

Idaho Veterans Affairs Commission
 July 18, 2018 8:30 a.m. MST
 Idaho Division of Veterans Services
 Central Support Office Conference Room
 351 Collins Road, Boise, ID 83702

Members: Commissioner H. Melvin Napier, Chairman
 Commissioner Arthur L. Gimpel
 Commissioner Leo Dub
 Commissioner Patrick Grace (absent)
 Commissioner Jinny Cash
 Tracy Schaner, Deputy Administrator, IDVS
 Roberta Hartz, Human Resource Specialist, IDVS
 Debbie Spence, Financial Manager, IDVS
 Rick Holloway, Administrator, ISVH – Boise
 Mark High, Administrator, ISVH – Lewiston
 Josiah Dahlstrom, Administrator, ISVH – Pocatello
 Bill Heyob, Bureau Chief, Bureau Office of Veterans Advocacy
 James Earp, Bureau Chief, Bureau State Veterans Cemetery
 Doug Jacobson, Bureau Chief, Bureau Veterans Education/State Approving Agency
 Colleen Moon, Administrative Services Manager, IDVS
 Kevin Wallior, Executive Assistant, IDVS

- I. **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**
- II. **OLD BUSINESS:**

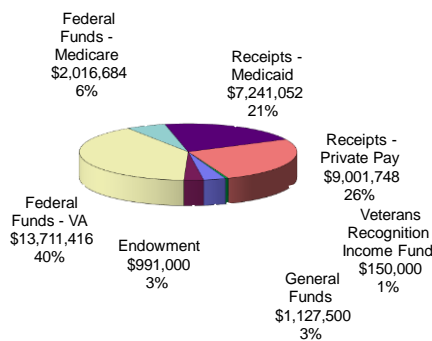
Topic A.	Minutes of Last Meeting (4-11-18):
Information/Data Discussion:	Minutes sent electronically to the Commissioners for review prior to this meeting. There were no changes offered.
Action/Decision/Conclusion:	8:30 AM Commissioner Dub made a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes and accept as submitted. Commissioner Gimpel seconded. Commissioners voted unanimously to accept the minutes as submitted.
Responsible Party:	Administrative Assistant II, IDVS
Target Completion Date:	N/A
Status:	CLOSED

II. STANDING ITEMS:

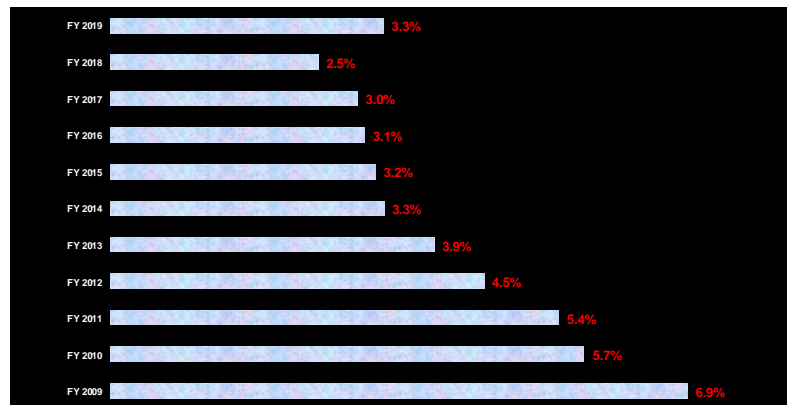
Topic A.	Human Resources (Roberta Hartz – Human Resource Specialist):
Information/Data Discussion:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. FY2019 Personnel Budget Appropriation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No new classified positions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 346.0 Total Appropriated in FY19 2. FY2019 CEC Appropriation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For FY2019 the Legislature Appropriated: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 3% Ongoing Salary Increase, Based on Merit ○ 3\$ Payline Move ○ Encouraged agencies to use FY18 Salary Savings For Early Implementation

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Early implementation was successful. ▪ 98.7% Permanent classified and non-classified employees were eligible. ▪ Average of 4.8% merit-based increase. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FY2019 CEC & External Market Equity Adjustments for ISVH – Lewiston. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ In addition to the 3% CEC appropriated by the legislature agency wide, the legislature also approved \$227,300 to implement a compensation plan to address the considerable challenges Lewiston Home has experienced with recruiting due to its proximity to Washington State and the higher minimum wage across the border. ○ One-time Regional Pay Adjustment was authorized to assist with recruiting and retention of all Lewiston Home employees. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ CNAs and DAS positions received \$1.50/hour increase ▪ All other positions received a \$0.75/hr increase <p>Floor opened for questions and/or comments. Commissioner Gimpel asked if the one-time Regional Pay Adjustment was approved by the legislature from a special pot of funds.</p> <p>Roberta Hartz responded that this wasn't from a special source of funds, but from our standard funding source, IDVS receipts.</p> <p>Tracy Schaner added that the Agency will be looking at further Market Equity increases for staff in the other IDVS Bureaus.</p>
Action/Decision/Conclusion:	As above; information update as available.
Responsible Party:	Human Resource Officer
Target Completion Date:	Update each meeting until complete.
Status:	INFORMATION
Topic B.	Financial Report (Debbie Spence – Financial Officer):
Information/Data Discussion:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. FY 2018 Year-End Fiscal Status Preliminary Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total Appropriation – \$44,609,800 • Expenditures – \$33,816,479 • Remaining Appropriation – \$10,793,321, less encumbrance requests \$134,184 • Remaining Appropriation – \$10,659,137 (includes \$7,496,100 appropriate for construction of a 2nd State Veterans Cemetery.

