

**Board of Veterans Services  
Cemeteries Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
October 8, 2008**

**DRAFT**

A meeting of the Board of Veterans Services (BVS) Cemeteries Committee was held on Wednesday, October 8, 2008 at the Sitter & Barfoot Veterans Care Center in Richmond.

**Members Present**

- John Edwards
- Paul Galanti
- Pat Green
- Thad Jones

**Members Absent**

- Mark Cole
- Paris Davis

**Department of Veterans Services Officials Present**

- Steven Combs, Director of Policy and Planning
- Dan Kemano, Cemeteries Director

**Others Present**

None

**Materials Distributed**

- Agenda
- Draft minutes from 7-30-08 Cemeteries Committee Meeting
- USDVA FY 2009 Priority List of Pending State Cemetery Construction Grant Preapplications
- Summary of Equipment Replacement Costs, Virginia State Veterans Cemeteries, FY2010 – FY2012
- Virginia Veterans Cemetery, Amelia Equipment Inventory
- Albert G. Horton, Jr. Memorial Veterans Cemetery Equipment Inventory
- DVS Point Paper – Missing in America Project
- DVS Point Paper – Burial Vaults at Virginia's state veterans cemeteries

**Call to Order and Quorum Determination**

Chairman Pat Green called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. Two of six members were recorded as present. Thad Jones and John Edwards arrived later and a quorum was determined.

**Update – Virginia Veterans Cemetery, Dublin**

- DVS Cemeteries Director Dan Kemano summarized the progress to date on the Virginia

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Veterans Cemetery, Dublin

- Mr. Kemano discussed the Deed Transfer Ceremony, held on September 22, and the excellent support provided by the Dublin community
- Mr. Kemano and Mr. Combs reviewed the USDVA FY 2009 Priority List of Pending State Cemetery Construction Grant Preapplications. Federal funding for the project is expected to be \$7.8 million
- Mr. Kemano and Mr. Combs discussed the process used to select an architect to design the cemetery and provide construction management. The winner architectural firm will be announced in the near future
- Mr. Kemano concluded by saying that the cemetery is expected to begin operations in late 2010

**Equipment replacement plan**

- Mr. Kemano discussed the equipment replacement needs for the Virginia Veterans Cemetery, Amelia and the Albert G. Horton, Jr. Memorial Veterans Cemetery
- Mr. Kemano distributed spreadsheets which detail the replacement equipment needed by each cemetery.
- Estimated near-term replacement costs are:

	<b>Virginia Veterans Cemetery, Amelia</b>	<b>Albert G. Horton, Jr. Memorial Veterans Cemetery</b>
<b>2010</b>	\$146,377	\$28,750
<b>2011</b>	\$24,765	\$43,432
<b>2012</b>	\$63,077	\$21,007

- Mr. Green noted that because of the state budget situation, it was unlikely that the Department would receive full funding to replace equipment. He asked if DVS had prioritized its needs. Mr. Kemano assured him that this has already been done.

**Reports to the full Board**

- Mr. Combs reviewed the point papers on the Missing in America Project (MIAP) and Burial Vaults, prepared by DVS at the request of the Board of Veterans
- Chairman Green asked the Department to prepare a plan of action to work with funeral homes, the funeral directors association, and the MIAP to facilitate the transfer of unclaimed cremains from funeral homes to DVS state veterans cemeteries. He asked that the plan be prepared no later than the next meeting.

**Review and approval of minutes from the July 30, 2008 committee meeting**

By consent, the committee approved the minutes from the July 30, 2008 meeting as written

**Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 10:55 a.m.