

**OKLAHOMA VETERANS COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 1, 2024, 8:30 A.M.
Vezey Veterans Complex
2132 NE 36th Street
OKLAHOMA CITY, OK 73111**

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING:

The Oklahoma Veterans Commission held a Regular Meeting on Friday, November 1, 2024, at 8:30 a.m., at the Vezey Veterans Complex, 2132 NE 36th Street, Oklahoma City, OK 73111. Notice of this meeting was filed with the Secretary of State on October 17, 2023, and an Amended Notice was filed with the Secretary of State on September 9, 2024. The Agenda of this meeting was also properly posted at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to this meeting pursuant to the provisions of Title 25 O.S. § 311.

AGENDA:

CHAIRMAN BRETT MARTIN:

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Martin called the meeting to order at 8:30 AM.

II. DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

A. ROLL CALL

Chairman Martin asked the Clerk to call the roll. The roll was taken as follows:

Commissioner Allen – Present
Commissioner Ellington – Present
Commissioner Martin – Present
Commissioner Offel – Present
Commissioner Orr – Present
Commissioner Perry – Present

The Clerk notified Chairman Martin that 6 Commissioners were present.

B. DECLARATION OF QUORUM

The Chair declared that a quorum was present. Also present were Legal Counsel for the Oklahoma Veterans Commission, John M. O'Connor and General Counsel for the Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs and the Oklahoma Veterans Commission John M. Settle.

III. VERIFICATION OF PROPER NOTICE OF MEETING AND POSTING OF THE AGENDA

The Clerk verified proper notice and posting of the Agenda.

IV. INVOCATION

Commissioner Ellington led the Invocation.

V. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Orr led the Pledge of Allegiance.

VI. INTRODUCTION OF ODVA STAFF AND WELCOME TO VISITORS AND GUESTS.

Chairman Martin welcomed all visitors and guests to the Commission meeting and asked if anyone would like to introduce themselves to the Commission. Senator Brenda Stanley and Oklahoma Secretary of Military and Veterans Affairs, Johnathan Nash, were in attendance. Secretary Nash introduced Bryan Bovic, COO for the State of Oklahoma. Chairman Martin introduced newly appointed Commissioner, Rick Mutchler. Robert Arrington introduced Stephanie Taylor, Administrator of the Clinton Veterans Home. General Counsel John Settle introduced Thomas Schneider, Deputy General Counsel with the Oklahoma Attorney General's Office, and Airica Booker, Legal Intern with ODVA. The Chairman acknowledged and welcomed the visitors and guests.

VII. BUSINESS

A. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 6, 2024, OKLAHOMA VETERANS COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING.

Chairman Martin asked the Commission if there was any discussion.
There was no discussion.

Commissioner Allen made the motion to approve the September 6, 2024, meeting minutes.

Commissioner Orr seconded the Motion.

Chairman Martin asked the Clerk to call the roll.

Commissioner Allen – Aye

Commissioner Ellington – Aye

Commissioner Martin – Aye

Commissioner Offel - Aye

Commissioner Orr – Aye

Commissioner Perry – Aye

The Clerk notified the Chair that the vote was 6 Ayes, 0 Nays.

Chairman Martin declared the motion passed.

B. REPORTS WITH DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING:

1. CHAIRMAN BRETT MARTIN:

Chairman Martin advised the Commission that the Suicide Task Force Report will present the final report to the Committee the end of this month. Chairman Martin thanked Alfonzo Garza for being one of the steadfast players on the Task Force.

C. GENERAL HOUSEKEEPING, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING:

Chairman Martin advised no new action.

D. REPORTS WITH DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING:

1. OKLAHOMA SECRETARY OF MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS, JOHNATHAN NASH, REPORT AND DISCUSSION REGARDING:

Secretary Nash reported he attended AUSA (Association of the United States Army) Annual Meeting and recommends ODVA to attend in the future and set up a benefits table. Secretary Nash and Senator Stanley met with the DOD representative for this region and advised of potential for ODVA opportunities to bring future projects to Oklahoma. Secretary Nash reported on a legislative initiative by DOD regarding state jurisdiction over federal military installations for certain crimes, specifically sexual assault crimes. Advised of upcoming budget talks with Director Bynum leading those talks. Commends Director Bynum and ODVA team on progress.

2. ODVA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, ADMIRAL JAY BYNUM, REPORT AND DISCUSSION REGARDING:

Executive Director Bynum reported on his travel to Washington, DC where he met with Representative Cole's and Representative Bice's staff and discussed issues at the state level. He also met with representatives from the Salvation Army and discussed their work with Homeless Veterans and exploring opportunities to partner with ODVA. Director Bynum met with the US Department of Veterans Affairs and discussed working together to optimize use of tax funds and discussed VA Home lease back models.

3. SHAWN KIRKLAND, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, AND LISA ACEVEDO, WOMEN VETERANS PROGRAMS ADMINISTRATOR AND LEGISLATIVE LIAISON, REPORTS, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING:

Ms. Acevedo reported on ODVA Standing Legislative Committee Report Including Proposed ODVA Legislative Slate for the 60th Oklahoma Legislative Session and request for approval of legislative changes.

Chairman Martin asked the Commission if there was any further discussion. There was no further discussion.

