



## King County

### Community Services Division

#### Department of Community and Human Services

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**Regional Human Services Citizen Oversight Board (RHSCOB) and  
Veterans Citizen Oversight Board (VCOB)  
Joint Levy Oversight Board  
Meeting Summary**

**March 26, 2015 10:15 am – 12:15 pm**

King County Chinook Building, Rm. 115

### Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Francisco Ivarra at 10:15 am.

### Roll Call

**Regional Human Services Citizen Oversight Board (RHSCOB) Members Present:**  
Marilyn Cooks, Gary Haines, Kate Slaminko

**RHSCOB Members Excused/Absent:** John Forsyth, Lynnette Jordan, Loran Lichty  
(Chair), David Ramsay (Vice-chair), Bonnie Sanders

**Veterans Citizen Oversight Board (VCOB) Members Present:** Francisco Ivarra  
(Chair), Mary Kay Lewis, Elbert Reed

**VCOB Members Excused/Absent:** Doug Hoople, Curtis Thompson, Jaime Yslas

**King County Staff Present:** Dawn Barrett, Department of Community and Human  
Services (DCHS); Marcy Kubbs, DCHS; Pat Lemus, DCHS; Scott Ninneman, DCHS;  
Laird Redway, DCHS

**Guests:** Sterling Leibenguth, Dee Martindale, Rachelle Celebrezze, Nicole Ferrer, Peter  
Schmidt

### Review of Meeting Summaries

Meeting summaries were not approved as quorum was not present.

### Activity Update: 3.2 Veteran and Trauma Competency Training /Employment Curriculum

Peter Schmidt, Psy. D., LMHC, Executive Director, Center for Learning Connections, Veterans  
Training Support Center (VTSC) briefed the Levy Joint Citizen Oversight Board on the VTSC.

Highlights of VTSC included:

- Over 2300 participants and 600 agencies have been served
- Over 80 different workshops are offered by 38 professional trainers
- On average, workshops and presenters are rated between 4.0 - 5.0 on a 1.0 – 5.0 scale
- Current projects include Military Sexual Trauma Curriculum for Non-Military Personnel and Retaining Our Vets, A Guide for Employers.



- VTSC empowers service providers and employers to be change agents for the veterans they work with.
- This year's contract added more training for veterans directly in addition to veteran services providers.
- Peter suggested reviewing "Now After" on You Tube (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NkWwZ9ZtPEI>), a video that shares the personal story of a veteran. It is difficult to watch and a very useful way to get the word out to the civilian community about how many veterans feel after they return to civilian life.

#### Discussion:

- Trainer staff includes 14 males, 10 people of color, 11 female and 6-8 veterans. Though there are no workshops specific to minority veterans it is a training VTSC could add.
- It was also suggested that a workshop be developed to specifically address veteran family issues.
- Various resources are used to develop the workshops which are developed based on community input.

#### **Fiscal and Evaluation Committee Update**

The Fiscal and Evaluation (F&E) Committee has worked on a process/policy to manage board recommendations on unspent levy funds. At the last F&E Committee meeting, the committee reviewed a draft framework to use as a baseline. The F&E Committee would like to be responsible for taking the initial look at staff unspent funds recommendations; then bring their committee recommendations to the boards.

#### **Regional Veterans Initiative (RVI) – Update**

Dawn Barrett, RVI Assistant Coordinator, provided an update on the RVI and shared the following:

- Veterans Passport: the Veterans Community Services Network (VCSN) is using the Veterans Passport as a tool to provide "up reach" to Joint Base Lewis McCord (JBLM) members that are exiting to King County.
- Welcome Home letter: The VCSN is developing a "Welcome Home" letter which would come from the King County Executive to veterans who are exiting JBLM to King County. The letter would direct them to key services in the region.
- The Veterans Consortium: The April meeting will focus on the direction of the committee and develop appropriate sub-committees to support the work.
- Ending Veterans Homelessness in King County: There are 1,548 homeless veterans in King County. Of those, it is anticipated 258 will self-resolve. King County can place another 968 into available housing units leaving a gap of about 300. The RVI is working on the regional effort to house these remaining homeless veterans.

#### **Chairs' Report – Francisco Ivarra - VCOB/Kate Slaminko - RHSCOB**

##### **VCOB:**

- Board members re-elected Francisco Ivarra (Chair) and Curtis Thompson (Vice-chair) to continue their leadership roles for 2015.
- At the January VCOB meeting Judge Johanna Bender who provided a presentation on the Veterans Treatment Court, explained how trauma leads to criminal behavior and why addressing this behavior using a therapeutic court model is successful.

Board members also heard from Chelsea Baylen, Doug and Mary Kay – who served on the Incarcerated Veterans Motion Advisory Group. The workgroup identified key issues to improve services for incarcerated veterans in King County.

**RHSCOB:**

- Board members re-elected Loran Lichty (Chair) and Dave Ramsay (Vice-chair) to continue RHSCOB leadership roles for 2015.
- At the February RHSCOB board meeting Dr. Sheri Hill spoke on the topic of Supporting Young Children Exposed to Trauma, sharing the science behind brain development in newborns to three year olds. It was clear from the research that early intervention and prevention activities such as those provided under the Levy's Strategy Four, Strengthening Families at Risk, are a wise investment. The presentation helped to provide context for the Executive's new initiative – Best Starts for Kids, which is currently being developed.

**Staff report – Marcy Kubbs**

The 2014 Levy Annual Report is on track to meet its submittal deadline and, as of today, the fiscal report for year end 2014 shows an overall expenditure rate of 97 percent. The new fiscal monitoring process for the 2012-2017 Levy has improved the expenditure rate significantly. At the upcoming F&E Committee meeting, they will discuss recommendations for use of these unspent funds and bring their recommendations to the boards. (Note: The final expenditure rate for 2014 Levy funds that will appear in the annual report is 99%).

**Old Business**

- The issue of how the boards recognize outgoing members was discussed. Perhaps a plaque or a pin in recognition of a member's service could be presented to them.

**New Business/ Future Agenda Items**

- None

**Public Comment**

- Saturday, March 28, 1pm, American Legion Post 73 presents a re-dedication ceremony of the Killed in Action Remembrances Walls.
- Saturday, March 28, 2pm, Community Resource Center in Everett, a panel of veterans and veteran service providers will be discussing recommendations from the Military Compensation and Retirement Modernization Commission.
- Sunday, March 29, 1pm, Sarge Hubbard Park, the unveiling of the name Doug Chappell added to the Vietnam Memorial.
- In early May, The ACT Theater will present "The Ghosts of Tonkin", a story about the Vietnam War. Check the ACT Theater website for details.

All are welcome to these events. For more information, please contact Francisco.

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45pm.