

## The Minutes of the Meeting

### STATE VETERANS AFFAIRS COMMISSION

October 27, 2017  
9:00 A.M.

An official meeting of the State Veterans Affairs Commission convened on Friday, October 27, 2017 at the Doubletree, Atlantic Beach, NC. Attendance as noted:

#### Commission Members

Jimmy G. (Tony) Braswell, Chairman  
Elree T. Smith, Vice-Chairman  
Etteinne (E.T.) Mitchell  
William Shillito (Absent)  
Leonard (Mike) Scruggs  
Carol Phelps  
Terry T. Hales  
Joseph (Joe) W. Adamczyk  
Gregory R. Woodard  
Rev. Lenwood V. Long, Sr.  
Michael Worley  
John C. Boesch (Absent)  
Larry Townsend

#### Advisory Committee Members

Jeffrey D. Jones (Absent)  
Marine Corps League  
Jacob Roth, Commander (Absent)  
American Ex-Prisoners of War  
David Shore, Commander (Absent)  
The American Legion  
Buddy Waller (Absent)  
AMVETS  
Algernon B. Hill, Commander (Absent)  
Disabled American Veterans  
Doug Blevins, Commander (Absent)  
Veterans of Foreign Wars  
James Hicks  
Military Order of the Purple Heart  
Rossie M. Nance, Jr. (Absent)  
Vietnam Veterans of America  
Douglas Ehrhardt, President (Absent)  
North Carolina Council of MOAA

Assistant Secretary for Veteran Affairs  
Deputy Director, NC Division of Veteran Affairs  
Facilities Manager  
Contractor/Scholarship  
Administrative Assistant  
Administrative Assistant  
Administrative Secretary

James (Jim) Prosser  
Martin Falls  
James (Jimmy) Woodard  
E. Wayne Peedin  
Diane Norris  
Ken Castille  
Angela Heilig

#### Guests

Jeri Graham, North Carolina Council of MOAA  
Craig Armstrong, Junior Vice-Commander, NC Veterans of Foreign Wars

Chairman Tony Braswell called the meeting to order, thanked everyone for attending and expressed his appreciation being able to be a part of the banquet held last night at part of the Fall Conference for Veterans Affairs Service Officers. Rev. Lynwood Long, Sr. gave the invocation and Vice-Chairman Elree Smith led reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Braswell asked Assistant Secretary Prosser to conduct a roll-call of attendees to determine if a quorum is present. Assistant Secretary Prosser completed the roll-call and announced a quorum of the Veterans Affairs Commission was present. Assistant Secretary Prosser additionally called a roll of the Veterans Affairs Commission Advisory Board to assess attendees.

Chairman Braswell called the attention of the Commission regarding any conflicts of interest and if any was found that the affected Commission members would recuse themselves from any discussion and deliberations.

Chairman Braswell called for a motion to approve the minutes of the Commission meeting minutes from July 27, 2017. A motion was made by Commissioner Woodard and seconded by Commissioner Mitchell. A vote was taken and all approved with no opposition. Chairman Braswell also asked for the approval of the meeting agenda as presented but asked for a change to move the report of Mr. Jimmy Woodard, Facilities Manager (State Homes and Cemeteries) ahead of Secretary Prosser, Assistant Secretary for Veterans Affairs and under Other Business, call for an update from members of the Veterans Affairs Advisory Committee from those present. A motion was made by Vice-Chairman Smith to approve the agenda as revised and was seconded by Commissioner Townsend. The Commission approved by a unanimous vote.

Chairman Braswell called on Mr. Jimmy Woodard for his report. Mr. Woodard began with the Fayetteville State Nursing Home with a current census of 143. He noted that there is an emergency HVAC system replacement project that has been approved for R&R funding in the amount of \$2,101,453.00 in with the Secretary for signature to be brought to State Construction. Mr. Woodard also explained that if a project is from R&R funding, the funds come from the State and not out of the Nursing Home Trust Fund.

Mr. Woodard reported the Salisbury nursing home census is at 92 with a current project for elevator replacement from R&R funds in the amount of \$843,910.00. The designer has been selected and will be presented to the State building commission on October 31, 2017 that will be in addition to the current project ongoing for the renovation and addition to the Activity Room. This project is around \$5M where we're upfront the funds but paperwork is in Washington for a grant and if approved, we'll get 65% of money back. There is also a generator replacement and addition project to give more heat and air conditioning in the amount of \$1,398,461.43. The process has begun and we've been allowed to proceed so we'll be able to receive reimbursement from Washington.