2. FY 2018 Year-to-Date
 - Nursing Occupancy Rate IDVS Avg. (all homes) – 82.4%
 - Boise – 80.0%
 - Pocatello – 85.2%
 - Lewiston – 84.5%
 - Nursing Occupancy Rate Idaho Industry Average – 63.0%
 - Average Cost per Resident per day is increasing
 - Nursing – \$357.15
 - Dom/Residential – \$92.29
3. Year-End Closing Packages
 - These are being prepared for the State's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report
4. Audit and Review Findings – 5 Star Rating
 - 2016 LSO Management Review – no findings
 - 2017 Myers and Stauffer Cost Report Desk Review – still in process
 - 2017 LSO Single Audit – no findings
5. FY 2019 Appropriation – \$34,239,400



- General Fund Percentage of Appropriation by Fiscal Year



- FY 2019 Appropriation Includes:
 - <\$450,000> Change in Benefit Costs
 - \$487,000 Replacement Items (medical, kitchen equipment, furniture, computers, etc.)
 - \$517,400 Change in Employee Compensation
 - \$227,300 Market Equity Salary Increases (Lewiston)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ \$133,800 New Capital Outlay Items ○ \$150,000 Veterans Recognition Income Fund ○ \$20,000 IDAPA Rule Change – Personal Property ○ \$80,000 Idaho Suicide Hotline (on-going) ○ \$7,496,100 Re-appropriation Authority – Second State Veterans Cemetery ○ DPW projects are being funded by the Permanent Building Fund (previously self-funded the last six fiscal years) <p>6. FY 2020 Budget Preparation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Starting the FY 20 budget request process. ● All bureaus have submitted their budget request to Division. ● Division is reviewing the bureau requests with the Bureau Executives and will compile the Division budget request. ● Division Budget will include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Veterans Recognition Fund plan ○ Our plan for operating if there is a reduction of 10% or more in federal funds that we receive per Governor’s Executive Order #2014-03 <p>Floor opened for questions and/or comments. No questions or comments.</p> <p>Floor opened for questions and/or comments. No questions.</p>
Action/Decision/Conclusion:	As above; information update as available.
Responsible Party:	Financial Officer
Target Completion Date:	Update each meeting until complete.
Status:	INFORMATION
Topic C.	Idaho State Veterans Home - Boise (Rick Holloway – Administrator):
Information/Data Discussion:	<p>1. FY 2018 4th Quarter Operations Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Census <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Nursing Care Occupancy Rate 76% for the quarter <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Census has been hampered by the Sewer Line Project. (Phase 3 beginning on 7/18/18) ■ April 76% ■ May 76% ■ June 78% ○ Medicare A Average Daily Census 1.8 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ April 1.4 ■ May 1.6 ■ June 2.2

- Residential/Domiciliary Care Occupancy Rate 86% for the quarter
 - April 88%
 - May 86%
 - June 88%
- Nursing & Res/Dom Admissions, Discharges, Readmissions & Deaths

	Admissions		Discharges		Deaths	Readmissions	
	Nursing	Res/Dom	Nursing	Res/Dom		Nursing	Res/Dom
April	11	1	5	11	5	3	9
May	6	1	9	7	4	7	6
June	5	2	2	12	4	1	13
Total	22	4	16	30	13	11	28

- Receipts
 - Medicaid \$740,644
 - VA Per Diem \$1,925,083
 - All Other Receipts \$783,612
 - Medicare Part A \$68,635
 - Medicare Part B \$24,549
 - Pharmacy
 - Medicare Part D \$9,435
 - VA Pharmacy Receipts \$3,999
 - Pharmacy Costs \$135,758
 - Average Cost PPD \$14.82
 - ISVH-Boise received official notification that the VA accepted their bed reduction from 131 beds to 122 beds.
2. DPW Projects/Major Maintenance
- 1W Sewer Line Project will reduce occupancy by 16 beds until completion.
 - There are some problems related to this project.
 - Black mold was discovered when the floor was torn up to access the pipes.
 - Requires all the concrete to be completely removed.
 - This pushes the length of the project from approximately 3 months to 4-5 months and possibly greater.
 - As mentioned, Phase 3 beginning on 7/18/18. If no other delays occur the project is slated for completion in October 2018. Original timeline would have had this project finished in early June 2018
 - Once the Sewer Line Project finishes, the Parking Lot Pavement Project will begin.
 - This project includes moving the sidewalk away from the facility to prevent weather damage resulting from rain runoff and snow melt from the roof of the facility.

