



VETERANS ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

8 January 2026 @1730 Hours
HHS Center – Red Poppy Room
11434 B Ave, Auburn CA 95603

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting called to order at 5:30pm by Harold Hayek, Vice Chair

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG: Pledge by All

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS: Harold Hayek led introductions

ATTENDANCE: Members On-Site: Robert Candler VFW Post 2003, Harold Hayek FRA BR 23, Melissa Washington WVA, Don Witt Semper Fi, Suzanne Jones D4 Supervisor, Steve Johnson PCVSO

ABSENT: Don Bilodeau VFW Post 1446, Lorie Franceschi AL Post 84, John Healy AL Post 169, Richard Tetrault AL Post 192

GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE:

Laurette Ramsey, AL Post 587. Application pending. Business as usual in post.

Tom Dunavent. Placer County Navy League. Application pending. Monthly dinner on the 01/19. Navy League is comprised of civilians in support of the sea services and not required to be a veteran to be a member.

Cole Wagennar. CalVet. Introduction and area of service description. Beale CalTAP coming up in couple weeks at Beale AFB. VSO will also be there.

QUORUM: A Quorum was established with 5 of 9 members present.

MINUTES: Approved 11 December 2025 minutes. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE: N/A

SUPERVISOR COMMENTS: N/A

REPORTS:

1. VAC Member's Reports/Announcements

Melissa Washington. Property tax exemption. SB 623 and SCA4, trying to combine for veterans to use both standard and disabled property tax exemption. AARP has veteran resources, to include jobs and benefits.

Robert Candler. Hosted a great pancake breakfast last month, raised a lot of funds for the post.

Harold Hayek. Roseville Hall, mural artist proposals are out and being reviewed.

Don Witt. Semper FI, Toys for Tots was about the same success as last year ~28K toys. Will affect ~12K families.

2. Executive Report– Steve. CVSO updates. \$18.5M captured in VA benefits for 2025, a 20% increase year over year and 55% since 2021.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. LAST CALL: VAC call for info for PCVSO Annual Report (2025) – VSO gave last call to members
2. New Members and County Code/By Laws Update – Steve updated on BOS schedule/progress

NEW BUSINESS: None

PUBLIC COMMENTS & GOOD OF THE ORDER: Melissa mentioned that Mather has a Salute to Service day in February. Many groups and teams participate.

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 6:12pm to the next regular VAC meeting, Thursday, February 12th, 2025, 1730 Hours, HHS Center - Red Poppy Room, 11434 B Ave, Auburn