



A Tradition of Stewardship
A Commitment to Service

Agenda Date: 3/24/2020

Agenda Placement: 10D

NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Board Agenda Letter

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Ben Guerrieri for Minh Tran - County Executive Officer
County Executive Office
REPORT BY: Neha Hoskins, Secretary-Confidential - 707-299-1516
SUBJECT: Appointment to the Napa County Veterans' Commission

RECOMMENDATION

County Executive Officer requests consideration of the following applicants to fill four vacancies due to expiring terms on the Napa County Veteran's Commission representing At Large with the terms of office to commence immediately and expire March 20, 2024.

Name

James Shupe*
Mark Riordan*
Joel Levitt*
Joseph Harbison III*
Patricia Flanagan
James Stokes
Stanley Jones
George Woodward
Philip Feiner Jr.
Ron Somple

*Recommended by the Veterans' Commission Ad Hoc Committee

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

There are currently four openings on the Napa County Veterans' Commission due to expiring terms and resignations. The County Executive Office advertised the openings and received three reappointment requests from James Shupe, Mark Riordan, and Joel Levitt and seven new applications from Patricia Flanagan, Joseph

Harbison III, James Stokes, Stanley Jones, George Woodward, Philip Feiner Jr., and Ron Somple.

PROCEDURAL REQUIREMENTS

1. Staff reports.
2. Public comments.
3. Motion, second, discussion and vote on the item.

FISCAL & STRATEGIC PLAN IMPACT

Is there a Fiscal Impact? No

County Strategic Plan pillar addressed: Strategic Plan Pillar 5 addressed: Effective and Open Government

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION: The proposed action is not a project as defined by 14 California Code of Regulations 15378 (State CEQA Guidelines) and therefore CEQA is not applicable.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

On January 30, 2018 the Board of Supervisors adopted Resolution No. 2018-16 creating the Napa County Veterans' Commission.

The purpose of the Commission is to serve as an advocate for people who have served in the Military ("Veterans") and their families by helping them to maintain a good quality of life and to remain independent by increasing awareness of the issues facing Veterans in Napa County and by influencing public policy through regular reports to the Board of Supervisors. The Commission educates and raises awareness of the public, county staff and the County Board of Supervisors regarding issues affecting Veterans and their families, including, but not limited to, Veterans' physical and mental health, transportation, benefits, and ways to generally improve the lives of Veterans. Further, the Veterans' Commission makes recommendations to the Board of Supervisor's Legislative Subcommittee regarding needed changes in State law for incorporation into the County's legislative platform.

In order to achieve its general purpose, the Commission shall, among other things:

- a. Study, investigate and research Veterans' matters in Napa county and surrounding counties so that services to Veterans can be coordinated and maximized;
- b. Review annually the status of Veterans' benefits and services;
- c. Submit recommendations to the Board of Supervisors regarding programs, plans, goals, policy, and procedures dealing with Veterans' services;
- d. Submit annually a strategic plan outlining focus areas for the subsequent year; and
- e. Assist where needed in Veterans' observance days during the year.

The Veterans' Commission shall be comprised of nine individuals as follows: A minimum of five Veterans serving

on the Commission and four representatives from the community who fulfill any the of following categories: they are local Veterans, local family members of Veterans, and members of local organizations serving the needs of Veterans. Commissioners shall serve four-year terms.

On March 26, 2019 the Board adopted Resolution No. 2019-44 amending the bylaws to revise the language to reflect that the Commission serves as an advocate for Veterans, not spelled out in the original bylaws. The amendment eliminates the Supervisorial District residency requirement allowing applicants to be ranked according to merit and needs of the Commission, rather than residency, and eliminates the verbiage relating to the startup of the Commission. The amendment also changes the Conduct of Meetings/Order of Business to include:

- | Veterans Service Officer Report;
- | Veterans Service Office Staff Report;
- | Standing Committees Reports; and
- | Commissioner's Report

On March 4, 2020 an Ad Hoc committee established by the Veterans' Commission met to review applications for the four current At Large openings on the Veterans' Commission. On March 4, 2020 the Veterans' Commission voted unanimously to accept the recommendations of the Ad Hoc committee. Staff requests the Board accept the recommendations of the Veterans' Commission to reappoint James Shupe, Mark Riordan, Joel Levitt, and appoint Joseph Harbison III on the Veterans' Commission.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

- A . Shupe Reappointment App
- B . Riordan Reappointment App
- C . Levitt Reappointment App
- D . Flanagan Application
- E . Harbison III Application
- F . Stokes Application
- G . Jones Application
- H . Woodward Application
- I . Feiner Application
- J . Somple Application

CEO Recommendation: Approve

Reviewed By: Helene Franchi