Commissioner Ellington made the motion to create a Standing Committee for the ODVA Foundation Act to work with Senator Stanley. The motion listed Lisa Acevedo,

General Counsel John Settle, Commission Legal Counsel John O'Connor, Jay Bynum, and others as needed, to meet the December deadline were included in the motion. Commissioner Orr seconded the Motion.

Chairman Martin asked the Clerk to call the roll.

Commissioner Allen – Aye

Commissioner Ellington – Aye

Commissioner Martin – Aye

Commissioner Offel - Aye

Commissioner Orr – Aye

Commissioner Perry – Aye

The Clerk notified the Chair that the vote was 6 Ayes, 0 Nays.

Chairman Martin declared the motion passed.

Commissioner Offel then made the motion that the language as proposed by the ODVA Legislation Standing Committee regarding Title 72 O.S. § 2, Title 72 § 63.18, Title 72 § 64, Title 72 § 206, and Title 770:10-3-1 be approved by the Oklahoma Veterans Commission.

Commissioner Allen seconded the Motion.

Chairman Martin asked the Clerk to call the roll.

Commissioner Allen – Aye

Commissioner Ellington – Aye

Commissioner Martin – Aye

Commissioner Offel – Aye

Commissioner Orr – Aye

Commissioner Perry – Aye

The Clerk notified the Chair that the vote was 6 Ayes, 0 Nays.

Chairman Martin declared the motion passed.

4. LISA A. WHITE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER, REPORTS, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING:

- i. FY 25 Q1 Budget to Actual Receipts;
- ii. FY25 Q1 Budget to Actual Expend;
- iii. FY25 Q1 Receipts vs Expend.

Executive Director Bynum commented on the budget items and advised USDVA is only covering 32% of operating costs of the Homes. Secretary Nash spoke to lack of budget planning at ODVA prior to Director Slavonic arriving and spoke to the vast number of beds we have in our veterans homes. Secretary Nash added that the average stay for a resident veteran is less than 90 days stating we have too many beds and an overabundance of staff. Commissioner Offel stated we have to adjust our current model, stating what worked ten years ago is not working now. A digital copy of the PowerPoint slides included in this presentation is available on the Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs website. [Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs](#).

5. NISHA YOUNG, CONSTRUCTION ADMINISTRATOR, REPORTS, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING:

- i. Ardmore Veterans Home Bed Replacement Project Update;
- ii. Union Soldiers Cemetery Refurbishment Update;
- iii. Sallisaw Veterans Home Construction Update.

Ms. Young gave updates on the Ardmore New Veterans Home Project, Union Soldiers Cemetery, Seaman 1st Class Turner Ardmore Cemetery, and Sallisaw Veterans Home construction.

- iv. Veterans Homes Building Maintenance Update and Requests.

Ms. Young requested the Oklahoma Veterans Commission Ratify the Emergency Declarations previously made for FY 2023 and FY 2024, pursuant to and in accordance with Title 61 O.S. § 130 (B) and (F). Ms. Young further reported that in compliance with Title 61 Okl.St.Ann. § 130 (G), the Office of Management and Enterprise Services was notified by letter of the factual details which described the Emergency situations which existed at each of the State Veterans Homes and required payment of the invoices presented. A digital copy of the PowerPoint slides in this presentation is available on the Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs website. [Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs](#).

Chairman Martin asked the Commission if there was any further discussion. There was no further discussion.

Commissioner Allen made the motion to approve a Request for Ratification of the Emergency Declarations for FY 2023 and FY 2024. Commissioner Orr seconded the Motion.

Chairman Martin asked the Clerk to call the roll.

Commissioner Allen – Aye

Commissioner Ellington – Aye

Commissioner Martin – Aye

Commissioner Offel - Aye

Commissioner Orr – Aye

Commissioner Perry – Aye

The Clerk notified the Chair that the vote was 6 Ayes, 0 Nays.

Chairman Martin declared the motion passed.

- v. Request the Oklahoma Veterans Commission delegate to ODVA Executive Director Jay Bynum, the authority to declare an emergency, in appropriate circumstances, whereby the provisions of the Public Competitive Bidding Act of 1974, referencing notice and bids, shall not apply to contract amounts of less than One Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$150,000.00), pursuant to and in accordance with Title 61 O.S. § 130. B. and F.

General Counsel John Settle explained the need for this delegation and requested the Oklahoma Veterans Commission delegate the authority to declare an emergency, in appropriate circumstances, to the ODVA Executive Director, whereby the provisions of the Public Competitive Bidding Act of 1974, referencing notice and bids, shall not apply to contract amounts of less than One Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$150,000.00), pursuant to and in accordance with Title 61 O.S. § 130. B. and F.

Chairman Martin asked the Commission if there was any further discussion. There was no further discussion.

Commissioner Allen made the motion to delegate authority to the ODVA Executive Director to declare an emergency in appropriate circumstances, whereby the provisions of the Public Competitive Bidding Act of 1974, referencing notice and bids, shall not apply to contract amounts of less than One Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$150,000.00), pursuant to and in accordance with Title 61 O.S. § 130. B. and F.

Commissioner Orr seconded the Motion

Chairman Martin asked the Clerk to call the roll.

