

CLOVIS VETERANS MEMORIAL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

A regular meeting of the Clovis Veterans Memorial District Board of Directors was held on February 6, 2020 in Patriots A/B. Chairman Tom Wright called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM followed by the flag salute.

Members Present:  
Chairman Wright  
Director Watnick  
Director Flach  
Director Frantzich  
Director Rice

**1. Public Comments/Presentations on Non-Agenda Items**

Dale Ikeda, President of the District, to update the Board on the Pinedale Memorial Center. He discussed signage to make the memorial distinguishable. He asked if the Board was interested in a co-sponsorship of the project with the JACL (Japanese-American Citizens League). Director Watnick asked if the City of Fresno will allow us to put up signage for the memorial, Mr. Ikeda had not looked into this yet. CEO Rios spoke to Steve Brandau about signage for historic landmarks. CEO Rios recommended that staff work with Mr. Ikeda to create a proposal and bring back to the March Board Meeting. The Board asked staff to move forward with the discovery part of the project.

Mr. Ikeda invited the Board to the Day of Remembrance, honoring the JACL for the Spirit of Education Distinguished American Award, on Sunday February 16, 2020.

Mr. Ikeda also invited them to a VIP Reception and Documentary of the life of Norman Mineta, on February 18, 2020.

Mr. Ikeda shared with the Board that he is now apart of the Board of National Veterans Network. He asked the Board if they were interested in sponsoring the program in the amount of \$5,000.00. The museum that is being created will have a permanent exhibit for the Nisei Veterans. The Board stated that they would take it under consideration.

**2. Agenda Items:**

**a. 2020 Theme**

The Board of Directors reviewed the options for the Districts' 2020 theme. The Board decided on having the theme as "Women in the Military" in honor of the 100th Anniversary of Women's Suffrage. They discussed the kinds of powerful speakers who could move the community in accordance with this theme, and the theme could be built on throughout the year. Director Rice expressed his desire to acknowledge and recognize the sacrifices women have made to enter the military and the sacrifices they make as they currently serve this nation.

Director Rice motioned to approve the "Women in the Military" theme for 2020, Director Frantzich seconded the motion. Motion carried 5 - 0.

Ayes: Flach, Frantzich, Rice, Watnick, Wright

**b. CHC Technology**

The District is reusing Wireless Access Points (WAP's) from 808 Facility and 3 Aruba hubs. These access points are put up to saturate the facility and parks to allow for constant wireless. There will be WAP's put in the Community Heritage Center as well. The RFP was released 1/20 with due date 1/31. A bid was received from Sebastian for \$33,882.29 for CHC Network and a bid was received by Sebastian \$188,289.03 for CHC A/V Equipment, which would include interior and exterior sound, projection, programming, and sound domes. There was one other bid but they didn't respond to the bid in time. There are other AV companies however they didn't respond due to either lack of interest or they didn't offer Crestron (which is a system that integrates all of our facilities). Director Rice expressed his desire to projector 3D holograms in the museum. CEO Rios responded by stating that the District Staff is exploring 3D elements to be brought into the museum and putting some 3D glass in this facility to peak interest to go to the Community Heritage Center.

Director Rice motioned motion to approve bid from Sebastian for CHC Network & CHC A/V Equipment, Director Watnick seconded the motion. Motion carried 5 - 0.

Ayes: Flach, Frantzich, Rice, Watnick, Wright

**c. Project Updates**

The HVAC remodel, the city approved the plans this week so the bids will go out tomorrow. The bids will be available to review at the next board meeting.

There was a stakeholders meeting for the CHC and they discussed a timeline for the exhibits. The first exhibit will stem from the 100th anniversary of women's suffrage which would focus on women in the military, women in the valley, and women throughout the decades. This is estimated to be open around March, which is the first month of women in the military. The official ribbon cutting would be on Veterans Day. The next exhibit would be Clovis 101. Stakeholders were invited for a meeting to discuss and begin a timeline. The desire is to have it open and ready on Veterans Day with the curriculum ready. Director Frantzich expressed that no one should see the facility until it is 100% complete. CEO Rios has shown some leaders in the community the Heritage Center and they've been amazed and are excited for what's to come. These subtle engagements to show them a "sneak peak" have built advocacy and helped the community see the center in a different light. Director Watnick asked about the trees in the way of the mural, and CEO Rios stated that the city did say the trees can come down and could be replaced by a nice shrub. It was agreed that the Community Heritage Center would have its grand opening during Veterans Day with the opening of Clovis 101.

3. **Administrative Reports**

a. **Community Service Organization Facility Grant Update**

CEO Rios reviewed the procedure for the Community Service Organization Facility Grant, including the new requirement to have the groups come back to the Board and share the contribution that they have made in the community through their events.

Kerry Catalano, Habitat for Humanity, thanked the Board of Directors for the grant and their contribution. The funds that were generate helped to complete the homes in Clovis that just opened. During their event 490 people attended and netted \$150,000. He believes having the program open with the video helps ensure the constituents are aware of what the District is and how it was founded. The next event is September of 2020 at the District.

Jeff Crane, Vice President of Heaven Sent Gina's Purse, a program that helps homeless, at risk youth, and battered woman, presented on their event. They sold 87 tickets, held a silent auction, and had door prizes. They were able to make contributions to the community and cover their costs. This year the theme will be a Raging Cajun Crab & Shrimp Boil.

Guy Adams, Heart of the Horse Therapy Ranch, is a volunteer for a local non profit that works with veterans and children to use equine therapy. 430 people attended and profited \$3,600.00 which is three months of operation at the ranch. Mr. Adams shared with the Board that the job of Heart of the Horse is to show Veterans that there is a reason to continue living and 9-15 veterans come out every other Tuesday to the ranch.

Judith Preuss, Soroptomist International of Clovis, thanked the Board for their sponsorship and direction that made Diamonds & Denims a success. The mission is to provide women and girls the training to achieve economic empowerment. Their projects include, Marjorie Mason Center, Live your Dream, and Dream It Be It. 125 tickets were sold for Denims and Diamonds and their total net was \$8,554.63.

b. **CEO Updates**

CEO Lorenzo Rios reviewed the various events that he's attended the previous month which included the CSDA Board Meeting, Army Aviation Ball, and the Salute to Business Luncheon.

c. **Administrative/Operational Updates**

Director of Operations, Amy Whitacre, reviewed the updates made in the facility. There have been sharps containers installed in the women's restrooms and the District is ordering more dance floors. They are also updating their bars and updating their handbook in regards to natural hairstyles becoming a protective class and the lactation room policy.

d. **Calendar of Events**

Amy Whitacre, Director of operations, asked for RSVP's for the Rotary Crab Feed and the Miss Winkles Pet Adoption Center Fundraiser.

4. **Board Items:**  
**None**

5. **CLOSED SESSION:**

6. **Adjournment**

With no further business to discuss, Chairman Wright adjourned the meeting at 10:52am.

Reviewed by  
Lorenzo Rios  
CEO

Approved by  
August Flach  
Board Secretary