- Boiler replacement is proceeding. Both large boilers have been removed and several feet of unused piping has been removed as well.
 - Evaluating ways to increase security in the Boise Home by potentially installing a keypad or card entry system; with 17 access points this is a significant undertaking.
3. Significant Community Activities
- April
 - Meridian Charter School visited with the residents
 - Fruitland Band entertained the residents.
 - Volunteer Appreciation Event
 - May
 - Gear Manners Annual Car Show and Parking Lot Party
 - Ceremony at the Idaho State Veterans Cemetery to celebrate Memorial Day
 - Nursing Staff Appreciation Event
 - June
 - Residents went fishing at Stan's Juniper Ranch
 - Residents attended Hawks baseball games
 - Patriotic Musical Program
4. Special Meals
- April
 - Easter Lunch: Grilled Steaks, Baked Potatoes with Sour Cream, Prince Edward Vegetables, Angel Food Cake with Fruit Topping and Whipped Cream.
 - May
 - Memorial Day "Resident Request" Lunch: Chili Dogs Topped with Cheese and Onions, Fritos, Watermelon Wedges and Lemon Layer Cake.
 - June
 - Father's Day Breakfast: Hot or Cold Cereal, Orange Juice, Country Fried Steak, Has Browns & Gravy, Fried Eggs and Toast.
5. Miscellaneous
- Volunteer Coordinator Jo Ann Daron met with Boise Rescue Mission to create a mutually beneficial plan to share community resources.
 - Boise Rescue Mission agreed to accept and store donations the Veterans Home receives.
 - They will utilize donations to support the eight bed veteran residents with overflow supporting indigent community at large.
 - Boise Rescue Mission also agreed to provide clothing resources, as needed, to Veteran Home residents.

	<p>Floor opened for questions and/or comments. Commissioner Jinny Cash asked for clarification regarding the partnership with Boise Rescue Mission.</p> <p>Rick Holloway, Home Administrator, spoke about the increased efficiency and improved access to donated items in the Clothing and Shoe Repository for homeless veterans by relocating it to Boise Rescue Mission.</p>																									
Action/Decision/Conclusion:	As above; information update as available.																									
Responsible Party:	Boise Home Administrator																									
Target Completion Date:	Update each meeting until complete.																									
Status:	INFORMATION																									
Topic D.	Idaho State Veterans Home - Pocatello (Josiah Dahlstrom – Administrator):																									
Information/Data Discussion:	<p>1. FY 2018 4th Quarter Operations Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Census <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Nursing Care Occupancy Rate 82% for the quarter <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ April 87% ▪ May 81% ▪ June 79% ○ More stable census than year's past. Much of that is attributed to the relationship built with Portneuf Medical. ○ Medicare A Average Daily Census 1.5 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ April 2.0 ▪ May 2.0 ▪ June 0.3 ○ Nursing Admissions, Discharges, Readmissions & Deaths <table border="1" style="margin-left: 40px;"> <thead> <tr style="background-color: #d9ead3;"> <th></th> <th>Admissions</th> <th>Discharges</th> <th>Deaths</th> <th>Readmissions</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>April</td> <td>6</td> <td>2</td> <td>2</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>May</td> <td>8</td> <td>7</td> <td>5</td> <td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>June</td> <td>5</td> <td>4</td> <td>2</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>19</td> <td>13</td> <td>9</td> <td>3</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Receipts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Medicaid \$312,510 ○ VA Per Diem \$950,870 ○ All Other Receipts \$413,796 ○ Medicare Part A \$57,952 ○ Medicare Part B \$18,763 • Pharmacy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Evaluating relatively higher pharmacy costs compared to other homes. Working with pharmacist to determine ways to lower costs without lowering quality. ○ Medicare Part D \$8,817 		Admissions	Discharges	Deaths	Readmissions	April	6	2	2	0	May	8	7	5	3	June	5	4	2	0	Total	19	13	9	3
	Admissions	Discharges	Deaths	Readmissions																						
April	6	2	2	0																						
May	8	7	5	3																						
June	5	4	2	0																						
Total	19	13	9	3																						

- VA Pharmacy Receipts \$12,613
- Pharmacy Costs \$83,430
- Average Cost PPD \$16.91
- 2. DPW Projects/Major Maintenance
 - April
 - Installation of LED lighting
 - June
 - LED lighting project completed.
- 3. Significant Community Activities
 - April
 - ISU leadership presentation to HCA students given by Administrator
 - Completed hours with ISU intern
 - Started talks with Dr. Blaine Olsen for Medical Director position.
 - May
 - Field of Heroes Opening Ceremony
 - Hosted a Memorial Day Event open to the Community.
 - June
 - Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon
 - American Legion Fishing Trip @Ugaki's
 - Corvette Club car show
- 4. Special Meals
 - April
 - Easter Sunday Luncheon with honey glazed ham, supreme potatoes, green beans and banana cream pie
 - May
 - Mother's Day Luncheon - coconut shrimp, rice pilaf, glazed carrots, shrimp sauce, chocolate cake w/ frosting.
 - Memorial Day Luncheon - Grilled Hamburgers and hot dogs, potato salad, macaroni salad and assorted pies
 - June
 - Fish fry from fish caught on annual fishing trip, fried potatoes, cole slaw and lemon meringue pie.
 - Vietnam Veterans Association provided fried chicken lunch
- 5. Miscellaneous
 - Cut a new awareness radio commercial on Apr 3rd to air through June 30.
 - Media attended check presentation to the IVAL for ISVH-P Employee Appreciation Committee on May 21.
 - Phil Meador Subaru raised \$12,850 for the Idaho Veterans Assistance League East during its annual "Share the Love" Event.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ISVH-Pocatello received the Bronze AHCA Award • ISVH-Pocatello received the Gold Jean Schoonover Award from the IHCA. Awarded the Silver Award the year previously. • Two minor citation during the VA Survey involving the fire sprinkler system. Both citations have been resolved. <p>Floor opened for questions and/or comments. No questions or comments.</p>																									
Action/Decision/Conclusion:	As above; information update as available.																									
Responsible Party:	Pocatello Home Administrator																									
Target Completion Date:	Update each meeting until complete.																									
Status:	INFORMATION																									
Topic E.	Idaho State Veterans Home - Lewiston (Mark High – Administrator):																									
Information/Data Discussion:	<p>1. FY 2018 4th Quarter Operations Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Census <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The media campaign intended to increase the census has worked very well. ○ Nursing Care Occupancy Rate 93% for the quarter <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ April 88% ▪ May 92% ▪ June 98% ○ Medicare A Average Daily Census 6.5 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ April 5.3 ▪ May 6.2 ▪ June 8.0 ○ Nursing Admissions, Discharges, Readmissions & Deaths <table border="1" data-bbox="618 1323 1487 1514"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Admissions</th> <th>Discharges</th> <th>Deaths</th> <th>Readmissions</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Apr</td> <td>8</td> <td>7</td> <td>2</td> <td>2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>May</td> <td>11</td> <td>8</td> <td>5</td> <td>6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>June</td> <td>5</td> <td>3</td> <td>2</td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>24</td> <td>18</td> <td>9</td> <td>9</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Receipts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Medicaid \$265,521 ○ VA Per Diem \$803,972 ○ All Other Receipts \$516,582 ○ Medicare Part A \$103,544 ○ Medicare Part B \$24,524 • Pharmacy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Medicare Part D \$5,100 ○ VA Pharmacy Receipts \$6,890 ○ Pharmacy Costs \$111,598 		Admissions	Discharges	Deaths	Readmissions	Apr	8	7	2	2	May	11	8	5	6	June	5	3	2	1	Total	24	18	9	9
	Admissions	Discharges	Deaths	Readmissions																						
Apr	8	7	2	2																						
May	11	8	5	6																						
June	5	3	2	1																						
Total	24	18	9	9																						

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Average Cost PPD \$20.04○ Pharmacy has kept costs low by utilizing lower cost alternatives to the most expensive medications.2. DPW Projects/Major Maintenance<ul style="list-style-type: none">● April<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ The main Backflow Preventer has been tested and passed all inspections.○ DPW has sent out the 95% complete drawing for the IT Room - Fire Suppression System project.<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ After review by the Facility Foreman and the DPW representative, some items needed to be modified and work schedules changed.▪ Comments have been submitted to the Engineer for the project.○ Simplex Grinnell replaced piping for the Fire Department Connection to the building, that had corroded.○ On April 29th, the facility was affected by a power outage, which lasted five hours. The power failure procedures were followed, and the large outdoor grill was used to cook the lunch meal. All went well, and the residents stated they look forward to the next outage.● May<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ The IT Fire Suppression project drawings are complete.<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ The project is going out to bid on the 26th of May.○ The Oxygen Tank Replacement project was put out for bid on the 29th of May.<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ The bid opening date is June 7th at 2:00 local time.○ CKA Architects are working on the Chapel expansion drawings.<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ The main drawings, structure drawings are complete.▪ Finishes and colors are still being determined.○ The VA conducted the Annual survey and no deficiencies were noted.● June<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ The IT Fire System project went out to bid on the 26th of June.<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Two contractors were present at the pre-bid meeting.▪ The bid results were opened at 2:00 pm on the 10th of June.
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Bids were opened for the Oxygen tank replacement.<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ K&G Construction was the low bidder. DPW is working on the contracts to start construction.○ The drawing for the Chapel expansion is nearing completion.<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Bid specifications are in the works. <p>3. Significant Community Activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● April<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Fishing trip planned for residents.○ Mark attended the North Central Healthcare Coalition for Long Term Care providers where they continue to discuss the areas plans for Disasters.○ Interviewed candidates for the open Food Services Operations Manager.● May<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ On Memorial Day, we held our Annual Ceremony outside at the statue. The event was well attended by the community. We thanked the Valley Veterans Council for always being there and putting on a great ceremony for us.● June<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Residents attended the NAIA College World Series and each received game balls.○ We enjoyed a Flag Day outing on Thursday June 14th to the Elks club for a nice dinner and good company.○ Fishing trip to Tunnel Pond in Orofino for a great day of fishing, sponsored by the Nez Perce tribe and the Dworshak Fisheries.○ On June 20th we participated in the Lewiston-Clarkston Summer games by holding the ' Walk and Roll' at the Veterans Home. Everyone enjoyed this energizing event.○ To top off the month we attended the Air Show at our local Hanger 180 where our residents enjoyed breakfast and a tour of the WWII planes. <p>4. Special Meals</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● April<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ The residents chose to have Ham and Baked Potatoes with all the trimmings, Green Beans, Fresh Baked Rolls, and Cheesecake with fruit topping for their Special meal this month.● May<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ The residents enjoyed special Mother's Day meal of Ham with all the trimmings.
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ On Memorial Day, they enjoyed Foot Long hotdogs with assorted toppings, potato salad, corn on the cob, chips, ice cream sandwich, and soda. ● June <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ On Father's Day, the residents enjoyed a special meal consisting of Pit Ham with Brussel Sprouts, Au Gratin Potatoes, Fresh Baked Rolls and Strawberry Rhubarb Pie. <p>Floor opened for questions and/or comments. No questions or comments.</p>
Action/Decision/Conclusion:	As above; information update as available.
Responsible Party:	Lewiston Home Administrator
Target Completion Date:	Update each meeting until complete.
Status:	INFORMATION
Topic F	Idaho State Veterans Cemetery (James Earp – Director):
Information/Data Discussion:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Introduction. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The opening slide illustrates the peacefulness and solitude of our Veterans Cemetery. The grounds are visited by thousands in the Spring and Summer and our team of professionals work to ensure that our Veterans Cemetery presents a standard of excellence and lasting respect. 2. Cemetery Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The cemetery concluded Fiscal Year 2018 and its 4th quarter as the most productive 4th Quarter in five years. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Our team completed an unprecedented 779 interments for the year. ○ This is the highest number of interments performed. The previous highest number performed was 729 in FY16. ○ Our operations have seen an increase of 24% in the number of interment services from FY14 to FY18. ● Interment Revenue <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Veterans Cemetery's Interment Revenue concluded at \$638,963 for FY18. ○ The continued partnership with The VARO's Veterans Service Center Manager continues to result in timely processing and receipt of the monthly VA Burial Plot Allowances. 3. Volunteer Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Our volunteers completed a total of 3015 volunteer hours for a FY18. ● The Volunteer staff continues to be an integral part of our operation and experience for the families.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The decline in the number of volunteer hours was due to retraining and reestablishing priorities of work to increase efficiency for the time on site. <p>4. Construction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• DPW project 17602 for road repairs and re-striping continues to linger.<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Little to no progress has been made since September to complete the remaining work or address concerns with the quality of work from the previous contractor.○ We have met with the new engineer for the project and the remaining work will again have to go out to bid.○ A timeline for the completion of work has not been determined.• We are working with local specialists for quotes to upgrade our entry doors to ADA assisted entry. <p>5. Events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• On Memorial Day we held our annual ceremony and it was estimated to have been attended by close to 2,000 visitors.<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ This year's event included the static display of a UH-60 Blackhawk helicopter and two flyovers.• On July 16th, the Randy Durham Memorial Golf Tournament raised \$6,150 for Wreaths Across America. This donation equates to 615 Wreaths.• Coming up on Sunday, August 12th at 10am. We will host our annual Keep the Spirit of 45 Alive celebration.<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ This smaller event is held to recognize the service and sacrifice of our World War II Veterans and their families for their significant contributions to our Nation's Victory of World War II. <p>6. Administrative</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• In June we participated in the NCA's heavy equipment training held at the Caterpillar training center.<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Cemetery Caretaker, Chris Chigbrow represented our Veterans Cemetery and received increased technical training, safety, and maintenance training.○ These courses are integral to the employee professional development and foster a professional network of contacts with instructors and peers.• For the second year we recognized our Volunteers with their awards from the President's Volunteers Service program.<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Each volunteer's annual total hours are recorded, and they are awarded the appropriate level of award, that includes the President's certificate, a letter of gratitude, and either a coin or pin.
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- We held our awards event at a local bowling alley for a fun family event.
- 7. Eastern Idaho Cemetery Update
 - IDVS' has brought on a new irrigation and water consultant, SPF Water Engineering.
 - The expert knowledge will allow us to design the irrigation infrastructure and complex delivery from the canals.
 - Additionally, SPF will help finalize a water share acquisition to accommodate the 40 acres of property designated for future Veterans Cemetery development.
 - Onsite meeting: On July 13th, Scott King of SPF coordinated a meeting with Jim Price the State Hospital South Administrator, Robert Olsen the President of Corbett Slough Company.
 - The site visit was the first for SPF and allowed for a walkthrough of the available irrigation canals to determine the best possible solution to bring surface water to the site.
 - Scott will prepare an assessment and recommendations on the best, most efficient means of establishing our future irrigation needs for the veteran's cemetery.
 - Jim Price also reaffirmed DHW's decision to contribute the number of water shares equal to the size parcel that IDVS has ownership of.
 - October 1, 2018 will be our next opportunity for grant funding for the Veterans Cemetery in Blackfoot.
 - I also stopped in and met with the new Mayor of Blackfoot, Marc Carroll.
 - He shared his current projects to improve one of the main street intersections leading to Cromwell road and the utility project that will be underway very soon.
 - We spoke at length about the city's support of the future Veterans Cemetery and discussed the major concern of railroad traffic and the possible effects and impacts to the city's traffic and cemetery interment operations.
 - This is a subject that has been a concern of Lt. Gov. Brad Little and will have to be investigated as the project develops.

Floor opened for questions and/or comments.

Commissioner Jinny Cash asked if the new National Rural Veterans Cemetery in Buhl, Idaho will have an impact on the construction of a second State Veterans Cemetery in southeastern Idaho?

	James Earp, Veterans Cemetery Director, does not anticipate this new cemetery having a significant impact on the second State Veterans Cemetery. IDVS will not be providing staff for that facility. Grounds maintenance will be contracted out and administrative functions will be centralized at the National Cemetery Administration.																																								
Action/Decision/Conclusion:	As above; information update as available.																																								
Responsible Party:	State Veterans Cemetery Director																																								
Target Completion Date:	Update each meeting until complete.																																								
Status:	INFORMATION																																								
Topic G.	Office of Veterans Advocacy (Bill Heyob – Program Director):																																								
Information/Data Discussion:	<p>1. The Office of Veterans Advocacy continues to serve Idaho's Veterans and family members diligently. Here are the statistics comparing Fiscal Year-to-Date totals from 4th Quarter 2017 and 2018:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th><u>4th Qtr 2018 Totals</u></th> <th><u>4th Qtr 2017 Totals</u></th> <th><u>Increase/Decrease</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Interviews YTD</td> <td>7,168</td> <td>7,058</td> <td>+110</td> </tr> <tr> <td>POAs Filed YTD</td> <td>5,555</td> <td>5,732</td> <td>-177</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Claims Filed YTD</td> <td>8,205</td> <td>7,874</td> <td>+331</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Correspondence</td> <td>7,277</td> <td>5,438</td> <td>+1,839</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Appeals YTD</td> <td>344</td> <td>378</td> <td>-34</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Home Visits</td> <td>280</td> <td>395</td> <td>-115</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th><u>4th Qtr FY18</u></th> <th><u>4th Qtr FY17</u></th> <th><u>Increase/Decrease</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Veterans Seen by OVA in Veterans Treatment Courts</td> <td>561</td> <td>277</td> <td>+284</td> </tr> <tr> <td>State Emergency Grants Approved</td> <td>0</td> <td>6</td> <td>-6</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>2. Notable changes from 4th Quarter 2017 and 2018:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4th Quarter 2018 had (101) additional office interviews, (154) less claims submitted, (573) more claims correspondence submissions and (12) more Hearings compared to the same time period in 2017. <p>3. Noteworthy Issues currently happening with the VA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On July 10th, the Office of the White House Press Secretary announced that Robert Wilkie will be named the Secretary of the VA. • Boise VA Regional Office was named the #1 ranked Regional Office in the Nation. • As of April 2, 2018, all Veterans with appeals pending (at any stage) can "opt-in" to the RAMP process without an invitation from the VA. 		<u>4th Qtr 2018 Totals</u>	<u>4th Qtr 2017 Totals</u>	<u>Increase/Decrease</u>	Interviews YTD	7,168	7,058	+110	POAs Filed YTD	5,555	5,732	-177	Claims Filed YTD	8,205	7,874	+331	Correspondence	7,277	5,438	+1,839	Appeals YTD	344	378	-34	Home Visits	280	395	-115		<u>4th Qtr FY18</u>	<u>4th Qtr FY17</u>	<u>Increase/Decrease</u>	Veterans Seen by OVA in Veterans Treatment Courts	561	277	+284	State Emergency Grants Approved	0	6	-6
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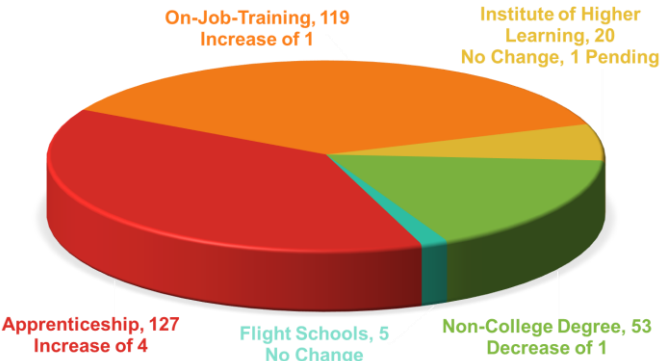
- BVA will begin hearing RAMP Appeals in October 2018 and the new Appeals Modernization Act is scheduled to go into effect February 2019.

EP	Claim Granted Percent	Claim Denied Percent	Issue Granted Percent	Issue Denied Percent
682	36.3%	63.7%	23.3%	76.7%
683	26.8%	73.2%	16.4%	83.6%
Total	32.6%	67.4%	20.6%	79.4%

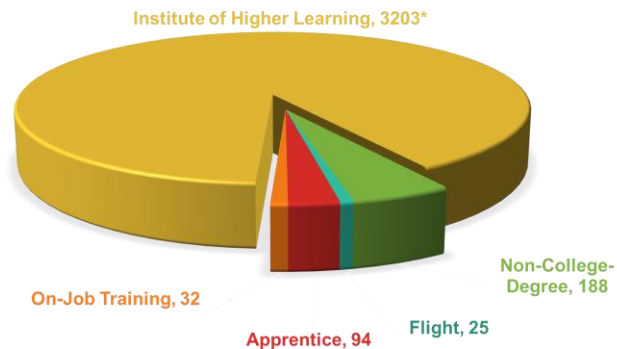
- BVA's median docket date for hearings are for those appeals certified to BVA October 2015 or older.
- President signed the VA Mission Act into Law
 - Funds Choice Program with \$5 Billion
 - works towards a replacement for Choice
 - Expands the VAMC's Caregiver Program to all generations of Veterans
 - Of note, no funding for these programs was approved and still awaiting new policies and procedures governing these changes.
- TRICARE Retiree Dental Program expires December 31, 2018.
 - Will be replaced by the Federal Employees Office of Personnel Management Dental and Vision Program.
 - Does not automatically roll from TRICARE Retiree Dental Program to the new OPM Dental and Vision
 - Must enroll during the open season in November/December 2018.
- Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2017 (H.R. 299) has passed the House of Representatives and is currently in the Senate.
 - If passed and signed into law, would extend the presumption of exposure to Agent Orange to Veterans who served in the "Blue Water Navy".

4. Significant Events within the OVA

- Our Office will be sending two VSOs to the VFW Basic Skills Training Course in Annapolis, MD, August 12-17, 2018 (Joe Riener and Robert Smith).
- Frank Fabbi and myself completed the VFW Proficiency Training Course in King of Prussia, PA in April.
- Successfully completed the Annual County and Post Service Officer Training July 11-13th
 - 76 Attendees.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Guest presenters included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ the Executive Assistant to the Chairman of the BVA ▪ Pension Management Center - St Paul, MN ▪ Debt Management Center - St Paul, MN ▪ The VA Fiduciary Hub - SLC. ● Conducting a job announcement for a Service Officer in Lewiston to replace Bob Cooper (Retiring). ● Requesting funding for an additional VSO for the Post Falls Office in the FY-20 Budget Request. ● Planning continues for the 2018 Idaho Women Veteran's Conference to be held in Boise on October 20th <p>Floor opened for questions and/or comments. No questions or comments.</p>																		
Action/Decision/Conclusion:	As above; information update as available.																		
Responsible Party:	Office of Veterans Advocacy Program Director																		
Target Completion Date:	Update each meeting.																		
Status:	INFORMATION																		
Topic H.	Veterans Education – GI Bill (Doug Jacobson – Veterans Education Coordinator):																		
Information/Data Discussion:	<p>1. Number of Approved Facilities in Idaho</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  <table border="1" style="margin: 0 auto;"> <thead> <tr> <th>Category</th> <th>Count</th> <th>Change</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>On-Job-Training</td> <td>119</td> <td>Increase of 1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Institute of Higher Learning</td> <td>20</td> <td>No Change, 1 Pending</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Apprenticeship</td> <td>127</td> <td>Increase of 4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Flight Schools</td> <td>5</td> <td>No Change</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Non-College Degree</td> <td>53</td> <td>Decrease of 1</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> </div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Total 324 increase of four from the last quarter and thirty-four since last April. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 119 On-the-Job (OJT) programs approved (increase of one) ○ 127 Apprenticeship programs approved (increase of four additional programs) ○ 53 Non-College Degree (NCD) programs approved (decrease of one) 	Category	Count	Change	On-Job-Training	119	Increase of 1	Institute of Higher Learning	20	No Change, 1 Pending	Apprenticeship	127	Increase of 4	Flight Schools	5	No Change	Non-College Degree	53	Decrease of 1
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- EMT program went bankrupt
 - 20 Institution of Higher Learning (IHL) programs approved (No change, 1 Pending).
 - ICOM pending approval
 - 5 Flight Schools approved (no change).
2. Approximate number of veterans utilizing benefits



- 3,542 total
 - 3,203 enrolled in IHLs (includes 20 from TVCC flight programs)
 - 188 enrolled in NCDs
 - 94 in apprenticeship programs
 - 25 in flight school
 - 32 in OJT programs
3. FY 2018 VA Compliance
- Completed 100 %
 - American Academy of Clinical Massage
 - Aveda Institute
 - College of Idaho
 - College of Southern Idaho
 - Eastern Idaho Technical College (CEI)
 - Elevate Salon
 - Lewis Clark State College
 - Sage Truck Driving - Caldwell
 - Twin Falls Police Dept.
 - University of Idaho
4. SAA Training and Travel
- Past Quarter Travel and Training
 - April 18: College of Idaho Compliance Survey
 - May 23: College of Southern Idaho Compliance Survey
 - May 24: Twin Falls Police Dept. Compliance Survey
 - June 06: Aveda Institute Compliance Survey
 - June 08: SIEDO Employer Workshop – Twin Falls

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ June 14: American Institute of Clinical Massage Compliance Survey ○ June 14: RL Jacobs & Wray Plumbing, DEI Electric visit ○ June 20: Sage Truck Driving School Compliance Survey ○ Also attended four TAP Briefings at Mountain Home AFB (MHAFB) ● Current Quarter Travel and Training <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ July 17: ICOM Inspection Visit – Meridian ○ July TBD: Jerome City HR Visit ○ July 19: Apprenticeship Idaho Conference - Boise ○ July 23-26: WAVES Conference – San Diego ○ August 25-30: NASAA Summer Conference – Anaheim ○ August TBD: VA Business Plan / Contract FY19 ○ September 27: SCO Conference – Riverside Hotel ○ Will also attend five TAP briefings at MHAFB <p>5. Pending Approvals/Highlights</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Universities and Colleges: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Idaho College of Osteopathic Medicine – ICOM in Meridian ● Non-College Degree Programs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Emergency Medicine Academy – Boise ● OJT/Apprenticeship Programs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ City of Jerome – Water Operator Class I & Fire Department ○ RL Jacobs Plumbing – plumber in Coeur d’Alene ● Education Office Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Primary focus on OJT / Apprenticeship programs with State & Federal DOL ○ Working with SIEDO, DOL on regional employer workshops <p>Floor opened for questions and/or comments. No questions or comments.</p>
Action/Decision/Conclusion:	As above; information update as available.
Responsible Party:	Veterans Education Coordinator
Target Completion Date:	Update each meeting until complete.
Status:	INFORMATION

Topic I.	Idaho Division of Veterans Services (Tracy Schaner – Deputy Administrator):
Information/Data Discussion:	<p>1. Tracy Schaner</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marv Hagedorn was appointed by the Governor to be the next IDVS Chief Administrator. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ He will officially start on July 30th. • Colleen Moon and Kevin Wallior both had their titles update to more accurately reflect their positions. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Colleen is now the Quality Improvement Director ○ Kevin is now an Executive Assistant • Now that Marv Hagedorn has been appointed, IDVS will host the "April" VSMF meeting August 23rd. • The Women Veterans Conference is October 20. • IDVS staff are actively working on the FY 2019 Budget Process. <p>Floor opened for questions and/or comments. No questions or comments.</p>
Action/Decision/ Conclusion:	As above; information update as available.
Responsible Party:	Division Administrator
Target Completion Date:	Update each meeting until complete.
Status:	INFORMATION

III. NEW BUSINESS:

The Veterans Recognition Fund meeting will occur at 1:00 PM after lunch.

Next meeting is scheduled for
October 17, 2018
Idaho State Veterans Home – Lewiston
821 21st Avenue Lewiston, ID 83501
Conference Room

Commissioner Cash motioned to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Gimpel seconded. Meeting adjourned at 11:17 AM MT.

H. Melvin Napier, Chairman

Idaho Veterans Affairs Commission

July 18, 2018

Edit:

Due to logisitics challenges the October IVAC meeting will now occur in Boise at:

Idaho Division of Veterans Services – Central Support Office

Main Conference Room

351 Collins Road Boise, ID 83702