Mr. Woodard announced the census at Black Mountain Nursing Home is 99. The security project has begun with a contractor selected for \$612,950.00. We've been awarded a grant and we'll receive 65% from Washington.

In Kinston, Mr. Woodard said the census is 94. The building sprinkler system replacement project is ongoing with the project to be completed around Christmas 2017. Mr. Woodard reminded the Commission they transferred \$2M originally not knowing we would get funding from the State. Money was transferred and in the meantime, a request was made and approved by the Commission to reallocate \$1.5M for a renovation project at Salisbury Nursing Home because the costs came in higher. Now, we are only going to use \$1.2M but may require more funding. Roof repairs at Kinston are approved for R&R funding for \$600,415.00 and a designer selected to be approved by the State Building Commission on October 31st. The security project was awarded and 99% complete with a few bugs but the system is being used. The emergency sprinkler system repairs are a stay to the geothermal system and are being looked at by an independent contractor to come in for redesign for \$36,000.00.

Mr. Woodard announced the NC State Veterans Home Trust Fund is at \$57,445,768.27.

Chairman Braswell asked Mr. Woodard about the \$36,000 for the re-design of the sprinkler system and recommended a Commission vote for approval. Vice-Chairman Smith made a motion to approve \$36,000 for a geothermal study at Kinston that was seconded by Commissioner Woodard. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote from the Commission. Chairman Braswell stated that this vote was something we didn't need to do but wanted to do to be transparent with the emergency action spending actions of the Commission. Chairman Braswell added that with the transfer of money from the Trust

Fund that any unused funds are returned and Mr. Woodard responded that was the reason he gave the reports.

Commissioner Hale made a comment that as a new Commission member he has noticed that the expenses going to the work being done at the Kinston State Nursing Home are the highest of all and expressed frustration on behalf of the Commission for having to re-design and re-work issues that keep coming up for the work not being done correctly the first time. Secretary Prosser said DMVA Secretary Hall has approached the Attorney General's office on litigation of the original contract but was told the sub-contractor has gone bankrupt and the contractor has been sold to a company in Japan based in California that doesn't do work in North Carolina which leaves the State no recourse for remedy.

Commissioner Adamczyk stated he would like to hear when a project is completed if we could get a quick rundown of who did the project, who inspected, who accepted and what the warranty is on the work. He said no one is taking responsibility for the work being done. Secretary Prosser said we are in the process of hiring our own engineer as recommended by the Commission to supervise the projects. Commissioner Mitchell asked if the Commission could be provided a list of lessons learned before the next big project so we don't repeat mistakes.

Commissioner Woodard stated that he expects a future project to replace the sewer line at Kinston to which Mr. Woodard replied that R&R funding is available for that. Chairman Braswell said our fiduciary responsibility is to approve projects and repairs at Kinston so we need things right the first time. While Mr. Woodard explained State contracts and awarding contracts to the lowest bidders, Commissioner Adamczyk agreed but stated there needs to be accountability for the work while Commissioner Mitchell said we shouldn't accept the work without proper inspection. Commissioner Scruggs reiterated the need for a list of lessons learned from completed projects. Chairman Braswell stated the Commission needs to be aware of all phases of construction projects and Vice-Chairman Smith suggested we put that into a future mission statement of the Commission to keep up with projects. Chairman Braswell suggested periodic updates to the Commission from an engineer on projects.

Mr. Woodard reported the Sandhills State Veterans Cemetery in Fayetteville and the Western Carolina Veterans Cemetery at Black Mountain received letters from the Cemetery Grant Program to begin the design process of cemetery expansion for construction to begin as early as July 2018. Designers have been selected and letters have been sent to the State Building Commission that meets on October 31<sup>st</sup> showing \$5,977,200.00 for Fayetteville and \$2,774,321.00 for Western Carolina. Once construction starts, VA will start reimbursement. The grants are 100% from the VA but money will need to be fronted since the General Assembly did not budget for this in current legislation. Mr. Woodard stated there is \$1,481,786.70 currently in receipts in the Cemetery fund balance. Chairman Braswell asked Mr. Woodard to provide the Commission at our next meeting a breakdown of the fund balance showing any designated or unencumbered funds available so we can show an accurate view of the balance.