Commissioner Allen – Aye

Commissioner Ellington – Aye

Commissioner Martin – Aye

Commissioner Offel - Aye

Commissioner Orr – Aye

Commissioner Perry – Aye

The Clerk notified the Chair that the vote was 6 Ayes, 0 Nays.

Chairman Martin declared the motion passed.

6. ROB ARRINGTON, STATE HOMES DIRECTOR, REPORTS, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING:

Mr. Arrington requested the Commission to Approve the ODVA Veterans Homes Licenses for 2025 and Establish a Date for Sallisaw Veterans Home to Assume Operations of the Talihina Veterans Home.

Chairman Martin advised he had approved and signed the 2025 ODVA Homes Licenses and asked the Commission if there was any further discussion.

There was no further discussion.

Commissioner Ellington made the motion to establish the date of February 10, 2025, for ODVA Veterans Home at Sallisaw to Assume Operations of the State Veterans Home at Talihina.

Commissioner Allen seconded the Motion.

Chairman Martin asked the Clerk to call the roll.

Commissioner Allen – Aye

Commissioner Ellington – Aye

Commissioner Martin – Aye

Commissioner Offel - Aye

Commissioner Orr – Aye

Commissioner Perry – Aye

The Clerk notified the Chair that the vote was 6 Ayes, 0 Nays.

Chairman Martin declared the motion passed.

7. DARON HOGGATT, BUSINESS MANAGEMENT ADMINISTRATOR, REPORTS, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING:

Mr. Hoggatt gave a report on the Annual Business Conference and ODVA Partnership with OU Health Sciences Oklahoma Local Ag Collaborative (OLAC), OSU Extension, and the US Department of Agriculture (USDA) Establishing an Education Program Dedicated to Supporting Oklahoma Veteran Farmers and Ranchers. A digital copy of the PowerPoint slides included in this presentation is available on the Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs website. [Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs](#).

8. JOHN M. SETTLE, GENERAL COUNSEL, REPORT AND DISCUSSION REGARDING:

General Counsel John Settle introduced Thomas Schneider, Deputy General Counsel of the Oklahoma Attorney General's Office. Mr. Schneider then presented on the provisions of the Oklahoma Open Meetings Act and the Oklahoma Open Records Act. A digital copy of the PowerPoint slides included in this presentation is available on the Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs website. [Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs](#).

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

IX. OKLAHOMA VETERANS COMMISSION DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING:

December 6, 2024, 10:00AM

Vezey Veterans Complex

2132 NE 36th Street

Oklahoma City, OK 73111

Chairman Martin asked the Commission if there was any further discussion. There was no discussion.

Commissioner Allen made the Motion to cancel the December 6th meeting.

Commissioner Orr seconded the Motion.

Chairman Martin asked the Clerk to call the roll. The vote was as follows:

Commissioner Allen – Aye

Commissioner Ellington – Aye

Commissioner Martin – Aye

Commissioner Offel - Aye

Commissioner Orr – Aye

Commissioner Perry – Aye

The Clerk notified the Chair the Roll Call vote was 6 Ayes, 0 Nays.

Chairman Martin declared the Motion passed.

X. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING ADJOURNMENT.

Chairman Martin asked the Commission if there was any discussion.

There was no discussion.

Commissioner Allen made the Motion to Adjourn.

Commissioner Orr seconded the Motion.

Chairman Martin asked the Clerk to call the roll. The vote was as follows:

Commissioner Allen – Aye

Commissioner Ellington – Aye

Commissioner Martin – Aye

Commissioner Offel - Aye

Commissioner Orr – Aye

Commissioner Perry – Aye

The Clerk notified the Chair the Roll Call vote was 6 Ayes, 0 Nays.

Chairman Martin declared the Motion passed.

The Meeting Adjourned at 10:30 AM.



OKLAHOMA

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETING:

The Oklahoma Veterans Commission will hold a regular meeting on Friday, November 1, 2024, at 8:30 AM at the Vezey Veterans Complex, 2132 NE 36th Street, Oklahoma City, OK 73111. Notice of this meeting was filed with the Secretary of State on October 17, 2023. The Agenda of this meeting was also properly posted at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to this meeting pursuant to the provisions of Title 25 O.S. § 311.

