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(South Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs)

South Dakota Veterans Commission Elects Officers for Coming Year

PIERRE, S.D. – The South Dakota Veterans Commission elected new officers to lead the Commission in enhancing the lives of South Dakota veterans.

Helen Parr of Sioux Falls was elected as chairman, and Lori Vosika of Hot Springs was selected as vice chairman. Parr succeeds Chairman Jim Ross of Whitewood.

“The Commission has made history,” said Larry Zimmerman, Secretary of the South Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs. “We have three female and three male commissioners and for the first time in the history of the Commission, both leadership positions are commanded by female commissioners.”

“Commissioners Parr and Vosika are strong advocates for veterans,” said Zimmerman. “Collectively, these two commissioners have dedicated over 50 years of service to enhance the lives of our veterans.”

“Dedicating my life to assisting veterans obtain their benefits has given me a great foundation to lead the Commission,” said Helen Parr. “I look forward to working with the Commission and the SDDVA staff in growing our communication with our veterans.”

“I am honored to continue my role on the Veterans Commission and to be selected for a leadership position,” said Vosika. “Serving as vice chairman is another opportunity to be a voice for veterans. Our role as a Commission has evolved and changed with the implementation of the South Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs and it’s been exciting to learn, listen, watch, guide and support the many new efforts ongoing by the Department.”

“We live in a great State that cares about our nation’s heroes and to be able to experience some of this firsthand as a commissioner is one of the highlights of my life of service to veterans,” said Vosika.

