

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 March 7, 2019 in Veterans Room 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 Rice

Director Frantzich (arrived at 9:05am)

**1. Consent Agenda**

Director Watnick motioned to approve the consent agenda as presented., Director Flach seconded the motion. Motion carried 4 - 0.

Ayes: Flach, Rice, Watnick, Wright

**a. Approval of Agenda**

**b. Approval of Warrants**

**c. Approval of Minutes**

**2. Public Presentations**

None

**3. Agenda Items:**

**a. CSDA/ SDRMA Board Elections**

CEO Rios stated that Board member positions have become available for both SDRMA and CSDA. He stated that neither have representation from a Veterans Memorial District and asked for consideration from the Board about whether a CVMD board member or staff member should submit their name. Chairman Wright asked about the level of commitment needed to serve on either or both Boards.CEO Rios stated that attendance to conferences and meetings in Sacramento was required. Director Rice asked about the benefit of having someone on SDRMA Board. CEO Rios stated that it would allow us to have a voice on the Board.

Director Rice motioned to designate CEO Rios as a candidate for both the SDRMA and CSDA Boards, Director Frantzich seconded the motion. Motion carried 5 - 0.

Ayes: Flach, Frantzich, Rice, Watnick, Wright

**b. 2019 District Theme**

CEO Rios discussed theme ideas collected from the Board and stated that the goal of the staff is to incorporate the theme into all initiatives throughout the year. CEO Rios and the Board discussed the proposed theme topics. Director Rice preferred "Why We Memorialize Veterans."

Director Watnick stated that the District should recognize the 75th Anniversary of D-Day in the theme. The Board further discussed theme ideas. CEO Rios offered the theme, "D-Day: An Incredible Sacrifice" for Board consideration. Dr. Rice suggested "Heart of Sacrifice." Patrice Flach offered "D-Day: The Real Superheroes," along with a visual map sent to every teacher as a visual aid to allow them to teach about the history of D-Day. CEO Rios stated a map can help shape the narrative in the classroom. Director Flach suggested the theme "America's Heroes." The Board discussed the possible theme "Heart of a Hero" or "Heart of a Hero: Revisiting D-Day"

Director Rice motioned to approve "Heart of a Hero: Revisiting D-Day" as the 2019 District theme., Director Watnick seconded the motion. Motion carried 5 - 0.

Ayes: Flach, Frantzich, Rice, Watnick, Wright

**c. Project Updates**

CEO Rios recommended that the District coordinate a joint board meeting with Clovis Unified School District. CEO Rios asked for feedback and direction on the proposed agenda items for such a meeting. Director Rice suggested that a memorial at the Veterans Stadium as well as memorialization on school campus be discussed. Director Flach suggested the topic of implemented flag training on school campuses and the availability of scholarship programs. Director Watnick stated that the District would need to discuss how it can provide more background on our country's foundational principles. CEO Rios asked if staff should try to arrange a meeting for March 2019. The Board suggested aiming for an April or May meeting.

Director Flach motioned to direct staff to arrange a joint meeting with the CUSD Board, Director Watnick seconded the motion. Motion carried 5 - 0.

Ayes: Flach, Frantzich, Rice, Watnick, Wright

CEO Rios stated that the District's project manager, Brian Heryford, is on board and there was a meeting planned with Darden Architects. CEO Rios stated that the Board should expect to see the projects moving forward a little faster, with a projected opening date for the Heritage Center of November 1, 2019. CEO Rios discussed the need for a name for the 299 Clovis Ave facility.

Chairman Wright offered "The Flume House" as the name and state he hoped to keep the name related to the historic lumber industry in Clovis. CEO Rios stated that a joint Clovis City council and CVMD Board meeting was scheduled for March 11, 2019. CEO Rios discussed the proposed agenda for the meeting. The Board discussed agenda items for the joint board meeting.

Director Rice motioned to name the 299 Clovis Ave facility "The Flume House", Director Frantzich seconded the motion. Motion carried 4 - 0.