Advisory Commission member, Mr. Hicks, asked if we could get a look at the monthly receipts received and the monthly cost of operation and if the award has been made for the cemetery expansion. Mr. Woodard said the letters authorize us to move ahead with the expansion and approximately \$900K is for design, survey and making ready for bid. Once bid, everything is sent to Washington and, once the grant is awarded, we can begin to bill the VA.

Commissioner Scruggs asked if reports could show previous year's balances compared to this year's balance for cemeteries and nursing homes.

Commissioner Woodard asked for reports to show maintenance and foreseeable maintenance that would encumber funds.

Chairman Braswell explained that fund balances show the current balance and takes into account encumbered funds but Mr. Woodard said the current balance doesn't show money designated for funds for pre-expansion project that would leave only about \$500K in the cemetery fund. Commissioner Scruggs asked about a true current fund balance showing maintenance, salaries, etc. and Commission Braswell asked Mr. Woodard asked for a true fund balance. Commissioner Mitchell suggested this become standard for each meeting. Additionally, Chairman Braswell asked that the Nursing Home Trust Fund be included.

Vice-Chairman Smith asked if we need to address fees charged for non-veteran spouse burials. Mr. Woodard stated the Commission raised the fees from \$400 to \$800 before and said we get a standard \$749 from the VA for each veteran buried with all going into receipts. Vice-Chairman Smith said that with receipts money being used for more expenses, we may need to raise the non-veteran spouse burial fees. Chairman Braswell said we need more data before we can discuss raising these fees.

Chairman Braswell asked if there were any more questions for Mr. Woodard and with none, expressed appreciation for his work. Secretary Prosser also expressed his thanks to Mr. Woodard and Ms. Diane Norris for their efforts in getting the funds from R&R funds from the State.

Chairman Braswell called on Deputy Director Falls for a report on the Division of Veterans Affairs.

Director Falls began by reporting that the Division has three new hires since the last Commission Meeting; a grounds worker in Jacksonville, Region I Manager and a new VSO in Wilmington. He further stated the following current vacancies:

- Admin Officer II
- VSO, State Service Office
- Maintenance Mechanic II, Black Mountain
- Processing Assistant IV, Scholarship Assistant
- Business Manager
- Administrative Assistant, Military Affairs
- Processing Assistant, Cemetery Programs
- Family Programs Coordinator, Military Affairs
- Field Operations Manager, Veterans Affairs
- Training Officer, Region I Veterans Affairs
- Cemetery Director

Director Falls stated there was no reserve salary for employee raises to increase the pay for new hires. However, the General Assembly did authorize a \$1,000 annual pay increase for all current employees.

In training, Director Falls stated there were 33 personnel (3-State, 30-County) for Veteran Service Officer positions. There were 11 VSOs accredited at the NC County Conference in April 2017 and 23 more were accredited this past Monday at the State Conference for a total of 34 this year as compared to accrediting 28 last year.

Director Falls noted as of October, there are 29 State VSOs in our Service Centers across the State and 4 in the State Nursing Homes with 18 Veterans Service Technicians state-wide. Numbers of County Veteran Service Officers stand at 167 prior to accreditation testing held on Monday.

Training for Veteran Service Officers was conducted for 219 attendees at eight District schools awarding 4 CEUs (Continuing Education Units) in the four regions across the State per our responsibility as outlined by the NC General Statute. During these training schools, we had representatives from NC Works, American Legion, Disabled American Veterans, VA Staff and Volunteer groups with a focus on the recent additions of Camp Lejeune Contaminated Water claims and changes to the VA Appeals process. DVA also conducted Regional Schools and trained a total of 207 VSOs (Region I-37, Region II-

59, Region III-65 and Region IV-46) and awarded six CEUs. Director Falls stated the CEU requirement is each VSO across the State accredited by NCDVA must earn 16 CEUs annually to maintain their accreditation however many personnel in training didn't need the CEUs but attended for the valuable information, networking and camaraderie.

For Region Reports, Director Falls provided the following information from across the State:

In Region I, there were VEACs (Veterans Experience Action Centers) in Franklin and Murphy, U.S. Congressman Meadows' Veterans Caucus 3-4 August, Asheville American Legion Post Open House on 8 August, Old Soldiers Parade in Newton on 17 August, Veterans Stand Down in Asheville on 8 September and the traveling Vietnam Wall in Conover on 9 September.

In Region II, there was a VBAC (Veterans Benefits Action Center) in Charlotte 16-18 August (over 850 veterans seen) and a Veterans Stand Down in Greensboro on 22 September.

