

**UNITED VETERANS COMMITTEE OF COLORADO (UVC)**

<http://unitedveteranscommittee.com>



**UVC  
P.O BOX 31261  
AURORA, CO 80041-1261**

**MINUTES**

**(08 SEPTEMBER 2009)**

**MEETINGS AT VFW POST 9644  
2680 W Hampden Ave  
Englewood, CO 80110-1906  
303-789-9733**

West of Sante Fe on highway 285. First traffic light, turn right (Brady Court) and follow curving road to top of hill. VFW Post on left OR Turn North on Federal, and then right on Hampden and VFW Post will be on your right.

**NEW WEB ADDRESS:**

<http://unitedveteranscommittee.com>

**Email:** [uvcorg@comcast.net](mailto:uvcorg@comcast.net)

1. **CALL TO ORDER 0900 hrs**
2. **INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLIGENCE TO THE FLAG**
3. **MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR MIA-POW:**
4. **WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS**
  - First Time Attendees / Visitors Welcomed
    1. Kaitlyn O'Hara, Government Relations Director, Mountain States PVA
    2. Sharon Lindell, VWIP, Grant Coordinator, Dept of Labor and Employment
    3. Mark Stevenson, Assistant Director, VA Eastern CO Health Care System
    4. Jordan Schupbach, Public Relations Officer, Dept of Veterans Affairs
    5. Ray Z Dissenger, Grand Admin, DMVA Division of Veterans Affairs
    6. Deborah L Wray, National Guard Association of Colo
    7. Mickey Hunt, Deputy Director, DMVA
  - Guest Speakers
    1. Lynette Roth introduced the new Public Affairs Officer Jordan Schupbach, and made comments
    2. Mark J. Stevenson, FACHE, Assistant Director, VA ECHCS, spoke about the DOD/VA Disability Evaluation System (DES) Pilot Program started at Ft. Carson last spring.
5. **ROLL CALL**
6. **REPORTS**
  - Secretary – minutes approved as corrected
  - Treasurer – Report Accepted
7. **ORGANIZATIONAL REPORTS (not in precise order)**
  - Civil Air Patrol – Mike McDonald
    1. Introduced as the new Colorado CAP Representative to the committee, replacing Patti Sampers who has retired. Patti will continue to represent the Gold Star Wives.
  - American Legion – Jim Gillis
    1. New American Legion State Commander Frank McCurdy
    2. New American Legion National Commander Clarence Hill
    3. The American Legion Convention was in Louisville, KY in August
    4. Two important resolutions were passed. They were Open Health Care to all Veterans and their families. Offer DOD Health Care to all members of the military, active duty, National Guard, Reserves and their families

**UNITED VETERANS COMMITTEE OF COLORADO (UVC)**

**A non-profit coalition of 50 chartered service organizations representing over 465,000 veterans and family members in Colorado**

## **UNITED VETERANS COMMITTEE OF COLORADO (UVC)**

<http://unitedveteranscommittee.com>

- Veterans of Foreign Wars – Warren Tellgren
  1. State Council of Administration Meeting will be in Longmont October 24 – 25
  2. The VFW Ladies Auxiliary is committed to raising funds and providing volunteers for the 2010 Wheel Chair Games.
  3. The VFW will also be raising funds for the 2010 Wheel Chair Games.
- AUSA – Paul Baldwin – State Director of Selective Service
  1. Thanks to UVC, VFW and Wayne Thompson
- Women Marines Assoc CO1 – Paula Sarlls
  1. The Marine Memorial 5K run/walk will be on Oct 25, 9AM. Register at [active.com](http://active.com) or see [www.wmac01.org](http://www.wmac01.org).
- Buckley AFB – Bob Van Sciver
  1. Studio 1430 putting on their first Veterans Fair on September 26
  2. Call Kevin Ridley at 720-628-0832 for further information.
- Cheyenne VAMC – David Kilpatrick
  1. Mobile Clinic now having weekly clinics in Sterling, Colorado.
- VA Regional Office- Rebecca Sawyer Smith
  1. Kay Collins is retiring after a long and successful career on October 2
  2. The DAV is having a Pig Roast on Friday in appreciation of VA employees.
  3. We hosted the National VBA Leadership Conference in Denver Aug 24 – 28. Artie Guerrero attended with his service dog Sierra to demonstrate the Operation Freedom Program which matches veterans and active duty members with service dogs.
  4. In August the Regional Office collected and donated \$4,655 worth of school supplies in Ft Carson through Operation Homefront.
  5. The Innovative Initiative was disc used.

