements should be. Please note that this process takes time and a lot of effort. I would like to thank this team for their commitment of time and effort as we build our plan.

At this point, the CACVSO has just started our planning phase, and we are in the middle of establishing our goals for this next 3-to-5-year period. We have held several meetings since our last conference. After several revisions, the committee had a draft statement. A short time later and during the Executive Retreat, the E-Board provided additional guidance, help, and feedback on the Mission Statement. This input was highly productive and of great value to the planning committee.

Please note that the strategic planning committee used input received from the entire body, the E-Board, and from individual committee members to draft our final version of the association’s Mission Statement. This statement

was then presented to the E-Board during their pre-conference meeting and was approved for presentation to the entire membership for review and approval.

Ladies and Gentlemen, here is the CACVSO Mission Statement:

The mission of the CACVSO is to advocate on behalf of, educate, and support member counties as they assist the military and veteran community.

The next phase of the planning committee is to establish our Vision and Goals. We have started this process and are well on our way in provided a final version of these statements. I will share with you that these preliminary statements have been shown to the E-Board. It is our goal to have these statements complete by the next conference.

Along with this work, the committee has begun working on our Priorities and Objectives. This is at the very beginning stages, and we have a long way to go before sharing this with others.

Proposal: Approve Mission Statement changing community to communities.

Motion: Tom Jackson

Seconded: Ken Cruickshank

Passed

Education and training Chair, Tammy Bender

Discussion: Asking for input on training and how to hold Virtual conference. A new survey will be going out regarding input on training requests.

Automation Report Chair, Josh Dhanens

Discussion: Current VetPro and next gen. current changes affect money in pot for next gen. Another survey will go out for all counties for input. The following additions are being reviewed, Vet court database and Support documents.

Mentorship Report Chair, David West

Discussion: working on rewriting VetPro manual. Focus on Best Practices manual. Sept 20-22 hosting Mentorship Summit in Sacramento at Holiday Inn. CalVet will reimburse one day. CalVet sanctioning only not sitting in on training sessions.

Women, Minority & Underrepresented Veterans Committee Chair, Rochelle Arnold

Discussion: Working with Virginia Wimmer to obtain upcoming events and distribute the information.

Unfinished Business President, Rhonda Murphy

Discussion: No unfinished business.

New Business President, Rhonda Murphy

Discussion: No new business.

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned on February 27, 2023, at 5:00pm. by President, Rhonda Murphy. The next General Business Meeting will be held during Winter Sacramento County Conference.

Proposal: To Adjourn General Business Meeting.

Motion: Ken Cruickshank

Seconded: Bob Johns

Passed

Minutes submitted by: Yvette Mason