



# City of Prescott

## Mayor's Veterans Commission

October 1, 2025 | 9:00 AM  
Grace Sparks Activity Center  
824 E. Gurley St.  
Prescott, AZ 86301

### MINUTES

#### 1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Woods called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM.

#### 2. ROLL CALL

STEVE WOODS - Chair  
DAN BERRYMAN - Member  
BRYAN CAMPBELL – Member (Absent)  
MARTY COLLINS - Member  
CRAIG FURST - Member  
RICHARD OTTO – Member (Absent)  
EDWARD REIGER – Member  
RICHARD RODRIGUEZ – Member  
CARL SPERLING – Member  
JEFF TIMM – Member (Absent)

#### 3. DISCUSSION & ACTION ITEMS

A. Approval of the September 3, 2025, Mayor's Veterans Commission Meeting Minutes.

**MOTION BY EDWARD REIGER TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AS PRESENTED; SECONDED BY MARTY COLLINGS: PASSED (7 - 0)**

B. Presentation and Discussion Regarding Vet-Connect Neighborhood Town Hall Update – Steve Woods/Ed Reiger.

- a. The September Vet-Connect Neighborhood Town Hall event was successful. There were nearly 30 Veterans in attendance, with many staying after the event to ask questions and receive help.
- b. This event marked the 13th Vet-Connect Town Hall hosted by the Commission, reaching an estimated 400 to 500 Veterans and/or their dependents.
- c. It may be of interest to learn about cemetery benefits specific to local cemeteries in Williams and Prescott.
- d. There are continued challenges with meeting the time slot requirements of the VBA for them to provide support and be able to participate.
- e. At this time, it may be best to postpone future events until the Commission objectives are re-established with new leadership.

C. Presentation and Discussion Regarding USVETS Update – Bryan Campbell  
a. Member Campbell was not present, and this item was not discussed.

D. Presentation and Discussion Regarding VA Updates – Craig Furst

- a. The new budget year is underway and the VA is continuing to work with contractors to finalize buildings.
- b. The VA has received a 5 star rating for the 3rd year in a row.
- c. Improvements continue across the grounds, with additional landscaping enhancements and updates to various areas.
- d. The healthcare side of the VA has not been impacted by the government shutdown.
- e. Dr. Siegler of the VA held an event celebrating recovery, this event went well.
- f. Member Furst went to the Prescott Village for his second visit, this event was successful with nearly 20 Veterans in attendance.
- g. Member Furst made his first visit to Las Fuentes, where attendance was good. Additional visits seem promising.
- h. Member Furst recounted a recent event where he was able to assist a Veteran with obtaining resources that allowed him to save over \$600 on monthly medication.
- i. Member Furst continues to coordinate Veteran Resource Fairs in Prescott, Prescott Valley, Cottonwood, and surrounding areas in the state.
- j. The Prescott area Veterans Court is working towards scheduling while awaiting a new judge.
- k. Member Furst is the selected recipient of the Hometown Halo Award for October 2025, he is being recognized for the support he provides to local Veterans and their families.

#### **4. UPDATES**

- A. The Veteran's Day Parade is scheduled to take place on 11/11/25, with opening ceremony at 10:30 AM and the parade beginning at 11:11 AM. Distinguished speakers include Mayor Goode of Prescott, the Chancellor of Embry Riddle Aeronautical University, and former AZ State Senator Fann. The Honor Guard will begin their 24-hour watch on 11/10/25 at 10:30 AM. Members of the public and the Commission are invited to make donations to help feed the cadets.
- B. Embry Riddle Aeronautical University will be hosting their annual Flag Retirement Ceremony on 11/7/25 at 5 PM, this event will take place on campus. There were 82 flags collected last year, and more are anticipated this year with the growth of the event. Mayor Phil Goode will be reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to initiate the event.
- C. Member Berryman holds a new leadership role in the Kiwanis Club, which boasts a membership including 15 Veterans. He is looking forward to finding ways to spread the word and build connections to better support the Commission.
- D. Arizona will be celebrating America 250 which will feature a traveling exhibit with a full-size replica of the Liberty Bell, and Prescott will be the first stop on February 14, 2026, due to its history as Arizona's first territorial capital.
- E. Mayor Goode will conclude his tenure as Mayor of Prescott on November 18, 2025. A new Council Liaison will be appointed in the coming weeks, as directed by the incoming Mayor, to continue supporting the Commission's work.

#### **5. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to discuss, Chair Woods adjourned the meeting at 9:44 AM.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
STEVE WOODS, Chair

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
PATRICE BRINKMAN, Staff Liaison