The meeting of the South Dakota Veterans Commission was called to order at 8:00 AM (CT) on Monday, March 15, 2010, by Chairman Hubbard.

Chairman Hubbard noted that all legal requirements as outlined in SDCL1-25-1 and 1-25-1.1 were met with regard to this meeting.

Roll Call: Chairman Hubbard asked staff to take roll call. Roll call indicated a quorum was present. Commissioners present were: Mike Birnbaum, Wade Hubbard, Bill Locken, Gene Murphy and John Noyes (by phone).

Staff: Deputy Secretary Harding and Audry Ricketts (for opening of the meeting).

Chairman Hubbard congratulated Commissioner Birnbaum for his recognition and recipient of the Williamson Militiaman Award.

Review of Agenda – Chairman Hubbard asked if there were any additions or changes for the proposed agenda. A motion was made by Commissioner Murphy, seconded by Commissioner Locken, to approve the agenda as presented. Roll call vote was taken: Commissioner Birnbaum – aye, Commissioner Hubbard – aye, Commissioner Noyes – aye, Commissioner Locken – aye, and Commissioner Murphy – aye. The vote indicated five ayes and no nays and Chairman Hubbard declared the motion carried.

Consideration of Minutes – Chairman Hubbard noted that the Commission had three sets of Commission meeting minutes to review and approve.

Chairman Hubbard opened the floor for discussion on the February 19, 2010, conference call meeting minutes. A motion was made by Commissioner Murphy, seconded by Commissioner Birnbaum, to approve the minutes as presented. Roll call vote was taken: Commissioner Birnbaum – aye, Commissioner Hubbard – aye, Commissioner Noyes – aye, Commissioner Locken – aye, and Commissioner Murphy – aye. The vote indicated five ayes and no nays and Chairman Hubbard declared the motion carried and that the February 19, 2010, minutes were approved.

Chairman Hubbard opened the floor for discussion on the February 8-9, 2010, meeting minutes. Commissioner Murphy noted that in the last paragraph on page one it should read Dr. Petzel. A motion was made by Commissioner Locken, seconded by Commissioner Noyes, to approve the minutes with the amendment noted. Roll call vote was taken: Commissioner Birnbaum – aye, Commissioner Hubbard – aye, Commissioner Noyes – aye, Commissioner Locken – aye, and Commissioner Murphy – aye. The vote indicated five ayes.
and no nays and Chairman Hubbard declared the motion carried and the February 8-9, 2010, minutes approved.

Chairman Hubbard opened the floor for discussion on the January 29, 2010, conference call meeting minutes. A motion was made by Commissioner Birnbaum, seconded by Commissioner Locken, to approve the minutes as presented. Roll call vote was taken: Commissioner Birnbaum – aye, Commissioner Hubbard – aye, Commissioner Noyes – aye, Commissioner Locken – aye, and Commissioner Murphy – aye. The vote indicated five ayes and no nays and Chairman Hubbard declared the motion carried and that the January 29, 2010, minutes were approved.

Consideration of Director Position – A motion was made by Commissioner Murphy, seconded by Commissioner Birnbaum, to enter into executive session for the purposes of personnel issues. Roll call vote was taken: Commissioner Birnbaum – aye, Commissioner Hubbard – aye, Commissioner Noyes – aye, Commissioner Locken – aye, and Commissioner Murphy – aye. The vote indicated five ayes and no nays and Chairman Hubbard declared the motion carried and the Commission in executive session at 8:12 am.

A motion was made by Commissioner Birnbaum, seconded by Commissioner Murphy, to come out of executive session. Roll call vote was taken: Commissioner Birnbaum – aye, Commissioner Hubbard – aye, Commissioner Noyes – aye, Commissioner Locken – aye, and Commissioner Murphy – aye. The vote indicated five ayes and no nays and Chairman Hubbard declared the motion carried. Commission came out of executive session at 3:15 pm.

A motion was made by Commissioner Birnbaum, seconded by Commissioner Locken, to submit the Commission’s selected list of candidates for the position of director of the Division to the General for his consideration and interviews. Roll call vote was taken: Commissioner Birnbaum – aye, Commissioner Hubbard – aye, Commissioner Noyes – aye, Commissioner Locken – aye, and Commissioner Murphy – aye. The vote indicated five ayes and no nays and Chairman Hubbard declared the motion carried.

Old/New Business – Commissioner Murphy noted the number of senior personnel who are departing the Division in Pierre and Sioux Falls and suggested that the Division leadership consider retaining them for advice on a contract consultant basis. General discussion followed.

Commissioner Locken mentioned that the flags for the branches of military service no longer fly at Mt. Rushmore. The Commission decided informally to ask General Doohen or Deputy Secretary Harding to call the superintendent at Mount Rushmore for an explanation. Depending on the explanation, the Commission may write a letter to the superintendent.

The Commission reviewed the status of 2010 state legislation of interest.
A motion was made by Commissioner Birnbaum, seconded by Commissioner Murphy, to adjourn. Roll call vote was taken: Commissioner Birnbaum – aye, Commissioner Hubbard – aye, Commissioner Noyes – aye, Commissioner Locken – aye, and Commissioner Murphy – aye. The vote indicated five ayes and no nays. Chairman Hubbard declared the motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 3:35 p.m.

Wade Hubbard, Chairman