

Idaho Veterans Affairs Commission  
 April 12, 2017 8:30 a.m. MST  
 Idaho State Veterans Home Pocatello –Conference Room

Members: Commissioner H. Melvin Napier, Chairman  
 Commissioner Arthur L. Gimpel  
 Commissioner Jinny Cash  
 Commissioner Leo Dub  
 Commissioner David E. Brasuell, Executive Secretary; Administrator, IDVS  
 Tracy Schaner, Deputy Administrator, IDVS  
 Dan Claar, Human Resource Officer, IDVS  
 Debbie Spence, Financial Manager, IDVS  
 Rick Holloway, Administrator, ISVH – Boise  
 Mark High, Administrator, ISVH – Lewiston  
 Josiah Dahlstrom, Administrator, ISVH – Pocatello  
 Bill Heyob, Program Director, Office of Veterans Advocacy (tele-commute)  
 James Earp, Program Director, Veterans Cemetery  
 Tom Byrns, former Program Director, Education/State Approving Agency (tele-commute)  
 Doug Jacobson, current Program Director, Education/State Approving Agency (tele-commute)  
 Kevin Wallior, Administrative Assistant II, IDVS

Guests:

**I. ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Meeting commenced at 8:30 AM

Announced that Doug Jacobson will be replacing Tom Byrns as the Program Director of the Education Office & State Approving Agency.

**II. OLD BUSINESS:**

Topic A.	Minutes of Last Meeting (1-12-17):
<b>Information/Data Discussion:</b>	Minutes were sent electronically to the Commissioners for review prior to this meeting. There were no changes offered.
<b>Action/Decision/ Conclusion:</b>	8:35 AM Leo Dub made a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes. Art Gimpel mentioned a typo in the previous minutes indicating attended he attended the previous meeting when he did not. Kevin Wallior made a notation. (Corrected them and re-posted them to the division webpage after IVAC). Commissioners voted unanimously to accept the minutes with the correction to Commissioner Gimpel's attendance.
<b>Responsible Party:</b>	Administrative Assistant II, IDVS
<b>Target Completion Date:</b>	N/A
<b>Status:</b>	<b>CLOSED</b>

**II. STANDING ITEMS:**

<b>Topic A.</b>	<b>Human Resources (Dan Claar – Human Resource Director):</b>
<b>Information/Data Discussion:</b>	<p>1. FY2018 Personnel Budget</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3% Change in Employee Compensation (CEC)                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ \$478,000</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Change in Benefit Costs                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ \$225,700</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Additional Staffing - 13 Classified Positions                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ \$698,793.70                                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 1.00 FTP – Veterans Service Officer (OVA- Caldwell)</li> <li>▪ 4.00 FTP – Certified Nursing Assistant (Boise, Pocatello, &amp; Lewiston x 2)</li> <li>▪ 4.00 FTP – Licensed Practical Nurse (Boise, Pocatello, Lewiston x 2)</li> <li>▪ 1.00 FTP – RN, Senior (Boise)</li> <li>▪ 1.00 FTP – RN (Lewiston)</li> <li>▪ 0.50 FTP – Recreation Assistant (adding 0.5 FTP to existing Pocatello PCN)</li> <li>▪ 1.00 FTP – Operations &amp; Support Tech (2 0.5 FTP’s for Division – Stationed in Lew &amp; Poc)   <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• These positions are intended to reduce travel for IT staff based in Boise and related expenses.</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ 0.50 FTP – Application Development Sr. Analyst (Division)</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>• Payline Move (3% increase to overall compensation schedule)</li> </ul> <p>2. IDVS Employee Merit Increases</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In keeping with the legislative intent language and guidance, IDVS has established and submitted a plan to use our ongoing personnel salary savings and the FY 2018 appropriated CEC funding to help address pay issues including:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Meritorious performance</li> <li>○ Low entry salaries</li> <li>○ Salary compression</li> <li>○ Market rate issues</li> <li>○ Pay inequities</li> <li>○ Turnover</li> <li>○ Retention</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Merit Matrix System</li> </ul>

- Initial 3 factors within scale:
  - the employees’ performance.
  - the employees’ pay rate in relation to policy rate (compa-ratio).
  - the employees’ number of years in credited state service.
- Last 2 factors evaluate job classifications:
  - internal and external market pay equity issues.
  - pay compression issues.

Merit Matrix Sample

		Compa-Ratio, Performance, and Exception Review Scale			
		Performance Evaluation Rating			
Current Compa-Ratio	Years of Meritorious State Service	DNA	APS	SS	EX
70-99%	0.0-9.9 years	0%	2.5%	3.5%	5.5%
	10+ years	0%	3.5%	4.5%	6.5%
100-125%	0.0-9.9 years	0%	2.0%	3.0%	5.0%
	10+ years	0%	3.0%	4.0%	6.0%

- Employee Compensation Plan
  - Eligible:
    - Permanent classified and non-classified employees with a current PE; rated at least an APS.
    - Probationary employees when they come off probation and as long as they receive a PE rating of at least APS.
  - Not Eligible:
    - Temporary non-classified employees.
    - Employees with DNA PE ratings.
    - Employees who received formal disciplinary action on or after July 2016.
    - Probationary employees who had the probationary period extended related to performance issues on or after July 2016
- Based on these elements, **97.8% (315 out of 322)** of our permanent classified and non-classified employees were determined eligible to receive a merit increase.

Floor opened for questions and/or comments.

Note: What is Compa-Ratio?

Compa-ratio is calculated as the employee’s current salary divided by the current market rate. Each position has a salary range that includes a minimum, a midpoint, and a maximum. These three values represent industry averages for the position. A Compa-Ratio of 1.00 or 100% means that the employee is paid exactly what the

	<p>industry average pays and is at the midpoint for the salary range, a ratio of 0.75 means that the employee is paid 25% below the industry average and is at the risk of seeking employment with competitors at a higher pay that is perceived equitable. A ratio of 1.15 compa-ratio would mean the employee is paid above the industry average.</p> <p>There were no questions from the commissioners regarding the HR briefing.</p>
<b>Action/Decision/Conclusion:</b>	As above; information update as available.
<b>Responsible Party:</b>	Human Resource Officer
<b>Target Completion Date:</b>	Update each meeting until complete.
<b>Status:</b>	<b>INFORMATION</b>
<b>Topic B.</b>	<b>Financial Report (Debbie Spence – Financial Manager):</b>
<b>Information/Data Discussion:</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Proposed 0% Increase to Charges Effective June 1, 2017.             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commissioner Cash made a motion to approve. Commissioner Gimpel seconded. All Commissioners unanimously voted not to increase Charges.</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. YTD Average Nursing Per Diem Costs as of March 2017             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$332.12 per day</li> <li>• ISVH-Boise \$326.52</li> <li>• ISVH-Pocatello \$355.33</li> <li>• ISVH-Lewiston \$322.57</li> </ul> </li> <li>3. Average YTD Nursing Occupancy Rate as of April 10, 2017             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dom/Res Care 83.3%</li> <li>• IDVS Nursing 86.7%                 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ ISVH-Boise reducing 4-bed rooms to 2-bed rooms.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Idaho Statewide Nursing 66%</li> </ul> </li> <li>4. FY17 Budget             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fiscal year end coming fast</li> <li>• Closely watching revenue and cash flow</li> <li>• No foreseeable issues</li> </ul> </li> <li>5. FY18 Budget Appropriation             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Federal Funds, \$25,038,400 56% of the budget</li> <li>• Miscellaneous Revenue, \$16,587,400 37% of the budget</li> <li>• General Funds, \$1,117,700 3% of the budget</li> <li>• Veterans Recognition Income, \$936,900 2% of the budget</li> <li>• Endowment Income, \$929,400 2% of the budget</li> </ul> </li> </ol>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FY 18 Budget Appropriation \$44,609,800                         <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ \$225,700 Change in Benefit Costs</li> <li>○ \$545,600 Replacement Items (medical, kitchen equipment, furniture, computers, etc.)</li> <li>○ \$478,000 Change in Employee Compensation</li> <li>○ \$709,800 Additional Staff</li> <li>○ \$484,800 New Capital Outlay Items</li> <li>○ \$127,500 Veterans Recognition Income Fund</li> <li>○ \$80,000 Idaho Suicide Hotline (on-going)</li> <li>○ \$80,000 Veterans Treatment Courts</li> <li>○ \$1,910,000 Self-Funded Facility Projects</li> <li>○ \$8,305,500 Second Veterans Cemetery (includes \$809,400 from Veterans Recognition Income Fund)</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>6. FY19 Budget Request</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Started in March 2017</li> <li>• Address future requirements, objectives, and Veterans Recognition annual allocation plan</li> <li>• Submit agency budget request by September 1, 2017</li> </ul> <p>Floor opened for questions and/or comments.                      No questions or comments.</p>																																
<b>Action/Decision/Conclusion:</b>	As above; information update as available.																																
<b>Responsible Party:</b>	Financial Manager																																
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<b>Topic C.</b>	<b>Office of Veterans Advocacy (Bill Heyob – Program Director):</b>																																
<b>Information/Data Discussion:</b>	<p>1. The Office of Veterans Advocacy continues to set records for the number of Veterans and family members assisted this year. Here are the statistics comparing Fiscal Year-to-Date totals from 2016 and 3d Quarter 2017:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="495 1512 1477 1764"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th style="text-align: center;"><u>3rd Qtr 2016 Totals</u></th> <th style="text-align: center;"><u>2017 Totals</u></th> <th style="text-align: center;"><u>Increase/Decrease</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Interviews YTD</td> <td style="text-align: center;">6,215</td> <td style="text-align: center;">5,278</td> <td style="text-align: center;">- 937</td> </tr> <tr> <td>POAs Filed YTD</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2,905</td> <td style="text-align: center;">4,268</td> <td style="text-align: center;">+ 1,363</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Claims Filed YTD</td> <td style="text-align: center;">4,472</td> <td style="text-align: center;">5,733</td> <td style="text-align: center;">+ 1,261</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Correspondence</td> <td style="text-align: center;">3,654</td> <td style="text-align: center;">3,829</td> <td style="text-align: center;">+175</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Appeals YTD</td> <td style="text-align: center;">270</td> <td style="text-align: center;">271</td> <td style="text-align: center;">+ 1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Home Visits</td> <td style="text-align: center;">190</td> <td style="text-align: center;">319</td> <td style="text-align: center;">+ 129</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>State Emergency Grants Approved</b></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><b>6</b></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><b>5</b></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><b>-1</b></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>2. Notable changes from March 2016 and 2017:</p>		<u>3rd Qtr 2016 Totals</u>	<u>2017 Totals</u>	<u>Increase/Decrease</u>	Interviews YTD	6,215	5,278	- 937	POAs Filed YTD	2,905	4,268	+ 1,363	Claims Filed YTD	4,472	5,733	+ 1,261	Correspondence	3,654	3,829	+175	Appeals YTD	270	271	+ 1	Home Visits	190	319	+ 129	<b>State Emergency Grants Approved</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>-1</b>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• March 2017 had <b>(223)</b> additional claims and <b>(241)</b> additional powers of attorney filed per over the same month in 2016.</li></ul> <p>3. Noteworthy Issues currently happening with the VA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• On January 13, 2017, the VA published a Final Rule in the Federal Register establishing presumptive service connection for eight medical conditions for any veterans, reservists and Guard members who served at Camp LeJeune, N.C. (including Marine Corps Air Station New River) for 30 or more days between August 1, 1953 and December 31, 1987. The medical conditions are adult leukemia, aplastic anemia and other myelodysplastic syndromes, bladder cancer, kidney cancer, liver cancer, multiple myeloma, Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma and Parkinson's disease.</li><li>• VA Non-Rating claims (Dependency, incarcerated Veteran, re-establishing benefits following mobilization, apportionments, etc...) was just moved to the National Work Queue. While this is a good thing for Veterans Nationwide, this means non-rating claims will slow for Idaho Veterans.</li><li>• Regardless of what is being published at the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) regarding potential savings in the federal budget by doing away with VA Concurrent Receipt, there are no current plans anywhere in Congress to eliminate concurrent receipt.</li><li>• Secretary of the VA announced his intention to expand provisions for urgent mental health care needs to former servicemembers with other-than-honorable (OTH) administrative discharges. This move marks the first time a VA Secretary has implemented an initiative specifically focused on expanding access to assist former OTH servicemembers who are in mental health distress and may be at risk for suicide or other adverse behaviors.</li><li>• While the VA signed the VA Dental Insurance Reauthorization Act into law allowing the current VA Dental Insurance Pilot Program (VADIP) to move forward as a permanent benefit, the program is not accepting new patients while the VA determines who will proceed with the contract to manage the program.</li></ul> <p>4. Significant Events within the OVA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• With Doug Jacobson moving over to the IDVS Education Office to replace Tom Byrns, OVA currently is in the process of hiring a new VSO. The current</li></ul>
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	<p>announcement closed on April 10, 2017 and we will soon be conducting interviews.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• With Doug's departure, we are moving a couple of our VSOs around, namely moving Frank Fabbi from the Boise State Veterans Home to the VARO and replacing him with Kelly McCartney.</li> <li>• We just closed on another VSO position announcement in Twin Falls as Robert Smith's time as a Temporary Employee is about to expire. Robert did apply for the permanent/classified position for Twin Falls.</li> <li>• Wes McAuslan continues to work at the Caldwell Department of Labor Office three days a week with a proposal in the FY-2018 Budget to add a full time VSO for Caldwell. Wes is also preparing to become the Canyon County Veteran Treatment Court Representative.</li> <li>• Jim Philpott and Kelly McCartney just returned from the VFW's Proficiency Training Course which was held April 2-5, 2017 in Annapolis, MD. Joe Riener also attended the Phase 1, Part 2 Course which was held at the same time.</li> </ul> <p>Floor opened for questions and/or comments.                  No questions or comments.</p>
<b>Action/Decision/Conclusion:</b>	As above; information update as available.
<b>Responsible Party:</b>	Office of Veterans Advocacy Program Director
<b>Target Completion Date:</b>	Update each meeting.
<b>Status:</b>	<b>INFORMATION</b>
<b>Topic D.</b>	<b>Veterans Education – GI Bill (Tom Byrns – Veterans Education Coordinator):</b>
<b>Information/Data Discussion:</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. FY2017 VA Compliance                         <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nine site visits total completed.</li> <li>• Nine site visits remain for the year.</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. SAA Training and Travel                         <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Upcoming                                 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ July – WAVES conference in Tempe, AZ</li> <li>○ August - NASAA Summer Conference in Providence, RI</li> <li>○ October or November – National Training Institute (TBD)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Past Travel                                 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 10-16 February – NASAA Conference in Washington D.C.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ol>

- Northern Idaho (Idaho Falls, Coeur d'Alene, and Lewiston) in Q3 for compliance with NIC, Kootenai Co Sheriff, and other visits
- Eastern and Northern Idaho in Q1 and Q2 for outreach, compliance, and inspection, and training visits with facilities and organizations.

3. Number of Approved Facilities in Idaho

- Total 293
- 110 On-the-Job (OJT) programs approved (Four additional programs are pending approval)
- 108 Apprenticeship programs approved (Two additional programs are pending approval)
- 49 Non-College Degree (NCD) programs approved (Two additional programs are pending approval)
- 22 Institution of Higher Learning (IHL) programs approved
- 4 Flight Schools approved

4. Approximate number of veterans utilizing benefits

- 2,898 total
  - 2,785 enrolled in IHLs
  - 73 enrolled in NCDs
  - 68 in apprenticeship programs
  - 38 in flight school
  - 42 in OJT programs

5. Issues/In the Works

- ***Effective 14 April 2017, new SAA Doug Jacobson: transition began 5 April and will continue through 14 April***
- Non-college Degree facilities down from 51 to 49
  - Closures – Schwarzkopf in Boise and Coeur d'Alene
- Universities and Colleges:
  - 2017 Closures – Broadview University and the University of Phoenix are teaching out final classes
- Working with US and IDOL to identify and approve/register valid apprenticeship and on-job-training programs
  - IDOL initiative to accelerate licensing for Veterans by granting credit for education and experience while in the service

Floor opened for questions and/or comments.  
No questions or comments.



<b>Action/Decision/Conclusion:</b>	As above; information update as available.
<b>Responsible Party:</b>	Veterans Education Coordinator
<b>Target Completion Date:</b>	Update each meeting until complete.
<b>Status:</b>	<b>INFORMATION</b>
<b>Topic E.</b>	<b>Idaho State Veterans Home - Boise (Rick Holloway – Administrator):</b>
<b>Information/Data Discussion:</b>	<p>1. FY17 3rd Quarter Operations Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Census             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Nursing Care Occupancy Rate 86% for the quarter                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ January 86%</li> <li>▪ February 84%</li> <li>▪ March 88%</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Medicare A Average Daily Census 5.2                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ January 3.8</li> <li>▪ February 5.0</li> <li>▪ March 6.6</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Residential/Domiciliary Care Occupancy Rate 85% for the quarter                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ January 88%</li> <li>▪ February 85%</li> <li>▪ March 83%</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Nursing Admissions and Discharges                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ January 13 Admissions, 4 Discharges, 5 Deaths</li> <li>▪ February 13 Admissions, 11 Discharges, 11 Deaths</li> <li>▪ March 15 Admissions, 4 Discharges, 2 Deaths</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Res/Dom Admissions and Discharges                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ January 2 Admissions, 1 Discharges</li> <li>▪ February 4 Admissions, 6 Discharges</li> <li>▪ March 3 Admissions, 3 Discharges</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>• Receipts             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Medicaid \$1,013,292</li> <li>○ VA Per Diem \$1,847,471</li> <li>○ All Other Receipts \$867,743</li> <li>○ Medicare Part A \$60,127</li> <li>○ Medicare Part B \$22,492</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Pharmacy             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Medicare Part D \$11,481</li> <li>○ VA Pharmacy Receipts \$5,416</li> <li>○ Pharmacy Costs \$134,634</li> <li>○ Average Cost PPD \$13.24</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>2. DPW Projects/Major Maintenance/Survey</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• No major DPW or maintenance projects ongoing or completed this quarter.</li><li>• Fire and Life Safety State Survey inspected the facility on January 18, 2017.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Several items were cited during this survey, many of which fell under new Fire and Life Safety regulations that went into effect in November 2016.</li><li>○ A plan of correction was completed and was accepted by the state.</li></ul></li><li>• The significant snowfall and below freezing temperatures in February caused considerable work to keep the driveways, parking areas, walkways, gutters, downspouts, and other areas clear of ice and snow.</li><li>• Annual State Licensure survey was in the facility from February 21-24, 2017.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ No additional findings requiring attention of Maintenance were identified.</li></ul></li></ul> <p>3. Significant Community Activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• January events: veterans attended a Steelheads Hockey game, a BSU Women's Basketball game, and watched a performance from the Boise Philharmonic Quintet</li><li>• February events: veterans attended a Steelheads Hockey game, the Owyhee Riding Club Princesses delivered Valentines to residents, watched the Globetrotters at the Idaho Center and viewed Wings – Silent Film at the Egyptian Theater.</li><li>• March events: veterans attended a BSU Women's Basketball game, a Steelheads Hockey game, celebrated a St. Patrick's Day Party with Irish Dance Idaho, and attended a BSU Gymnastics meet.</li></ul> <p>4. Special Meals</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• New Year's Day Lunch: Shrimp Cocktail, Malibu Chicken, Fettuccini Alfredo, Caribbean Vegetables and Lemon Tarts. New Year's Day Dinner: Ham and Beans, Collard Greens, Corn Bread, and Fruit Salad</li><li>• St. Patrick's Day Lunch: Corned Beef with Mustard Sauce, Steamed Cabbage, Red Potatoes, Carrot Coins, Rye Bread and O"Lucky Cupcakes</li></ul> <p>5. Miscellaneous</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• There was a Flu outbreak in February.</li><li>• Moving to convert four-bed rooms to two-bed rooms.</li><li>• New Housekeeping and Laundry service provider is doing a fantastic job.</li></ul>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The 2017 winter has provided enormous challenges for the maintenance staff due to snow accumulation and icicles.</li> <li>• Therapy services have increased in quality and decreased in cost.</li> </ul> <p>Floor opened for questions and/or comments.                  Commissioner Napier commented about the positive strides being made at the Boise Home.</p> <p>Rick Holloway emphasized the high morale of the Boise Home's staff and reiterated that improvements are ongoing.</p>
<b>Action/Decision/Conclusion:</b>	As above; information update as available.
<b>Responsible Party:</b>	Boise Home Administrator
<b>Target Completion Date:</b>	Update each meeting until complete.
<b>Status:</b>	<b>INFORMATION</b>
<b>Topic F.</b>	<b>Idaho State Veterans Home - Pocatello (Josiah Dahlstrom – Administrator):</b>
<b>Information/Data Discussion:</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. FY17 3rd Quarter Operations Report                         <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Census                                 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Nursing Care Occupancy Rate 80% for the quarter   <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ January 80%</li> <li>▪ February 81%</li> <li>▪ March 79%</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Medicare A Average Daily Census 3.3   <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ January 3.1</li> <li>▪ February 3.0</li> <li>▪ March 3.9</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Admissions and Discharges   <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ January 9 Admissions, 6 Discharges, 2 Deaths</li> <li>▪ February 6 Admissions, 5 Discharges, 2 Deaths</li> <li>▪ March 12 Admissions, 7 Discharges, 2 Deaths</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Excellent relationship with local hospital.   <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Receive weekly update of veterans in the hospital.</li> <li>▪ 22% success rate of veteran patients visited who then are admitted to ISVH-Pocatello.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>• Receipts                                 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Medicaid \$399,727</li> <li>○ VA Per Diem \$928,304</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ol>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ All Other Receipts \$213,423</li><li>○ Medicare Part A \$111,848</li><li>○ Medicare Part B \$8,319</li><li>● Pharmacy<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Medicare Part D \$17,496</li><li>○ VA Pharmacy Receipts \$17,214</li><li>○ Pharmacy Costs \$94,916</li><li>○ Average Cost PPD \$20.03</li></ul></li></ul> <p>2. DPW Projects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● DPW 16-605 Cabinet replacement project completed in February.</li><li>● DPW 16-610 VETP Oxygen Tank and DPW 16-601 New Chiller bids are complete as of March.</li></ul> <p>3. Significant Community Activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● January: Military Affairs Committee with other community veteran leaders, Post-Acute Care Provider Meeting with local hospital, SE Idaho Veterans Advisory Council Meeting, Tour of home with Bear Lake Memorial Hospital staff.</li><li>● February: Attendance and guest speaker at the Retired Educators Luncheon, Quarterly IVAL meeting, Attendance and guest speaker with Aberdeen Veterans Service Project</li><li>● March: Attendance with a focus group set by the Area Agency on Aging, Attendance and guest speaker at the Idaho Falls Elks Veterans Appreciation Night (Donation to the IVAL for \$7,500)</li></ul> <p>4. Special Meals</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● January: Happy New Year Baked Pit Ham, Supreme Potato Casserole, Raspberry Cream Salad, Green Beans, Dinner Rolls, Lemon Meringue Pie and/or Coconut Cream Pie.</li><li>● February: Happy Valentine's Day Marinated Sirloin Steaks, Breaded Butterfly Shrimp &amp; shrimp sauce, Mixed Vegetables, Dinner Rolls, and Pretzel Strawberry Supreme.</li><li>● March St. Patrick's Day Corned Beef &amp; Cabbage, Boiled Buttered Potatoes, Lime Pineapple Jell-O Salad, and Pistachio Tart.</li></ul> <p>5. Miscellaneous</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● The new Smart Boards provided by IVAL are amazing and have enhanced the Activities program thoroughly. They have used them to simulate tours of far off places for veterans.</li></ul>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implemented a pilot program bringing a Labradoodle service dog into the facility. This has been very beneficial to resident morale.</li> <li>• The Pocatello facility has maintained a Five Star Rating.</li> </ul> <p>Floor opened for questions and/or comments.                  No questions or comments.</p>
<b>Action/Decision/Conclusion:</b>	As above; information update as available.
<b>Responsible Party:</b>	Pocatello Home Administrator
<b>Target Completion Date:</b>	Update each meeting until complete.
<b>Status:</b>	<b>INFORMATION</b>
<b>Topic G.</b>	<b>Idaho State Veterans Home - Lewiston (Mark High – Administrator):</b>
<b>Information/Data Discussion:</b>	<p>1. FY17 3rd Quarter Operations Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Census                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Nursing Care Occupancy Rate 86% for the quarter                                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ January 97%</li> <li>▪ February 80%</li> <li>▪ March 80%</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Medicare A Average Daily Census 4.6                                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ January 5.7</li> <li>▪ February 4.1</li> <li>▪ March 3.9</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Admissions and Discharges                                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ January 5 Admissions, 1 Discharges, 5 Deaths</li> <li>▪ February 2 Admissions, 3 Discharges, 9 Deaths</li> <li>▪ March 6 Admissions, 1 Discharges, 1 Deaths</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>• Receipts                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Medicaid \$429,687</li> <li>○ VA Per Diem \$1,363,816</li> <li>○ All Other Receipts \$483,342</li> <li>○ Medicare Part A \$106,913</li> <li>○ Medicare Part B \$24,832</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Pharmacy                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Medicare Part D \$15,806</li> <li>○ VA Pharmacy Receipts \$0</li> <li>○ Pharmacy Costs \$96,660</li> <li>○ Average Cost PPD \$18.96</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>2. DPW Projects</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Roof Replacement Project is going through the planning stages.</li> <li>• OVA/Chapel Expansion project turned over to the architect.</li> </ul> <p>3. Significant Community Activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No significant activities in January or February do to weather.</li> <li>• After the roads thawed veterans went on three outings into the community. The first was to a Sons of Norway Breakfast, a trip to the Model Train Show and a sightseeing outing to Kendrick, Idaho. Everyone enjoyed getting out of the facility and seeing some new sights.</li> </ul> <p>4. Special Meals</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• January: New Year's Day Baby Back Ribs, Baked Potato with all the trimmings, Normandy Blend Vegetables, a Dinner Roll with Butter, and Peach Pie.</li> <li>• February: Valentines Meal Baby Back Ribs, Au Gratin Potatoes, Normandy Vegetables, Dinner Roll and Strawberry Rhubarb Pie.</li> <li>• March St. Patrick's Day Corned Beef, Red Potatoes, Carrots/Cabbage, Biscuits with Honey Butter, and Mint Ice Cream.</li> </ul> <p>5. Miscellaneous</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Radio advertisements ran on local stations that included staff testimonials to encourage employment in the ISVH-Lewiston Facility. These were well received within the community.</li> </ul> <p>Floor opened for questions and/or comments.                  No questions or comments.</p>
<b>Action/Decision/Conclusion:</b>	As above; information update as available.
<b>Responsible Party:</b>	Lewiston Home Administrator
<b>Target Completion Date:</b>	Update each meeting until complete.
<b>Status:</b>	<b>INFORMATION</b>
<b>Topic H</b>	<b>Idaho State Veterans Cemetery (James Earp – Director):</b>
<b>Information/Data Discussion:</b>	<p>1. Cemetery Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The cemetery completed the 3rd quarter FY17 with 347 Veteran interments and 150 Dependent interments totaling 497 interments total.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Interment Revenue: The ISVC's 3rd quarter FY17 interment revenue was \$377,515 a decrease from \$381,763 in 3rd quarter FY16.</li></ul> <p>2. Volunteer Update.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Our volunteers completed a total of 2206 volunteer hours through the 3rd quarter of the Fiscal Year.</li><li>• Our Volunteers were recognized for their selfless service with certificates and coins from the President's Volunteer Service Award program. A posthumous award for Lifetime Achievement was presented to the family of Kenny Smith, a long-time Veteran Cemetery Volunteer.</li></ul> <p>3. Construction.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Research and modernization of the Flag Plaza lighting allowed for the replacement of failing units to new LED lighting. The result is a low energy solution that produces a more reliable and magnificent lighting effect.</li><li>• DPW 17603 Master Planning concept design of the proposed SE Idaho Veterans Cemetery. The interactive planning meetings allow for a fluid design that captures operational lessons learned and provides environmental considerations that are unique to eastern Idaho. Significant Actions: DPW 17603 As of 4/5/2017:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Master Planning concepts</li><li>○ IDVS &amp; IDHW, Land transfer and MOU agreement</li><li>○ Water rights research and planning</li><li>○ DPW &amp; IDVS completed interviews for project A&amp;E</li><li>○ VCGP confirmed IDVS pre-application requirements are current for FY18 (October 2017)</li></ul></li></ul> <p>4. Events.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• ISVC's Memorial Day ceremony will recognize the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of World War II. It will include a flyover of A-10 aircraft, wreath dedications, military band, and attendance by Governor Otter</li></ul> <p>5. Admin.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Facing significant challenges recruiting landscape staff to ISVC.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Most difficult program to recruit for in IDVS.</li></ul></li><li>• Winter weather created significant challenges</li></ul>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Required 10.5 hours of overtime to plow all of the accumulated snow.</li> <li>○ Marker placement was delayed as a result of the weather, as well.</li> </ul> <p>6. Blackfoot Cemetery Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Soil samples conducted and reviewed by VCGP</li> <li>● IDVS working with DHW on finalizing land acquisition.</li> <li>● Governor's public comment period concluded.</li> <li>● DPW &amp; IDVS completed interviews for project A&amp;E.</li> <li>● VCGP notified about grant deferment.             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Grant deferment is not a negative. Allows for a more deliberate and less rushed timeline.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Floor opened for questions and/or comments.              No questions or comments.</p>
<b>Action/Decision/Conclusion:</b>	As above; information update as available.
<b>Responsible Party:</b>	State Veterans Cemetery Director
<b>Target Completion Date:</b>	Update each meeting until complete.
<b>Status:</b>	<b>INFORMATION</b>
<b>Topic I.</b>	<b>Idaho Division of Veterans Services (David Brasuell – Administrator):</b>
<b>Information/Data Discussion:</b>	<p>Colleen Moon Brief</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The Commission on the American Academy of Nursing's "Have You Ever Served?" Campaign to identify veterans who may be eligible to receive VA benefits.             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Campaign specifically targets nurses.</li> <li>○ Educates providers on asking patients if they have ever served in the military.</li> <li>○ Provides brochures with IDVS OVA numbers on them to direct veterans to seek assistance obtaining VA benefits.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● CMS             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Colleen is assisting the three ISHV's with becoming compliant with the new CMS regulations.</li> <li>○ She is making sure facilities are aware of the new regulations and making the necessary changes to become compliant,</li> </ul> </li> <li>● COOP Continuity of Operations Plan</li> </ul>



- Colleen is assisting the Division and ISVHs with ensuring accurate and up-to-date emergency management planning.

Tracy Schaner Brief

1. 2017 Legislative Update

- Wheelchair Transportation Program Statute & Rule Changes
  - Approved and signed into law.
  - Changes the payments from a voucher reimbursement system to a payment authorization program allowing the Idaho Division of Veterans Services (the "Division") to enter into agreements with commercial transportation vendors or others to provide or administer the transportation services to eligible wheelchair confined veterans.
  - In addition to medical appointment transportation, authorizes transportation to eligible wheelchair confined veterans who have no other means of transportation for purposes of meeting basic needs or other necessities of daily life to include, but not limited to, activities related to securing food, clothing, shelter fuel, medication, veteran benefits, or financial needs.
  - Submitted temporary and proposed (permanent) IDAPA Rules to be part of the 2018 legislative session.
  - Currently working with DoT to create a MoU to administer the program and leverage the funds across the state.

2. New Policies

- HIPAA Compliance officer is working hard to ensure we have policies in place to ensure all facilities are in compliance with HIPAA
- IDVS drafted a Suicide Prevention Policy and Procedure
  - Provides staff with guidance should they be confronted with an individual in crisis.
  - Shortly after development and dissemination, it was used to defuse a situation in which an individual was in crisis with a positive outcome.
- New IT Security and Privacy Policies are being crafted to meet new state requirements.

	<p>David Brasuell's Brief</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Division Update             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IDVS forwarded its Suicide Prevention Policy and Procedures to the Governor's Office. The Governor's office provided to other state agencies to implement their own versions.</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. Upcoming Events and Speaking Engagements for Administrator Brasuell:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bannock County Veterans Treatment Court Graduation</li> <li>• Nez Perce Tribal Veterans Training Summit 13-16 June</li> <li>• American Legion and VFW State Conventions</li> <li>• NASDVA Western Director's Meeting</li> <li>• Vietnam Commemoration Event in Mountain Home</li> </ul> </li> <li>3. LiveBetterIdaho continues to grow as more organizations sign on. IDVS is looking to grow the veterans section on there and will be adding sections in the near future.</li> <li>4. IDVS will be officially launching a Memorials and Monuments Project to identify all memorials, monuments, art, etcetera that honors military and veterans in the state of Idaho. This project will utilize a website called HistoryPin.org. More information can be found at <a href="http://veterans.idaho.gov/memorials">http://veterans.idaho.gov/memorials</a>.</li> <li>5. IDVS is still accepting applications for the Idaho Veterans Recognition Fund.</li> </ol> <p>Floor opened for questions and/or comments.                  No questions or comments.</p>
<b>Action/Decision/Conclusion:</b>	As above; information update as available.
<b>Responsible Party:</b>	Division Administrator
<b>Target Completion Date:</b>	Update each meeting until complete.
<b>Status:</b>	<b>INFORMATION</b>

**III. NEW BUSINESS:**

Nominations for Vice-Chairman

Commissioner Gimpel nominated Commissioner Dub for this responsibility. Commissioner Cash seconded. The Commissioners unanimously voted to approve the motion.

Idaho Veterans Affairs Commission  
April 12, 2017

**Next meeting is scheduled for  
July 19, 2017  
Idaho Division of Veterans Services Headquarters  
Conference Room  
351 Collins Road Boise, Idaho**

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Commissioner Cash motioned to adjourn. Commissioner Gimpel seconded. Commissioner Napier adjourned the meeting at 11:07 AM MT.

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H. Melvin Napier, Chairman

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David Brasuell, Executive Secretary