



CALIFORNIA VETERANS BOARD

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# Public Notice

CONTACT: Darrin Vitt  
Executive Officer (Acting)  
916-651-7875  
April 10, 2025

## California Veterans Board Meeting

### AGENDA

Thursday, April 10, 2025  
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

This meeting is being conducted as a hybrid meeting using “TEAMS” at the link below:

**[Join the meeting now](#)**

Meeting ID: 255 001 039 397, Passcode: Ub3Du3fn

Phone in:  
916-573-6252, Passcode 204283850#

Open physical address:  
Veterans Home of California - Yountville  
260 California Drive  
Yountville, CA 94599

Hugh Crooks, Jr., Chair

Robin Umberg, Vice Chair  
Janessa Goldbeck, Pending Member  
Veronica Zerrer, Member  
Brandon Shepard, Member

Martin Juarez, Member  
Vacant, Member (Resident)  
Samantha Carden, Board Attorney  
Darrin Vitt, Executive Officer (Acting)

Pursuant to Government Code Section 11125(b), items on this notice are considered items of business to be transacted or discussed.

NOTE: The Board cannot act on any matter not included on the agenda, but it may schedule issues raised by the public for consideration at future meetings.

1. **Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance** Chair, Hugh Crooks, Jr.
2. **Welcome and Introductions** Chair, Hugh Crooks, Jr.

(The Board will make welcoming comments and introduce the board members, executive officer and board counsel. The Board will also discuss and welcome new Board member Janessa Goldbeck whose swearing in is pending)

3. **Approval of Minutes** Chair, Hugh Crooks, Jr.

(The Board will review for approval the meeting minutes prepared in relation to the following prior board meetings: 9/20/2024, 12/10/2024, 2/12/2025)

4. **Public Comments** (Comments limited to 5 minutes) NOTE: The Board may not discuss or take action on any matter raised during this public comment section that is not included on this agenda, except to decide whether to place the matter on the agenda of a future meeting (Government Code section 11125, 11125.7(a)). Chair, Hugh Crooks, Jr.

5. **Committee Updates** (Each board member, with the exception of the Chair, will provide a brief update on their assigned division within CalVet as listed below, including the division's pertinent projects, events, programs, and/or goals. The Chair will provide updates on information regarding communication, marketing and administration of the Veterans Board. The Board will discuss new board member Janessa Goldbeck's [pending her swearing in] assignment to the Home Loans committee or other committee.)

5.1 Communication and Marketing	Chair, Hugh Crooks, Jr.
5.2 Administration	Chair, Hugh Crooks, Jr.
5.3 Veterans Services	Vice Chair, Robin Umberg
5.4 Veterans Homes	Member, Brandon Shepard
5.5 Legislation/Regulations	Member, Martin Juarez
5.6 Home Loans	Vacant
5.7 Underrepresented & Women Veterans	Member, Veronica Zerrer

**6. Executive Officer Report:** Executive Officer, Darrin Vitt

(Information regarding the advertisement of the Executive Officer position will be provided. There will be an update on travel receipts.)

**7. Department Update (approximately 11:00a.m.)** Secretary, Lindsey Sin

(The Secretary of CalVet will discuss and provide an update regarding the Department's programs, divisions, plans and/or recent events.)

**New Business**

**8. Appeal Process Procedure** Chair, Hugh Crooks, Jr.

(The Board will discuss the creation and implementation of written procedures pertaining to the Board's appeal process.)

**9. Annual Report to the Governor's Office** Vice Chair, Robin Umberg

(The Board will discuss its preparation of and plans for an annual report submitted to the Governor's Office, including the timeframe for preparing and submitting said report and the substance of the report.)

**10. Receipt of new appeals and complaints** Executive Officer (Acting), Darrin Vitt

(The Board will discuss all correspondence and appeals received since its last Board meeting. For submitted appeals, the Board will determine if it is accepting to hear each appeal.)

1. Letter to U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs VA Central California Health Care System, dated February 22, 2025, complaining about care received under the VA Healthcare system on February 20, 2025 (Board is copied on this letter).
2. Letter to the Secretary of CalVet, dated February 24, 2025, appealing a February 10, 2025 denial of appeal for veteran's disability insurance benefits from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (Board is copied on this letter).
3. Notice of Appeal of Mr. David Pinto, signed/dated February 25, 2025, appealing the denial of his admission to the California Veterans Home in Yountville.

11. **Next Meeting:** June 11, 2025 (Location TBD)

### **Old Business**

12. **Review of Record:** The Board will hear the previously accepted appeal of Mr. John Haun, Appeal No. 25-001, signed/dated January 13, 2025 appealing a CalVet Home Loans decision dated December 30, 2024, in relation to his homeowner's insurance claim regarding damage from his neighbor's tree roots. The Board will hear the appeal via review of record, as requested by appellant John Haun.

Samantha Carden, Board Attorney  
Chair, Hugh Crooks, Jr.

Closed Session: The Board may meet in closed session to deliberate on a decision to be reached based upon evidence introduced in a hearing (Gov. Code, § 11126, subd. (c)(3)). Closed session items are not open to the public. Items the Board may discuss include the aforementioned appeal of John Haun.

13. **Return to Open Session**

Chair, Hugh Crooks, Jr.

14. **Adjournment**

Chair, Hugh Crooks, Jr.

For questions please contact Executive Officer, Darrin Vitt, at [Darrin.Vitt@CalVet.ca.gov](mailto:Darrin.Vitt@CalVet.ca.gov), or 916-651-7875.

The Public Notice is available for viewing [online](#).