In Region III, there was a Veterans Stand Down in Roberson County on 4 August, a Veterans Stand Down in Fayetteville on 24 August, a VBAC in Cary 14-16 September (with over 1,000 veterans seen), a Veterans Summit at Wake Technical Community College 5 October and another Veterans Stand Down in Fayetteville on 11 October.

In Region IV, there were Veteran Stand Downs in New Bern 8 September, Havelock 9 September and Goldsboro 5 September.

Director Falls reported NCDVA sponsored Veterans Support Specialist Training in conjunction with Duke EPIC to offer peer-to-peer counseling training with 32 graduates. There are now 69 graduates of the program since inception.

Director Falls announced that Secretary Prosser had attended the National Conference for State Directors of Veterans Affairs 26-31 August in St. Thomas, USVI.

Director Falls mentioned the PBS series, Viet Nam, kicked off with a pre-screening on 6 September in Charlotte with the nation-wide series to broadcast starting 17 September.

In the State Service Office report, there were 39 Compensatory claims, 0 Pension claims and 18 POA claims during the period July-September. For Appeals, there were 77 scheduled and 52 conducted during the same period.

Director Falls gave an update on the Scholarship program. He stated that the computer application process is live but we're still working through "bugs" in the software that can be addressed by Ms. Angela Heilig and Mr. Wayne Peedin.

Secretary Prosser began his report by providing information requested from the last Veterans Affairs Commission meeting for a list of veteran Legislators that we are working on but announced the new joint Military-Veteran Caucus chaired by NC Rep. John Torbett, District 108, Gaston County; NC Rep. Holly Grange, District 20, New Hanover County; NC Rep. Grier Martin, District 34, Wake County, NC; Sen. Ben Clark, District 21, Cumberland-Hoke Counties; Jeff Jackson, District 37, Mecklenburg County; Sen. Ron Rabin, District 12, Harnett-Johnston-Lee County Counties. To date, the membership list has not been provided. Also, the list of friends-contacts for the districts and there has been conversation with the Governor's office regarding re-districting. He asked each Commission member to forward a copy of their original letter or last appointment letter showing the expiration date of appointment to the Commission since there is some confusion in the Governor's office. Additionally, Secretary Prosser mentioned the suggested talking points regarding cemetery funding that will be provided later after the next session of the General Assembly to begin in May 2018.

Secretary Prosser mentioned the attendance at the NCDVA State Conference that ended today. There were 147 County Veteran Service Officers present and attendance by both State and County VSOs, there is a much closer working relationship and a quality of training that is beneficial to all.

Secretary Prosser reported on his trip to the National State Directors Conference and announced the VA's latest statistics on the Big 3 in Veteran Claims which is traditionally Texas as #1, California #2 and either Florida & New York for #3 but now North Carolina is #3 in claims filed and #8 in veteran population. Secretary Prosser attributed this to being there for veterans and filing the claims with all the networking programs running across the State to help the veteran.

Secretary Prosser mentioned the VA has commented on the VBAC/VEAC events held in the State and has taken notice of the large attendance since NC appears to be the only state conducting these activities.

Secretary Prosser brought attention to the attendance of members of the Veterans Affairs Advisory Board and in discussion with Chairman Braswell, wants to increase participation by streamlining the meetings and ask, at each Commission meeting, for each organization to give an update on their activities for veterans over the last quarter along with future activities and legislative issues that are being looked at so we can discuss and coordinate efforts.

Lastly, Secretary Prosser said we are looking to provide information regarding cemetery funding to the General Assembly for full understanding of the appropriated/receipts funding.

Chairman Braswell thanked Secretary Prosser for his report and commended him and his staff for their work, Director Falls for a successful conference and the bond that has been created between NCDVA and County Veterans Service Officers. Chairman Braswell mentioned a statistic shared from Mr. Mark Bilosz of the VA that only 24% of veterans in North Carolina are receiving compensation. Secretary Prosser shared that the national average is only about 32%. Vice-Chairman Smith stated we have a large contingent of veterans who should file a claim but choose not to for their own reason.

Chairman Braswell called for a 5-minute break at 10:35 a.m. but before, Commissioner Long announced that on November 6<sup>th</sup>, J.P. Morgan/Chase will announce three states have been selected and will provide business capital for veterans in Texas, California and North Carolina.

After reconvening, Mr. Brad Stroud, President of the North Carolina Association of County Veterans Service Officers, came in to express his appreciation for all that the Veterans Affairs Commission has done to support the Veteran Service Officers. He encouraged the Commission members to reach out and get to know the County Veteran Service Officers.

