



# MINUTES

## ORANGE COUNTY VETERANS ADVISORY COUNCIL

**May 8, 2024**

**2:30 P.M. – 4:00 P.M.**

[www.veterans.ocgov.com/advisory](http://www.veterans.ocgov.com/advisory)

**Location:**

Dana Point City Council Chambers  
33282 Golden Lantern  
Dana Point, CA 92629

1. CALL TO ORDER: Chair, Alexis Federico
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
3. COUNCIL ROLL CALL: OC Community Services Representative  
*PRESENT: John Burick, Alexis Federico, Robert McDonald, Michael Radigan, Stephanie Wade*  
*ABESENT: Erik Duane, Steven Vargas*
4. PUBLIC COMMENTS:  
At this time, members of the public may address the Council regarding any items within the subject jurisdiction, provided that no action is taken on off-agenda items unless authorized by law. (Comments shall be limited to three (3) minutes, unless the Chair pre-identifies a different time at the start of meeting for all public speakers).  
*Commandant Nelson Coburn Oral re: Marine Corps League South Coast Detachment a nationally recognized Marine non-profit. Meetings are held at the San Clemente Elks Lodge every third Tuesday of each month. They fundraise for Marines, their spouses and children.*
5. PRESENTATION:  
Protect Yourself, Family and Friends from the Grips of the Fentanyl Crisis  
Shane Wood, Executive Director and Christine Kirkwood, Executive Assistant  
FentanylSolution.org

6. ACTION ITEMS:

- i. California Association of County Veterans Service Offices (CACVSO) – Panel Speaker

*Recommendation: Ask OC Community Services to consider requesting from the Board of Supervisors a one-time budget increase to the VSO budget for allowable reimbursement for one OCVAC member to attend the June 2024 state conference.*

*Motioned by Robert McDonald, Seconded by John Burick*

*Unanimous Vote to Approve Recommendation*

- ii. OCVAC Meeting Schedule

*Recommendation: To request that the Veterans Service Office add the Orange County Veterans Advisory Council's yearly meeting calendar to all agendas and display meeting times and locations on the OCVAC webpage.*

*Motioned by Alexis Federico, Seconded by Robert McDonald*

*Unanimous Vote to Approve Recommendation*

7. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT: Chair, Alexis Federico8. OCVSO UPDATE: Claudia Harris, Director, Veterans Service Office9. CALVET LINC UPDATE: Ben Gales, Local Interagency Network Coordinator

*Chair Federico created the Veterans' Pets Ad Hoc Committee and appointed Council Member Stephanie Wade as chair, and Council Member John Burick.*

*Veterans' Pets Ad Hoc Committee Purpose: To investigate the issue of veterans declining housing opportunities due to policies against having pets and determine if there is a need for advocacy.*

10. OC4VETS UPDATE: Elana E. Randal, Orange County Health Care Agency, Service Chief11. COMMITTEES:

- i. Communications Standing Committee Report: Council Member, John Burick  
*No report provided by Council Member John Burick.*
- ii. Events/Outreach Standing Committee Report: Council Member, Michael Radigan
- iii. VSO Metrics Ad Hoc Committee Report: Council Member, Erik Duane  
*No report provided. Council Members Erik Duane and Steven Vargas were reported absent.*

12. COUNCIL COMMENTS

At this time, members of this Advisory Council may comment on agenda or non-agenda matters within the subject jurisdiction; provided that NO action be taken on off-agenda items unless authorized by law.

13. ADJOURNMENT: