

**Lee County Board Of County Commissioners
Agenda Item Summary**

Blue Sheet No. 20050180

1. REQUESTED MOTION:

ACTION REQUESTED:

Authorize an appropriation of \$20,000 toward a monument to WWII veterans in Tallahassee, Florida, on behalf of all the Lee County citizens who served or lost loved ones in this war.

WHY ACTION IS NECESSARY: The Board must approve such an appropriation.

WHAT ACTION ACCOMPLISHES: Allows Board to consider and act on requested appropriation.

**2. DEPARTMENTAL CATEGORY:
COMMISSION DISTRICT # 1**

A 3a

3. MEETING DATE: February 22, 2005

4. AGENDA:

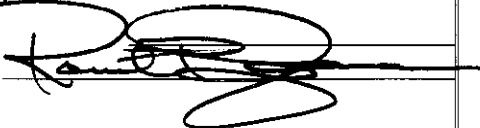
- CONSENT
- ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS
- PUBLIC WALK ON
- TIME REQUIRED:

**5. REQUIREMENT/PURPOSE:
(Specify)**

- STATUTE
- ORDINANCE
- ADMIN. CODE
- OTHER

6. REQUESTOR OF INFORMATION:

- A. COMMISSIONER Robert P. Janes
- B. DEPARTMENT BoCC, Dist #1
- C. DIVISION

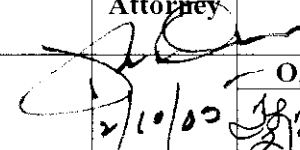
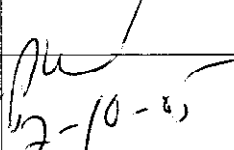
BY: 

7. BACKGROUND:

The National World War II Monument has been officially unveiled in Washington, DC. Florida played a very special role in winning World War II. Floridians, both military and civilian, had varied contributions to the success on the battlefield, and 600,000 World War II veterans now call Florida home. The State of Florida is commemorating those contributions with a Florida World War II memorial. The monument includes an exact replica of Florida's pillar in the National Monument as its centerpiece. The Florida Department of Veteran's Affairs is now in the final stage of fundraising in order to be able to complete the Florida WWII Monument. A contribution toward this monument would greatly enhance the ability to commence construction on the monument soon. Funds are available in GC5190300100.

8. MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS:

9. RECOMMENDED APPROVAL:

A Department Director	B Purchasing or Contracts	C Human Resources	D Other	E County Attorney	F Budget Services				G County Manager
					OA	OM	Risk	GC	
				<i>2/10/05</i>	<i>2/9/05</i>	<i>2/9/05</i>	<i>2/9/05</i>	<i>2/10/05</i>	<i>2-10-05</i>

10. COMMISSION ACTION:

- APPROVED
- DENIED
- DEFERRED
- OTHER

Rec. by CoAtty
Date: <i>2/10/05</i>
Time: <i>1:05</i>
Forwarded To: <i>Bureau</i>

RECEIVED BY COUNTY ADMIN: <i>TD</i>
<i>2-10-05</i>
<i>2:45</i>
COUNTY ADMIN FORWARDED TO: <i>TD</i>
<i>2/10/05</i>
<i>4:30 PM</i>



STATE OF FLORIDA
DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS

call
(407) 221-6949

CHARLEY D. PRICE, JD
DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

4040 ESPLANADE WAY
SUITE 180
TALLAHASSEE, FL 32399-7016

TELEPHONE:
(850) 487-1533
FAX: (850) 488-4001
E-MAIL: pricec@fdva.state.fl.us

Janes Dist1 - Re: FMMC - MOAA Legislative Update for Friday, January 21,2005

From: <CharleyPrice@aol.com>
To: <DIST1@leegov.com>
Date: 1/21/2005 2:57 PM
Subject: Re: FMMC - MOAA Legislative Update for Friday, January 21,2005

Nan,

Mr. Ebling might have left the meeting that he mentioned with the impression that he has expressed. However, should he have kept abreast of events he would have learned the original schedule for the construction and dedication of the monument was delayed due to the discover of a cable box directly in the middle of the construction site that was mislabeled and in fact did contain the nerve center of the State's election reporting system to the Secretary of State's Election Office. This was our first set back, because there was no way we were going to jeopardize any criticism of tampering with the election reporting process. Almost simultaneously we received word that about \$200,000.00 of the pledges from our fund raising efforts fail to be honored. (This is in the letter that I provided Mr. Janes.) Therefore we forced back to the basics of Fund Raising to raise the \$200,000.00 needed to finish the project. At this moment and time we have raised about \$100,000.00 of the needed \$200,000.00. At this time of the year we have found it is very difficult to raise funds with all the other political activities that are in process.

Please let me know if there is anything else that I can provide for you. Thanks. Regards, Charley Price



LEE COUNTY
SOUTHWEST FLORIDA

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Writer's Direct Dial Number: 938 1100

Bob Janes
District One

Douglas R. St. Cerny
District Two

Ray Judah
District Three

Andrew W. Coy
District Four

John E. Albion
District Five

Donald D. Stilwell
County Manager

James G. Yaeger
County Attorney

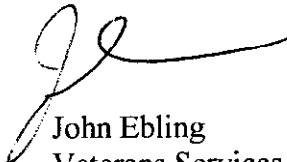
Diana M. Parker
County Hearing Examiner

Commissioner Bob Janes
Lee County Liaison for Veterans Services

27 January 2005

Commissioner James,

This is a brief follow up to our conversations about the World War II Memorial in Tallahassee. Please note the attached letter dated 27 August 2004. I came across this yesterday while I was cleaning up some old e-mail. I thought you might find this interesting. Nothing is stated about money at all.



John Ebling
Veterans Services



Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs

11351 Ulmerton Road, Largo, FL 33778 www.FloridaVets.org

Press Release

Contact: Earl Daniell
(850)487-1533, ext. 716

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 27, 2004

Tallahassee -- The Executive Director, of the Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs (FDVA), Colonel Rocky McPherson, today announced the Department will postpone construction on a monument commemorating the sacrifices of Florida's World War II veterans until January 2005.

Pre-construction surveys of the monument site showed an electrical junction box containing fiber optic cables, which carry election information data to the Gray and Firestone buildings. Under current plans, that underground junction box would be very close to monument footings and the construction site preparation area.

"After reviewing initial construction plans and talking with Florida Secretary of State Glenda Hood, we made the decision to postpone construction on the monument out of an abundance of caution," Colonel McPherson said. "By rescheduling we can ensure the flow of election information will remain undisturbed."

The FDVA will resume the project in January 2005 with a goal of dedicating the Florida World War II Monument on June 6, 2005, the 61st Anniversary of the D-Day invasion.

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SOUTHWEST FLORIDA

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County Hearing Examiner

Commissioner Bob Janes
Lee County Liaison for Veterans Services
Board of County Commissioners
PO Box 398
Ft Myers, FL 33902

20 January 2005

Commissioner Janes,

As per our brief conversation this morning, you asked me to look over the enclosed material from the Florida Department of Veterans Affairs regarding a World War II Memorial that is being established in Tallahassee.

Please know that this topic has been discussed on many occasions when all the County Veterans Service Officers meet twice a year. At the last conference held in October 2004 in St Petersburg, we were addressed by Mr. Warren McPherson, Director of the FL Department of Veterans Affairs, on the status of this memorial. I was left with the impression that the money needed to fund this project was obtained. The monument was supposed to be dedicated this past Veterans Day however, due to hurricane matters last year, construction was delayed. I'm not sure when the dedication has been rescheduled for.

If the Board of County Commissioners would be willing to support this memorial financially, my one question would be; "Where would those funds come from when they are not already in a budget?" If I can provide any further assistance on this matter, please let me know.

Respectfully,

JOHN EBLING
Lee County Veterans
Service Office



State of Florida
DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS
Office of the Executive Director
4040 Esplanade Way, Suite 180
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-7017

Jeb Bush
Governor
Charlie Crist
Attorney General
Tom Gallagher
Chief Financial Officer
Charles H. Bronson
Commissioner of Agriculture

Rocky McPherson
Executive Director

December 10, 2004

Board of County Commissioners
Volusia County
123 W. Indiana Ave.
DeLand, FL 32720

Dear Commissioners,

Everyone in America watched in May 2004 as the National World War II Monument was officially unveiled in Washington, DC, and dedicated by President Bush. Americans everywhere were reminded of the sacrifices of our "greatest generation". Florida played a very special role in winning that war. Floridians, both military and civilian, had varied contributions to the success on the battlefield, and 600,000 World War II veterans now call Florida home. The State of Florida is commemorating those contributions with a Florida World War II memorial.

The final stage of this multifaceted memorial is a permanent granite monument to be placed in Tallahassee. The monument includes an exact replica of Florida's pillar in the National Monument as its centerpiece. The Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs is now in the final stage of fundraising in order to be able to complete the Florida WWII Monument. To this end, your immediate contribution can significantly enhance our ability to commence construction on the monument in January 2005. In light of the sacrifices made by the 248,000 veterans from Florida who served in World War II, and in consideration of the knowledge that these veterans are dying at a national rate of approximately 1300 every day, completing this final fund drive now is vital.

This memorial has four basic components:

- A large, permanent Florida WWII exhibit now open in the Museum of Florida History.
- A High School WWII history curriculum supplement dealing with the effects of the war on Florida and contributions made by the state to the war effort.
- A Florida WWII Heritage Trail Series booklet highlighting the numerous contributions and locations in Florida regarding WWII.
- A permanent Florida World War II Monument in Tallahassee.

All of these facets of the memorial have been completed except for the monument. It is the monument that will be the soul that will pull it all together as one entity.

Telephone: 850-487-1533 Fax: 850-488-4001 Website: w.floridavets.org

Contributions to the Florida World War II Memorial Matching Trust Fund are fully tax deductible, and contributors will be permanently recognized in a Book of Memories that will be on display in the Museum of Florida History. In addition, Platinum level contributors exceeding a sponsorship level of more than \$25,000 will be memorialized on a sponsors' plaque at the monument itself. Gold level contributors exceeding a sponsorship level of \$10,000 will be highlighted on the monument as well.

Your generous support of this drive to complete the Florida WWII Monument is enormously appreciated.

Sincerely,



Warren R. McPherson
Colonel, US Marine Corps (Ret.)
Executive Director

**Donations may be made payable to:
The Florida WWII Memorial Matching Trust Fund
c/o Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs
4040 Esplanade Way, Suite 180
Tallahassee, FL 32399-7016**

FLORIDA WORLD WAR II MONUMENT

**Yes! I want to help honor the contributions of
Florida's "Greatest Generation"!
You can count on me for the following donation:**

_____ **Platinum Level Sponsorship, \$25,000 +**

- Name highlighted prominently on the Monument Sponsor Plaque
- VIP invitations and select seating at the dedication ceremony
- Platinum Level Certificate of sponsorship for corporate display
- Listed in the Book of Memories, Platinum Sponsor Page

_____ **Gold Level Sponsorship, \$10,000 +**

- Name listed on the Monument Sponsor Plaque
- VIP invitations to the dedication ceremony
- Gold Level Certificate of sponsorship for corporate display
- Listed in the Book of Memories, Golden Sponsor Page

_____ **Silver Level Sponsorship, \$5,000 +**

- Silver Level Certificate of sponsorship for corporate display
- Invitation to the dedication ceremony
- Name listed in the Book of Memories, Silver Sponsor Page

Name and dedication to be listed in the Book of Memories, and on the plaque on the Monument (if applicable):

Company Name / Dedication in honor/memory of (if applicable)

Address for our records:

The Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs, the Veterans of Florida, and the future generations who will learn from the educational curriculum, the museum exhibit, the Heritage Trail Booklet, and enjoy the peace of the Memorial – we all sincerely Thank You for your generosity.

Check may be made payable to: The Florida WWII Memorial Matching Trust Fund, c/o Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs, 4040 Esplanade Way, Suite 180, Tallahassee, FL 32399-7016