

TEXAS VETERANS LAND BOARD SPECIAL CALLED MEETING Tuesday, April 30, 2024, 10:00 a.m. 1700 N. Congress Avenue, Room 170, Austin, TX 78701

## 1. Opening

- a. Chairwoman Dawn Buckingham M.D. called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M.
- b. The Chair declared a quorum present.

Members present were:

Chairwoman Dawn Buckingham M.D. Board Member James Rothfelder

## Also present:

Executive Secretary Tony Dale
Assistant Executive Secretary Darren Fitz Gerald
General Counsel Jeff Gordon

- c. Invocation was led by Chaplain Tom Bodine, American Legion Post 76.
- d. The Chair led the Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. and Texas flags.
  - i Presentation to Chaplain by the Board of a flag flown over the Alamo in honor of his contributions to veterans.
- 2. Approval of the minutes from the regular Board meeting of February 13, 2024. Approved with no objections.
- 3. Citizen Communications. No members of the public testified during citizen communications.
- 4. Chair and Board Member Opening Comments. No comments were made.
- 5. Veterans Land Board Bond Funds Management.
  - a. Quarterly Veterans Land, Housing and Home Improvement Program Production Update for Fiscal Year 2024 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter.
- 6. Veterans Land Board Land and Housing.
  - a. Consideration and possible action to set aside bids received from the Online Bidding Forfeited Land Sale held April 18, 2024, on any tract where the account holder is making an appeal. No action required; therefore, no action was taken.

- b. Consideration and possible action to accept and award all qualified high bids received from the Online Bidding Forfeited Land Sale held April 18, 2024. Motion was made by Mr. Rothfelder and seconded by Chair Buckingham, to approve, according to staff recommendations. The motion carried unanimously.
- c. Consideration and possible action on request to forfeit VLB delinquent land accounts. Motion was made by Mr. Rothfelder and seconded by Chair Buckingham, to approve, according to staff recommendations. The motion carried unanimously.
- d. Consideration and possible action on request to Order for Sale land tracts that may be included in the next Online Bidding Forfeited Land Sale and to set the next Quarterly Electronic Forfeited Land Sale bidding period to begin June 3, 2024, through July 18, 2024. Motion was made by Mr. Rothfelder and seconded by Chair Buckingham, to approve, according to staff recommendations. The motion carried unanimously.
- e. Consideration and possible action on authorizing staff to conduct rulemaking related to the definition of "Veteran" for the purpose of establishing eligibility to qualified Veterans for participation in the land loan program. Motion was made by Mr. Rothfelder and seconded by Chair Buckingham, to approve, according to staff recommendations. The motion carried unanimously.
- 7. Texas State Veterans Cemeteries.
  - a. Report on State Veterans Cemetery operations. No action required; therefore, no action was taken.
- 8. Texas State Veterans Homes.
  - a. Report on State Veterans Homes. No action required; therefore, no action was taken.
  - b. Consideration and possible action on resident room rates in the David A. Gloier Texas State Veterans Home Program, and other matters in connection therewith. Motion was made by Mr. Rothfelder and seconded by Chair Buckingham, to approve, according to staff recommendations. The motion carried unanimously.
- 9. Construction Services.
  - a. Report on construction projects. No action required; therefore, no action was taken.

- b. Consideration and possible action on delegation of authority to the Executive Secretary to execute a contract to facilitate repairs related to the roof at the Richard A. Anderson Texas State Veterans Home. Motion was made by Mr. Rothfelder and seconded by Chair Buckingham, to approve, according to staff recommendations. The motion carried unanimously.
- 10. Executive Secretary Report.
  - a. Report on Veterans Land Board operations. No action required; therefore, no action was taken.

## **II. EXECUTIVE SESSION** 10:38 A.M. – 10:46 A.M.

In accordance with Chapter 551, Government Code, the Texas Veteran Land Board convened in Executive Session pursuant to the following provisions of the Texas Open Meetings Act, Chapter 551, of the Texas Government Code:

a. Section 551.071 - Consultation with attorney regarding issues concerning construction and warranty at the Richard A. Anderson Texas State Veterans Home in Houston, Texas.

## III. RECONVENE REGULAR AGENDA 10:50 A.M.

11. Consider Action, If Any, On Items Discussed in Executive Session. Chair Buckingham called item 11.

Chair recognized Jeff Gordon. Jeff Gordon made staff recommendation:

General Counsel recommends the Board delegate authority to the Executive Secretary to initiate legal action related to the roof at the Houston Veterans Home against the general contractor and any other responsible parties for the reasons discussed in Executive Session.

Mr. Rothfelder made a motion to accept staff recommendation. Chair Buckingham seconded the motion. The motion was adopted without objection.

- 12. Chair and Board Member Closing Comments. Chair Buckingham made comments on the status of the roof repair at the Houston state veterans home.
- 13. Adjournment. 10:51 A.M.

ATTEST:

Anthony Dale

Executive Secretary

APPROVED:

James Rothfelder Board Member