### **8. UVC LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE**

### **9. UVC BANQUET COMMITTEE**

- Report by Ken Melcher. The UVC Banquet will be April 25, 2010 at the Red Lion Hotel at I-255 and Parker Road.

### **10. UVC MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE -**

### **11. COLORADO BOARD OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**

- Report by Ralph Bozella, Chairman. The CBVA will meet Wednesday Sept 9, 10am at American Legion HQ. They will welcome new members appointed by Governor Ritter in August. Jim Stanko was re-appointed; Franklin Jackson and Jason Crow were appointed for their first term.
- The Board looks forward to working closely with the UVC and its VSO membership.
- Jay Bobick, immediate past president of the UVC was recommended to be the Board's designee to the State Veterans Nursing Home Commission. Gov. Ritter appointed Jay to the Commission in August.

### **12. VETERANS NURSING HOME COMMISSION**

### **13. VETERANS NURSING HOME ADMINISTRATION**

- Jeff Jerebeker, President of Pinion Management gave a review of the State Veterans Nursing Homes.

### **14. FITZSIMMONS NURSING HOME ADVISORY BOARD**

- Report by Ken Melcher. Fitzsimons State Veterans Nursing Home Advisory Committee ha a concern about the mandatory days off at the home. We have 21 Personnel in this category. What will happen to the residents in case of a fire or

## **UNITED VETERANS COMMITTEE OF COLORADO (UVC)**

**A non-profit coalition of 50 chartered service organizations representing over 465,000 veterans and family members in Colorado**

## **UNITED VETERANS COMMITTEE OF COLORADO (UVC)**

<http://unitedveteranscommittee.com>

tornado n the days off? These 21 personnel are not funded with the state funds. Funding is from the 505 enterprises fund.

### **15. CONGRESSIONAL STAFFERS**

- **Congressman Mike Coffman**
  - Staff Member Myron Spanier reported that the Congressman had visited the Pueblo Chemical Depot, held Town Hall Meetings, and is happy to have returned to DC.
- **Congresswoman Betsy Markey**
  - Staff member Jamie Grim reported that the Congresswoman is the lead sponsor of the Honor Act which would provide mental health counseling for vets suffering from PTSD or TBI. She also is a cosponsor of HR 667 Heroes at Home Act which would establish a training and certification program for family caregivers of Vets with TBI injuries.

### **16. VISN 19, VARO, VA CEMETERIES, VA ECHCS, VA DALC, VA HEALTH CENTER**

- VA Medical Center – Lynette Roff
  1. Welcome Jordan Shupback, Air Force Veteran and New PAO for ECHS
  2. Ground Breaking New Hospital Aug 22. Thanks to all who participated
  3. Secretary Shinseki is articulating goals for VA, including wiping out homeless in 5 years
- ECHS – Jordan Shupbach
  1. VISN 19 Flu Shots are forthcoming. Information will be made available.
  2. ECHCS – Opportunities to be involved in the 2010 National Veterans Wheelchair Games Abound. Contact MSCPVA or ECHS for information.
- Fort Logan National Cemetery – Joe Turnbach
  1. There were 279 interments in August, 155 of them were cremations
  2. FY 2009 we are 68 interments behind last year rate

### **17. DMVA/DVA**

### **18. OLD BUSINESS**

### **19. NEW BUSINESS**

- Legislative Goals and Objectives draft was provided.

### **20. UVC PRESIDENT COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **21. ADJOURN**

NEXT MEETING DATE - 13 October 2009

## **UNITED VETERANS COMMITTEE OF COLORADO (UVC)**

**A non-profit coalition of 50 chartered service organizations representing over 465,000 veterans and family members in Colorado**