Chairman Braswell called attention to the Agenda and asked the members of the Advisory Committee to give a report on their organization's activities.

Ms. Jeri Graham of the North Carolina Council for MOAA (Military Officers Association of America) began by announcing changes to the North Carolina Veterans Council and asked for communication between organizations. In the area of legislative business, the NC Veterans Council organizes the annual Legislative Day for Veterans and stated there are changes coming to security in General Assembly buildings that may prohibit assembly of our veteran organizations to "storm the offices" of our legislators seeking support for veterans legislation with statistics and talking points along with Certificates of Appreciation to sponsors of veterans legislation. Therefore, the future Legislative Day hasn't been announced. She also referenced an orientation tour of the legislature for new members and members should sign up to get updates to legislation activities. The NC Vet Council has a website that is being worked and members are asked to be familiar with [www.nc.gov](http://www.nc.gov) to navigate state departments. As we will be facing a short session in the legislature, the NC Veterans Council will attempt to highlight all the important bills that need to be addressed.

Mr. Craig Armstrong, NC Veterans of Foreign Wars, stated he was just here to gather knowledge and pass along to the state VFW leadership. Vice-Chairman Smith mentioned that the State VFW was in talks with NCDVA in accrediting service officers for each other's organization.

Mr. James Hicks, NC Military Order of the Purple Heart, had nothing to report as Ms. Graham covered items from the NC Veterans Council.

Chairman Braswell spoke about the Commission's Closed Session stating that we are bound by the Open Meeting Laws and its procedures. He said there are only a few reasons the Commission could legally go into Closed Session and one of the reasons is our Scholarship deliberations to discuss certain individuals and actions/inactions on their part. He stated the Closed Session is very brief and no action can be taken until returning to Open Session. In discussion with Secretary Prosser, Chairman Braswell said we will look at writing the Agenda in April to schedule the Closed Session in the beginning and start the Open meeting later where all will attend.

Chairman Braswell addressed the agenda item of State Law 2017-29 recently passed by the General Assembly requiring the Veterans Affairs Commission to develop a Strategic Plan and called on Secretary Prosser to give a brief description of current actions. Secretary Prosser began by directing Commission members to a copy of the legislation in their folders and stated that this legislation is similar to another law that directed a strategic plan from the Military Affairs Commission. He said the law directs the Veterans Affairs Commission adopt a comprehensive plan by November 1, 2018 to enhance benefits for veterans and their dependents with specific objectives on what they want the Commission to track with a report due on May 1, 2019. His recommendation to the Commission is to develop a working group to develop the strategic plan and how to implement the bill. Chairman Braswell asked that Vice-Chairman Smith lead the committee along with Commissioner Woodard and Commissioner Hales.

Chairman Braswell asked for a report of Scholarships Enrolled from Ms. Angela Heilig to give the Commission an idea how many students are involved in what we're doing. Ms. Heilig announced for the school year 2016-2017, there were 59 Class I-A scholarships, 417 Class I-B scholarships, 377 Class II scholarships, 365 Class III and no scholarships for Class IV. She was unable to give an update for 2017-2018 because she is currently processing school invoices for the Fall semester but will have data available for the next Commission meeting. Chairman Braswell thanked Ms. Heilig and NCDVA for their work. Secretary Prosser announced that he is still waiting for a response from DMVA General Counsel regarding Commission actions on GPA requirements.

Secretary Prosser asked Mr. Peedin to address FY 2017-2018 Budget Scholarship Program Appropriations Increase. Mr. Peedin stated that over \$1M was asked for in the Governors Budget to restore room & board allowance. The House budget included it but the Senate budget did not. The compromise came out of committee with appropriations of only \$536,443 but not what was needed since Class II and Class III are funded by escheats and there was no escheat funding. We were not able to use these funds for Class II and Class III to restore room & board allowance. An attempt will be made to go back during the Legislature Short Session to get the escheat money to fully restore the room & board allowance. NCDVA is proposing, with the Commission's concurrence, with the recurring appropriations money to encumber an additional \$298,000 for Class I-A and in case escheat money is received, we'll have enough to increase the room & board allowance for Class IA as well as Class II and III. For private institutions, NCDVA is proposing to increase rates for full and limited I-B scholarships to \$7,000 per year for full and \$2,800 per year for limited I-B.