ODVA Legislative Liaison



Lisa M. Acevedo, MPA

Email: Lisa.Acevedo@odva.ok.gov

Office: (405) 522-8075

Cell: (405) 431-8625





Lisa A. White
Chief Financial Officer

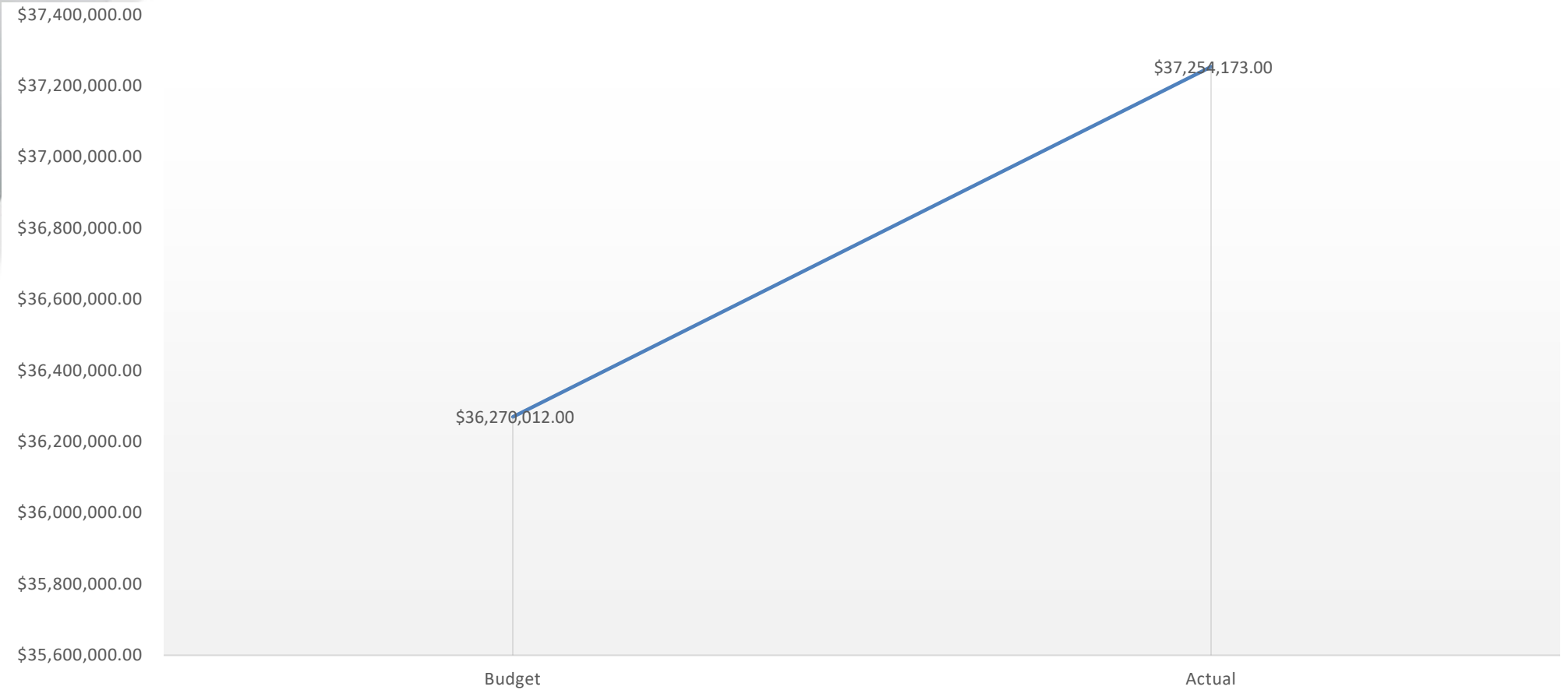


LISA A. WHITE, ODVA CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER, REPORT WITH POSSIBLE DISCUSSION ON THE FOLLOWING:

- i. FY25 Q1 Budget to Actual Receipts
- ii. FY25 Q1 Budget to Actual Expend
- iii. FY25 Q1 Receipts vs Expend



FY25 Q1 Overall Budget to Actual Receipts





FY25 Q1 Budget to Actual Receipts by Class Fund

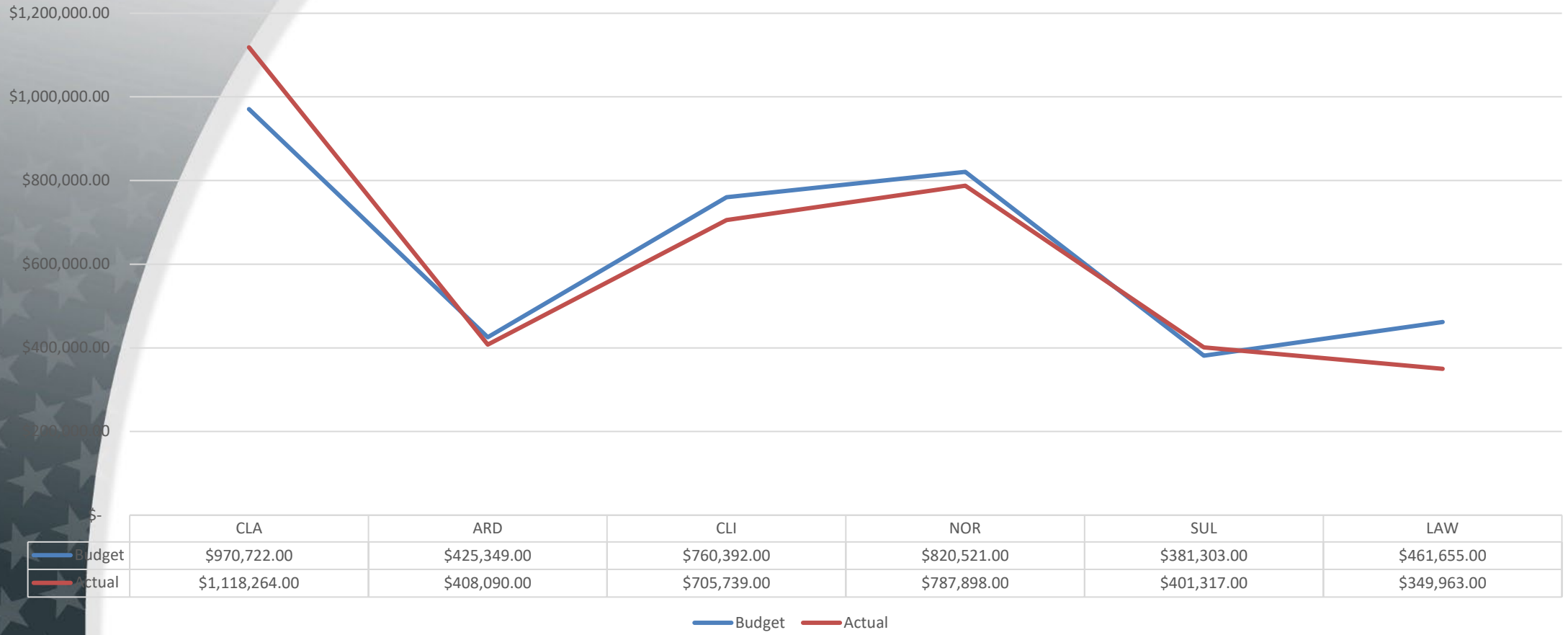


FY25 Q1 Budget to Actual Federal Per Diem Receipts



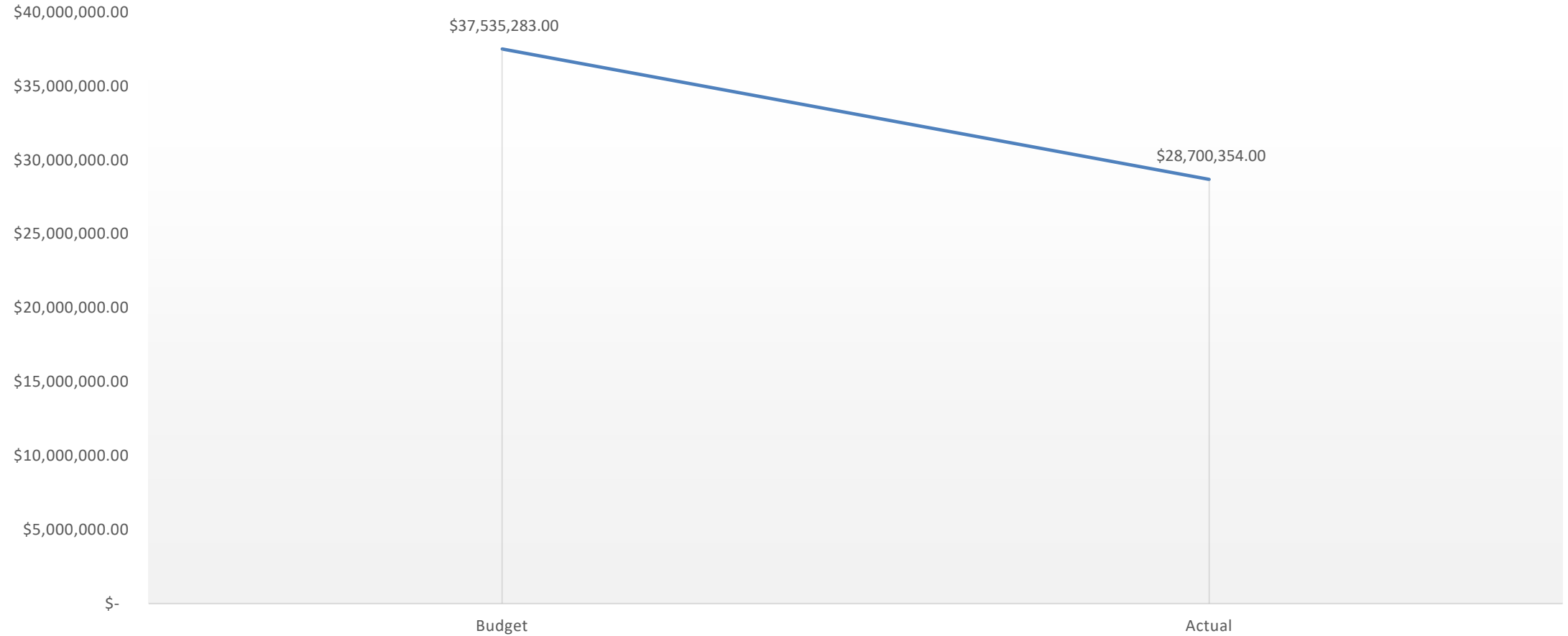


FY25 Q1 Budget to Actual Revolving Fund Receipts



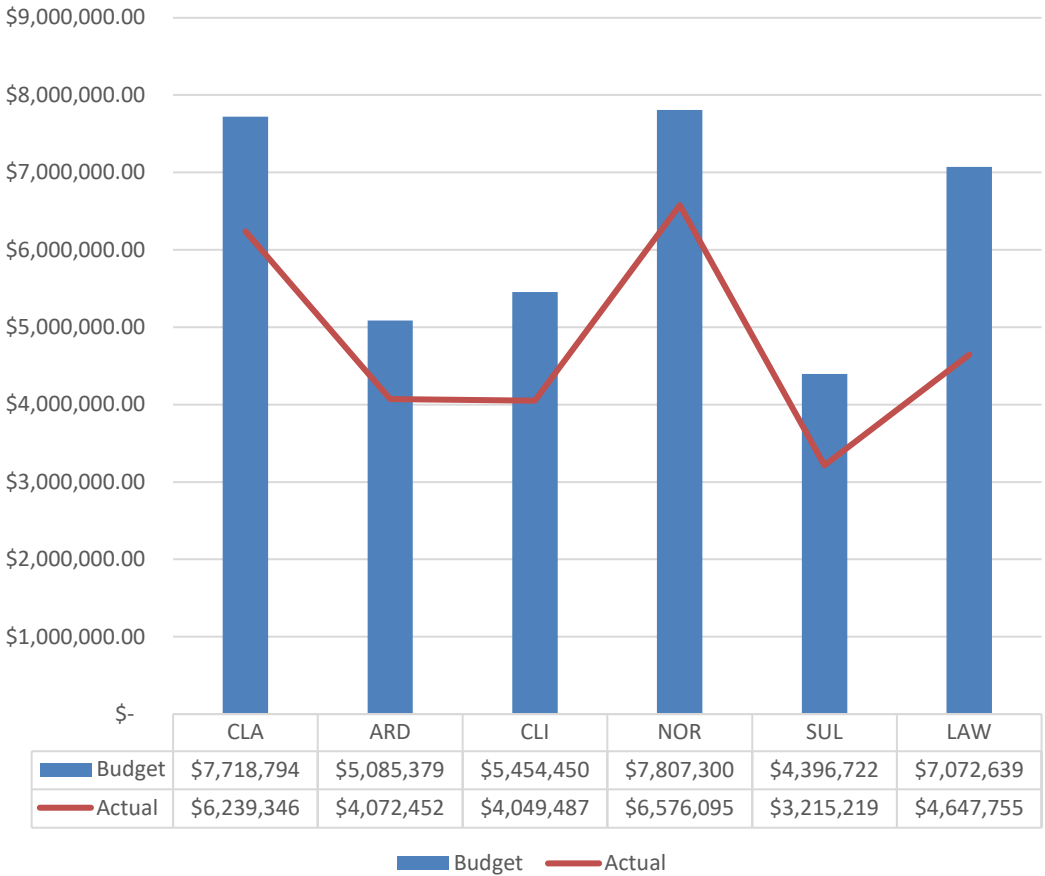


FY25 Q1 Overall Budget to Actual Expend



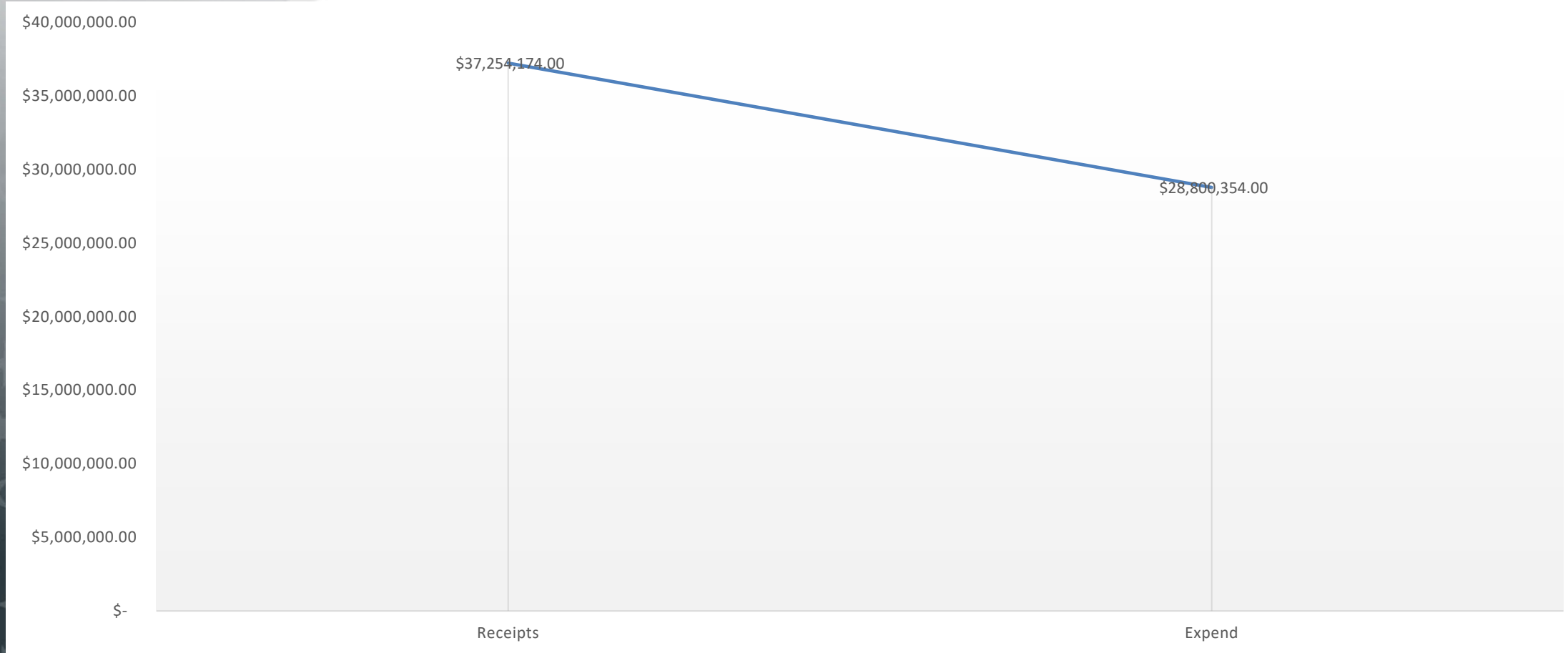


FY25 Q1 Budget to Actual Expend by Class Fund & Location





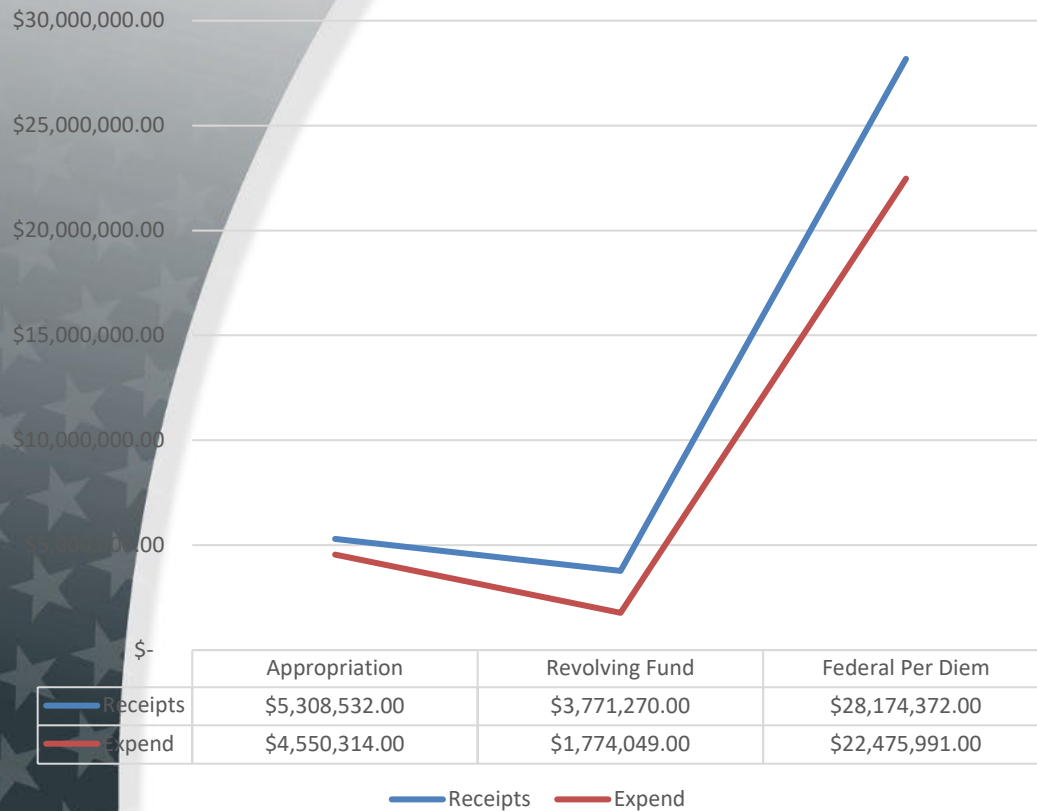
FY25 Q1 Overall Receipts vs Expend



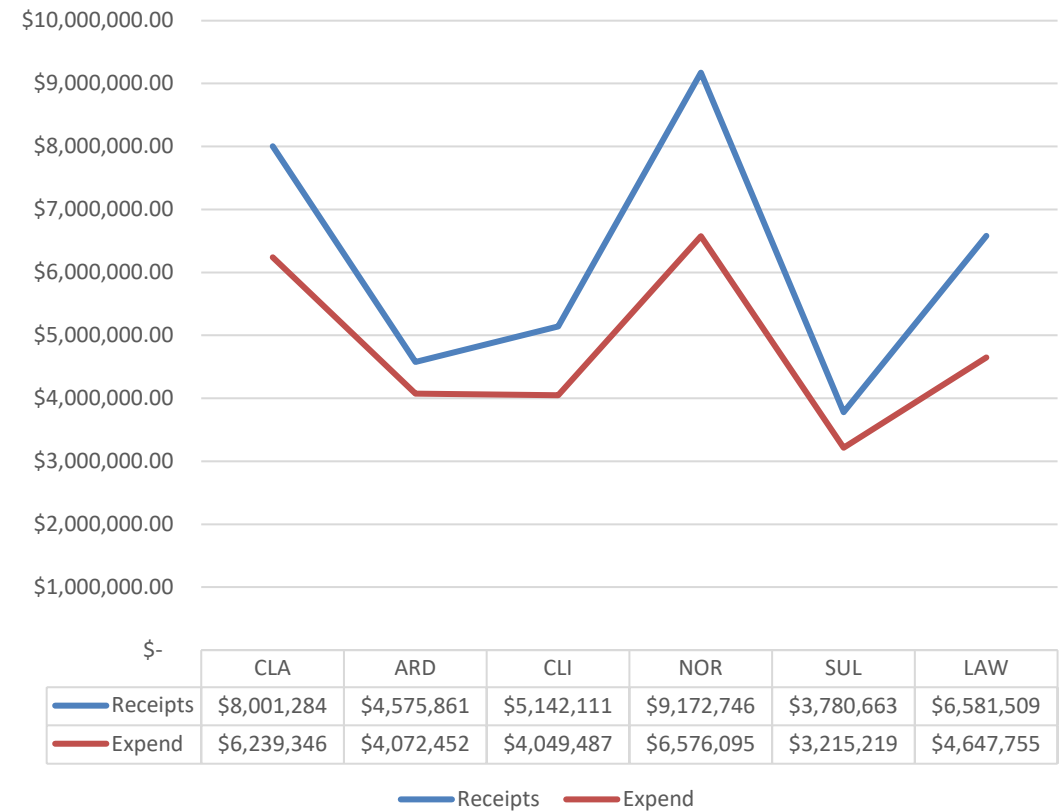


FY25 Q1 Receipts vs Expend by Class Fund & Location

Q1 Receipts vs Expend by Class Fund



Q1 Receipt vs Expend by Location





ODVA Construction Update

As of Friday, October 18, 2024



Sallisaw Veteran Home

FAI: 40-062: 175- Bed Replacement
CAP#19273 CM
\$77,000,000.00 (+\$21,726,939.00 Emergency)

- Sallisaw is approximately 89% complete with roughly \$79 million of the \$90 million in construction cost expended.
- Project substantial completion date is scheduled for the end of January 2025, with total project completion in February of 2025.
- Building 400 & 300 was turned over on October 3rd; the punch list for the remaining building are listed below.
 - Building 100 – November 25, 2024
 - Building 200 – January 25, 2025
- Furniture installation has begun on October 14th for buildings 400 & 300 . Installation will be completed by October 25th . Below is the schedule for the remaining buildings.
 - Building 100 – December 2nd thru 5th
 - Building 200 – January 27th thru 31st
- OK State Fire Marshall is scheduled to issue temporary certificate of occupancy (TCO) in December. Which will allow the ODVA to begin training staff in buildings 100, 400 and 300.
- OMES IT equipment is in process and on schedule for completion.

Interior Photos



Questions???





OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF
VETERANS AFFAIRS

Called to Serve













BREAKOUT SESSIONS

SEPTEMBER 11, 2024

11:00-11:45 SALES AND STORYTELLING

1:00-1:45 SBA ALL-SMALL MENTOR-PROTÉGÉ AND JOINT
VETERANS PROGRAM

2:00-2:45 LEADERSHIP IN ACTION: UNLEASHING THE POWER OF YOUR
TEAM

7 Things No One Tells You About Retirement

THE UNITED WAY
FOUNDED 1902





PLANNING MATTERS

- Continuity
- Preservation of Value
- Family/Employee Considerations:
- Tax and Legal Advantages
- Minimizes Risks

2024
The Black Oak Alliance



THE BLACK OAK ALLIANCE



WHY SUCCESSION PLANNING MATTERS

- Continuity
- Preservation of Value
- Family/Employee Considerations:
- Tax and Legal Advantages
- Minimizes Risks

2024
The Black Oak Alliance



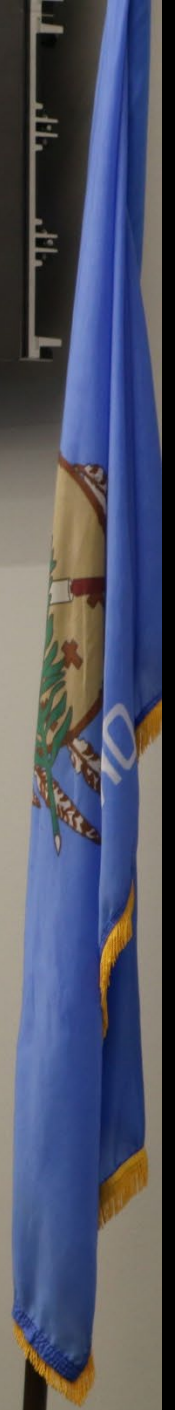
OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF
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405-523-4000 | OKLAHOMA.GOV/VA



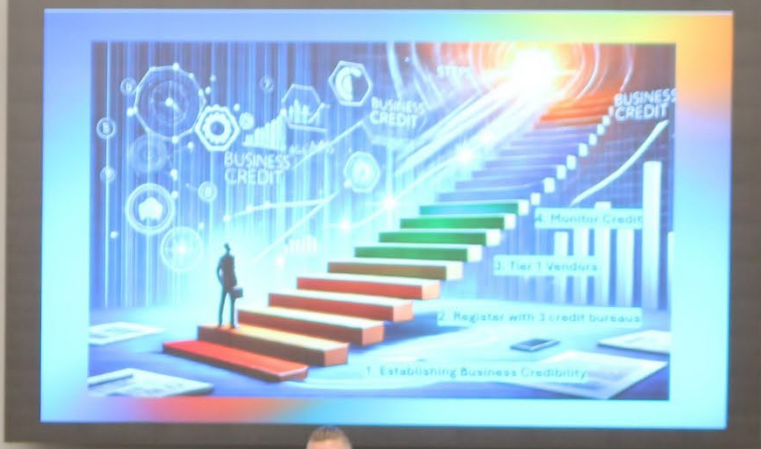
Danny Thomas, Founder
and CEO with Nola Thomas,
his loving wife
Established in 1972



↑ District Center | Student Services
↑ Restrooms ♀♂

Auditorium ↑
Human Resources ↑















OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF
VETERANS AFFAIRS

Called to Serve