

BRIAN SANDOVAL
Governor



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STATE OF NEVADA
**NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS
SERVICES**

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Veterans Memorial Cemetery
1900 Veterans Memorial Drive
Boulder City, Nevada 89005
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**INTERAGANCEY COUNCIL ON VETERANS AFFAIRS (ICVA)
8-21-14 MEETING MINUTES**

Meeting held via teleconference, information below:

- **Dial In Access: 775-684-4311**
- **Participant PIN: 830338**

Call to Order: Caleb Cage

Roll Call

Present:

Abba, Crystal – System of Higher Education
Breslow, Bruce – Department of Business & Industry
Cage, Caleb – Director of Military and Veterans Policy
Cox, Greg – Department of Corrections
Doser, Zachary – Department of the Military
Miller, Kat – Director, Department of Veterans Services
Perea, Dennis – Department of Employment, Training, and
Rehabilitation
Gibbons, Chris – NV Indian Commission
Kapp, Thomas – NV HHS Coordinator

Guests:

Chisam, Carl – Human Resource Management Group
Easton, Lee-Ann – NV Human Resource Management
Forbes, Tony – NV Dept. of Veteran Services

Approval of Agenda:

Motion to approve 8-21-14 agenda made by Bruce Breslow
Seconded by Dennis Perea
Decision: Unanimous

Approval of Minutes:

Approval of 3-12-14 minutes made by Crystal Abba
Seconded by Bruce Breslow
Decision: Unanimous

Public Comment

- Crystal Abba provided an update on GI Bill eligibility for service members and dependents, especially regarding state residency. A federal bill has been passed and signed requiring public institutions receiving GI Bill funding to give resident rates to students using them. The Board of Regents will be addressing the adoption of related policies at their September meeting.

***Old Business**

- Overview of the ICVA and its priorities as well as the Green Zone Initiative as directed by Governor Sandoval, provided by Caleb Cage:
 - Report begins with an overview of how the ICVA originated, and then goes through Council's guiding principles and details the group's activity.
 - Section A makes recommendations that create preferences and incentives for employers to hire veterans.
 - Section B recommends moving Nevada Job Connect under Veterans Employment Services instead of under NDVS.
 - Section C recommends licensure reciprocity, which is in line with a grant to provide increased opportunity for transitioning veterans and increasing data tracking, sharing, and reporting. While it is not being recommended that state licensing boards lower their standards, a veteran's military experience should count towards a state licensure.
 - Section D makes recommendations for a direct hire program and internship opportunities.
 - Section E addresses the topic of Boards and Commission reform, which means the possibility of adding veteran members to several identified boards and requiring those boards to provide an annual report on their activities to NDVS.
 - There is also a section not in the report, but came out of a subsequent Executive Order requiring NDVS to make recommendations along the lines of AB 291 from the 77th Session, which created a preference for a service connected disabled veteran owned businesses.

Discussion:

- Question by Bruce Breslow on the business impact statement or fiscal note regarding the impact of the recommendations that made it into the employment bill.
- Comment by Tony Forbes concerning Section J and AB 291 in relation to a federal bill where a veteran business owner is 51% owner/operator and who has also been designated by the VA as being a disabled veteran (50% disability rating or more)

Update to the NGA Policy Academy Grant for Military and Veterans Licensure Reciprocity, provided by Caleb Cage.

- This licensing reciprocity effort aims to help veterans use their military experience to obtain licenses such as nursing, law enforcement, and EMS.
- NDVS has provided funding for the EMT as well as the LPN program.
- The process is moving very quickly towards the legislative piece.
- Caleb has been meeting with other licensing boards in order to bring them on board with this established program.

Year of the Veteran purpose, successes, and outcomes, provided by Caleb Cage.

- The goal of the Year of the Veteran is to make Nevada the most military- and veteran-friendly state in the nation.
- This will be done by signing Executive Orders throughout the year, and then tying those to the legislative agenda for the next session.
- Bruce Breslow discussed the Homes for Hero's project and the fact that the funding will run out since it is a short term program but will it still be counted towards success for the Year of the Veteran.
- Caleb also discussed establishing an internship program for veterans' and student veterans statewide for various agencies.

***Future meeting goals**

- Caleb discussed the various counsels that the Governor has created and a creating comprehensive legislative report for each of the groups that will due in February. The question for the group was what the reports would look like. In conjunction to these reports the Dept. of Veteran Services and The National Governors Association want to fund a veteran legislation summit in January. It would be a goal to publish these reports in late January in order to push them out in to the veteran community as the next legislation session starts in 2015. The idea is to compile a summary of all the reports into one which will be the one submitted to the Nevada Legislation. Bruce Breslow brought up the idea of utilizing the media, in the nature of a press release, in order to get more attention to the report. No objections were brought up before the group to this idea.
- Caleb discussed the next steps for the ICVA and the three recommendations alongside the Green Zone Initiative. These three recommendations are the comprehensive report as discussed above, strategic planning for the ICVA, and an interagency task force.
- The strategic plan for the ICVA will engage in developing a plan around the areas of employment, education, and wellness. For the interagency task force specific goals should be identified. Caleb made the

recommendation to each of the agencies of the ICVA to develop three objectives for helping veterans. Identifying these three objectives on paper would allow for better tracking. The recommendation was to change the strategic plan for FY 2015-2017 so that they coincide with budget years. The three requests by the committee was to send the three recommendations electronically to each of the members of the committee, change the heading of the strategic planning to FY 15-17 biannual, and give the agencies of the ICVA goals so that they can develop their own timelines.

- Tony Forbes discussed the role of the task force and moving forward with consolidation of efforts and pushing information on to the Green Zone Network. Recommendation was made to setup a booth at the Governor's conference for small business that will be held in Reno next month. Caleb discussed that the task force is an action item should be put to a vote to be established and then Caleb and Tony can request nominees to represent each of the departments of the ICVA.
- Motion to put to motion to approve all three of the recommendations together for the next steps of the ICVA was made by Dennis Perea
Seconded by Col. Dozer
The motion passed unanimously
- Caleb discussed other future meeting goals will be:
 - For an update on the task force, the strategic plan, and the combined report that will need to be ready by February.
 - Update on the policy regarding NGA Licensure Reciprocity.

Future meeting dates/locations:

December 9, 2014 @ 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm in Guinn Room in Carson City and will videoconferenced with the Grant Sawyer Conference Room in Las Vegas.

Conclusion:

Closing remarks, questions comments

- Remarks were made Bruce Breslow thanking the ICVA for all their efforts and what they have accomplished.

Public Comment:

- None

Adjournment:

Adjourned at 3:00 PM