

## Department of Ohio Employment Committee Meeting

12:00 P.M., 2014/10/04

Mary Austin (District 8), Chairman

**Committee Members:** District 1, John DeBarr; District 2, Kent Long; District 3, James Kammer; District 4, Al Walsh for Don Dubois; District 5, Lenny White; District 6, Ralph McCoy(NP); District 7, Neil Miller(NP); District 8, Mary Austin; District 9, Laura Trost; District 10, John Wakeley(NP); District 11, Carol Berg(NP), District 12, Robert Mayberry; District 13, Leonard Mazzaro; District 14, Maribeth Vince; and Suzette Price.

Chairman Austin commenced the meeting by recognizing the flag. James Kammer (District 3) gave the invocation followed by Chairman Austin leading us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

First order of business was to appoint a Secretary for the committee. Chairman Austin asked for a motion to appoint Kent Long (District 2) as Secretary. James Kammer (District 3) made the motion to appoint Kent Long (District 2) as Secretary. The motion was seconded by Leonard Mazzaro (District 13). Motion carried.

Chairman Austin called for a roll of the committee members. 9 of the 14 districts were represented. Those Districts not represented are identified by (NP).

Chairman Austin asked if there were any Old Business to bring forth the committee. None was noted. She then recognized Suzette Price, Department Service Director, which briefed us on the awards that were presented at the National Convention. Director Price commented that Ohio received 4 of the 9 National Veteran Employment & Education Commission Awards. Those receiving awards were: Ohio Means Jobs office of Marion, OH; Lisa Eichelberger, Disable Veteran Outreach Program Specialist, Marion, OH; Robert O'Keefe, Local Veteran Employment Representative, Columbus, OH; and BGI, LLC, Akron, OH.

Director Price then briefed the committee on the handouts that explain the Veterans Employment & Education Commission Awards. Nominations for the Commission Awards are due in to Department no later than December 15, 2014. Awards Commission will determine date to meet for nominee selection to National. Deadline to National is January 15, 2015. She ask for those present to take the packet back to our districts and push for candidates to these awards in hopes that Department Ohio will win big in 2015. James Kammer (District 3) echoed the Director's enthusiasm by suggesting that we look within our districts for those employers that hire veterans. A discussion followed for what we as a committee should do for those nominated at Department to represent Ohio at the National Convention. Having a Department Awards Banquet was discussed with no action taken at this time.

Chairman Austin recognized our guest, John McClure of ODJFS. John thanked the 2014 committee for their efforts and dedication in getting the word out to everyone's respective districts and is excited to be part of the 2014/2015 committee.

Kent Long (District 2) mentioned that you can find employment Representatives for each of the counties through the Ohio Means Jobs website. He encouraged all to compile their list of Reps and get them posted on their districts website.

Chairman Austin presented a study course called Boots to Business. Robert Mayberry (District 12) made a motion that the Employment Committee should host the Boots to Business course at Department. The motion was seconded by Leonard Mazzaro (District 13). Motion passed. Robert Mayberry (District 12) volunteered to Co-Chair the event with Chairman Austin.

Chairman Austin then briefed the committee on 2 resource guide that she has found to be very helpful when approached by a veteran seeking information on benefits and healthcare. Also presented were information on the Advisory Committee for Women Veterans and the Ohio Veteran Hall of Fame.

Director Price presented to the group what the employment link will look like and how to navigate through the link. Commander David Hilliard, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice John Campbell, and 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Jim Chapman stopped by to thank everyone for being part of the Employment Committee. 1<sup>st</sup> Vice John Campbell is looking for constructive ways to make the Department webpage friendlier to navigate. Post this question at your district meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 1:35 P.M. with a closing prayer and retiring of the colors.