Ayes: Flach, Frantzich, Rice, Wright  
Abstain: Watnick

#### **4. Administrative Reports**

##### **a. CEO Updates**

CEO Rios discussed the Sweetheart Dance held in February and staff showed a video recapping the event. CEO Rios stated that the District was contacted by Kings County and Tulare County asking for guidance on how to establish a Veterans Memorial District.

Valerie Salcedo discussed the Theater Seoul production of "Princess and Ondal" performed in February at the Memorial Auditorium at CVMD. The Board commended the performance and discussed the need for updated equipment in the Auditorium to accommodate more complex productions.

On March 1, CEO Rios spoke at the local recruiting battalions' Army banquet. On March 29, the VA Central California Health Care System in partnership with CVMD will host the joint Vietnam Veterans Day Ceremony at the VA Walk of Honor. CEO Rios stated the VA requested that a representative from the District speak at the ceremony. Dr. Rice was chosen to speak at the ceremony. On March 30, Rios will support the Dinuba Vietnam Veterans Ceremony at their Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall.

##### **b. Administrative/Operational Updates**

Ms. Whitacre stated that the Damage to 299 Clovis Ave building was fixed. She also stated that a part-time receptionist was hired and schedule to start the following Monday.

Ms. Whitacre provided an update on Patriot's Dinner, scheduled for May 1, 2019. Staff is working with CUSD for the list of students who have chosen to enter the armed forces. The AUSA Band was confirmed to provide live music for the event. Ms. Whitacre will provide further details at the April Board meeting.

With regards to Memorial Day, CEO Rios asked the Board if they wanted to keep the car show. Director Frantzich stated that there should be just one big car show reserved for Veterans Day only. Ms. Whitacre stated that staff was working with the CA Military Museum to bring an exhibit to the CVMD facility for Memorial Day.

CEO Rios discussed the Rotary District Conference in May at CVMD. He stated that the Conference theme is centered around Veterans and 400 people are expected to attend.

##### **c. Calendar of Events**

Sarah Wood presented the Board with an updated calendar of events and discussed all upcoming events that require RSVPs from the Board.

##### **d. Review of Past Board Items**

CEO Rios discussed the "Leadership Clovis" program and stated that he met with Greg Newman to discuss the CVMD Board's interest in bringing the project back to life. The goal of

the program was to develop informed citizens and train the next generation of leaders. CEO Rios also discussed facilitating a women's conference in partnership with Fresno and Clovis Chambers of Commerce.

**5. Board Items:**

CEO Rios discussed notes taken from the Board Workshop the previous day. The Board discussed the takeaways from the workshop. Chairman Wright stated that the workshop was well done and well received by the attendees. Director Frantzich asked about how to go about raising taxes associated with revenue for the District. CEO Rios stated the staff will need to look into that to provide an accurate answer.

Director Flach stated the workshop was very beneficial. Director Flach also stated that he was approached about the wifi in the building, and whether a secure network was an option. CEO Rios stated that the wifi is an open network and that secured network was not available at this time. Director Flach said that handicap citizens have expressed the need for more handicap parking spaces along Veterans Parkway, as well as handicap access doors at the Veterans patio entrance. CEO Rios stated that for safety purposes the handicap spaces and doors are placed at the North entrance area.

Director Watnick invited everyone to the CenterStage Clovis Community Theatre "Encore! Duets" show on Saturday, March 9 in the Memorial Auditorium at CVMD.

Director Frantzich asked about the current rules for reserving the facility in advance for annual functions. Ms. Whitacre reviewed the booking times for organizations. Director Frantzich suggested sending a letter out to organizations informing them of the rules for booking the facility.

The Board took a break at 11:18am before entering into closed session.

**6. CLOSED SESSION:**

**a. CEO Evaluation**

Nothing to report.

**7. Adjournment**

With no further business to discuss the Board of Directors adjourned at 12:15pm.

Reviewed by  
Lorenzo Rios  
CEO

Approved by  
Director August Flach  
Board Secretary