

Ricky Fernandez, Chair  
Ryan Antes, Vice Chair  
Jesse Blanco, Commissioner  
Sylvia Contreras, Commissioner  
Juanita Doplemore, Commissioner



Carlos Gonzalez, Commissioner  
Gustavo Orozco, Commissioner  
Mike Shaknovich, Commissioner  
Josh Smith, Commissioner

---

## FINISHED AGENDA & MINUTES

### CALL TO ORDER

Chair Fernandez called the meeting to order at 5:07 p.m.

### ROLL CALL

**Commissioners** Sylvia Contreras, Carlos Gonzalez, Gustavo Orozco, Mike  
**Present:** Shaknovich, Josh Smith, Ryan Antes and Ricky Fernandez

**Commissioners** Jesse Blanco

**Excused:**

**Commissioners** Juanita Doplemore

**Absent:**

1. 20-004VA Recommendation to approve minutes for Veterans Affairs Commission meeting held on January 15, 2020.

**A motion was made by Vice Chair Antes and seconded by Commissioner Smitty to approve recommendation. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 7 - Sylvia Contreras, Carlos Gonzalez, Gustavo Orozco, Mike Shaknovich, Josh Smith, Ryan Antes and Ricky Fernandez

**Excused:** 1 - Jesse Blanco

**Absent:** 1 - Juanita Doplemore

### PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Members of the public were present, but none addressed the Commission during the allotted time.

## **REGULAR AGENDA**

### **2. STAFF REPORT**

Staff reported on receiving an increased number of calls by Veterans and Veterans' service providers requesting information as well as the possibility of presenting the strategic plan in coordination with the scheduled city Veteran employees' mixer to take place before the Council meeting on March 24. Staff also reminded Commissioners to turn in their required Form 700 paperwork.

3. 20-005VA            Recommendation to discuss city Veteran employees mixer on March 24.

Adelita Lopez was unable to attend the meeting. In the absence of a presentation and discussion, no motion was made.

### **4. PRESENTATION**

Anthony Rodriguez, CalVet's Local Interagency Network Coordinator for Los Angeles and Ventura counties, presented on the many benefits, from home loans to the GI bill for education, offered by CalVet. One of CalVet's priorities now is the CalVet TAP (Transiton Assistance Program) In Action, which focuses on community outreach events to connect Veterans to their benefits.

### **5. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Guest John Oppenheim announced an upcoming construction pre-apprenticeship training program offered by Veteran Strong and the Orange Coast Community College District.

### **6. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

No future agenda items were discussed.

### **7. ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Fernandez adjourned the meeting at 6:40 p.m.