Commissioner Hales asked a question if we are encouraging students to attend State schools rather than a private school, why should we pay more for tuition since a student would opt to attend a private school? Mr. Peedin said the General Assembly didn't understand what we were asking for and we now have \$536,433 of recurring funds that can't be used of which only \$298,000 can be used. Mr. Peedin said this is a recurring amount that must be used or we lose it. Commissioner Hales asked if we could fix that to

the point what would have been allocated to a private school eventually down the road maybe next budget year; we get that pushed over to support state-supported school. Further, the State of North Carolina would get more for the money if they did that and the Commission would be able to give scholarship and financial support to greater numbers since they're going to a state-supported school. Mr. Peedin stated we can't give more scholarship than allowed by statute, 100 in Class II and 100 in Class III which are funded by escheats. Class I-A and I-B are funded by encumbered funding from appropriations.

Chairman Braswell requested the Commission decide on NCDVA's recommendation. Commissioner Woodard made a motion to move forward with the proposed plan rather than lose future money. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Mitchell. A vote was taken and the motion was approved.

Chairman Braswell asked Ms. Heilig to address the technology update to scholarship processing. Ms. Heilig said she is adapting to the new program but it isn't friendly to her as an employee so it is unfriendly to those that attempt to use the program to apply for a scholarship. The program is linked to the CRM software being introduced for the State. There are concerns with applicants not being able to complete the application process. Secretary Prosser expressed his frustration in not getting the user-friendly functions now but told the software can get there eventually. Commissioner Hales is asking what can be done now to improve the system before the target date to start the program in February? Mr. Peedin said we can't express what needs to be done since we're still encountering problems and has said NC Department of Information Technology is working with us to get issues resolved.

Chairman Braswell looked to schedule the next Veterans Affairs Commission meeting to be held at the State Nursing Home in Kinston and decided on Thursday, January 18, 2018 at 10:00am. Chairman Braswell called attention to the rosters of the Veterans Affairs Commission and Veterans Affairs Advisory Committee to ensure names and contact addresses/phone numbers are correct.

Chairman Braswell called for a motion to enter Closed Session to review scholarship issues. A motion was made by Commissioner Woodard and seconded by Vice-Chairman Smith. A vote was taken and the motion was approved.

The Veterans Affairs Commission entered Closed Session pursuant to G.S.143-31b-11.1 at 11:50am for scholarship reviews presenting privileged and confidential information.

After reviews, Chairman Braswell made a motion to return to Open Session that was seconded by Vice-Chairman Smith. The motion was unanimously approved. The Veterans Affairs Commission returned to Open Session at 12:05pm.

Chairman Braswell called for vote on Ms. Brooke Moore. Vice Chairman Smith made a motion to continue her on scholarship for one more semester with review at our next Commission meeting in January 2018. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hales. The motion was approved.

Chairman Braswell called for a vote on Ms. Miranda Hunt. Commissioner Mitchell made a motion to continue her on scholarship for one more semester and request improvement with a review at our next Commission meeting in January. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Woodard. The motion was approved.

Commissioner Hales asked that the letters express that they understand expectations are there and they are expected to grow academically.

Chairman Braswell called for a vote on Mr. Robert Wright. Commissioner Mitchell made a motion to suspend the scholarship for Mr. Wright. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Woodard. Mr. Peedin asked if this was a request to suspend or revoke. Chairman Braswell clarified that the request is to



revoke the scholarship for Mr. Wright. The motion was amended to recommend revocation of the scholarship for Mr. Wright. The motion was approved to revoke the scholarship of Mr. Wright.

Chairman Braswell called for a vote on Mr. Noah Patey. Commissioner Mitchell made a motion to revoke the scholarship for Mr. Patey. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Phelps. The motion was approved to revoke the scholarship of Mr. Patey.

Mr. Peedin called the Commission's attention to the calendar for April 2018 for our next Veterans Affairs Commission meeting and asked the Commission select a date in order for the Scholarship Committee to review scholarship applications and present recommendations to the Commission prior to the May 1<sup>st</sup> deadline. Commissioner Adamczyk made a motion to schedule the meeting on Thursday, April 19<sup>th</sup>. Commissioner Hales seconded that motion. Chairman Braswell announced the meeting will be held at the VFW State Office in Raleigh with a Closed Session beginning at 9:00am followed by the Open Session at 10:00. The motion was approved.

With no further business, Chairman Braswell made a motion to adjourn and the motion was seconded by Commissioner Townsend. The Commission unanimously approved the motion and the Veterans Affairs Commission adjourned at 12:15pm.

