## STAFF REPORT

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| **Agenda Items:** | 10, 11 & 15 | **Name:** | Miranda Leskinen |
| **Proposed No**.: | 2022-01122022-01132022-0114 | **Date:** | May 3, 2022 |

**SUBJECT**

Proposed Motions to confirm the appointment of the following individuals to the King County Veterans, Seniors and Human Services Levy (VSHSL) Advisory Board:

* **Asad Abdi**, who resides in Council District 8, to serve as an Executive-nominated representative on the Vulnerable Populations Committee of the Board, for a three-year term to expire on May 31, 2025[[1]](#footnote-1)
* **Faisal Akhter**, who resides in Council District 2, to serve as an Executive-nominated representative on the Veterans Committee of the Board, for the remainder of a three-year term to expire on May 31, 2024[[2]](#footnote-2)
* **Natalie Reber**, who resides in Council District 4, to serve as an Executive-nominated representative on the Vulnerable Populations Committee of the Board, for the remainder of a three-year term to expire on May 31, 2024[[3]](#footnote-3)

**BACKGROUND**

**History.** King County voters approved the current six-year Veterans, Seniors and Human Services Levy (VSHSL) in November 2017. Ordinance 18555, which placed the levy proposition on the ballot, required the Executive to develop and transmit a plan for Council to review, create, and prescribe the composition and duties of a board or boards to provide oversight of the expenditure of levy proceeds.

In April 2018, the Council adopted the VSHSL Governance Plan (Ordinance 18722), which outlined the composition and duties, as well as the terms, of the board that would oversee expenditure of VSHSL proceeds per Ordinance 18555. The Governance Plan envisioned a Veterans, Seniors and Human Services Levy (VSHSL) Advisory Board consisting of three committees of ten members each (30 total Board members) including a Seniors Committee, a Vulnerable Populations Committee, and a Veterans Committee (whose membership would dually serve as the membership of the state-required veterans’ advisory board). Ordinance 18785, establishing the King County Veterans Advisory Board and adding a new section to K.C.C. chapter 2A.300, and Ordinance 18792, establishing the VSHSL Advisory Board and adding a new section to K.C.C. chapter 2A.300, were subsequently adopted in September 2018 to effectuate the VSHSL Governance Plan.

**VSHSL Advisory Board.** Requirements relating to the composition, duties and terms of the VSHSL Advisory Board, which are identified in K.C.C. 2A.300.540, are summarized in Table 1 on the next page.

**Table 1. Overview of VSHSL Advisory Board Composition and Duties**

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| **VSHSL Advisory Board Duties:*** **Advise** County on matters and policies affecting the VSHSL

S*ee below for committee responsibilities** **Oversee** the VSHSL allocations for VSHSL priority populations

*See below for committee responsibilities* * **Oversee** the 1% for capacity building
* **Report** annually to Executive, Council & RPC[[4]](#footnote-4)
* **Elect** annually Board Chair and 2 Vice-Chairs
 | **VSHSL Advisory Board Composition****3 Committees = 30 Total Members, Including:*** **18 (2 per District) Council Nominees**

(6 to each committee[[5]](#footnote-5))* **3 City of Seattle Nominees**

(1 to each committee)* **3 Sound Cities Association Nominees**

(1 to each committee)* **2 Seattle-King County Advisory Council for Aging and Disability Services Nominees**

(both to Seniors Committee)* **4 Additional Executive Appointees**

(remaining positions) |
| **VSHSL Advisory Board Committees[[6]](#footnote-6)** |
| **Veterans** | **Seniors** | **Vulnerable Populations** |
| **Committee Responsibilities:*** Advise County on matters & policies affecting veterans, servicemembers & their families
* Oversee the 1/3 VSHSL for veterans
* Serve also as the Chapter 73.08 RCW KCVP Advisory Board, with responsibilities relating to the KCVP and to the VSHSL

**Committee Composition** **10 Members, including:\**** 6 Council Nominees
* 1 City of Seattle Nominee
* 1 Sound Cities Association Nominee
* 2 Additional Executive Appointees

**\*Veterans Committee members must be selected in accordance with requirements identified in Chapter 73.08 RCW** | **Committee Responsibilities:*** Advise County on matters & policies affecting seniors, caregivers & healthy aging
* Oversee the 1/3 VSHSL for seniors
* Jointly oversee with Veterans Committee the VSHSL proceeds restricted by Section 4.B.2. of Ordinance 18555 until conditions in either of the subsections in Section 4.B.2. have been satisfied

**Committee Composition:** **10 Members, including:\**** 6 Council Nominees
* 1 City of Seattle Nominee
* 1 Sound Cities Association Nominee
* 2 Seattle-King County Advisory Council for Aging and Disability Services Nominees

**\*At least a majority of Seniors Committee membership must be comprised of seniors, as defined in Ordinance 18555** | **Committee Responsibilities:*** Advise County on matters & policies affecting vulnerable populations
* Oversee the 1/3 VSHSL for vulnerable populations

**Committee Composition****10 Members, including:*** 6 Council Nominees
* 1 City of Seattle Nominee
* 1 Sound Cities Association Nominee
* 2 Additional Executive Appointees

**\*A potential committee member’s contribution to the representativeness of the diversity of vulnerable populations in the County shall be considered in selecting a potential Vulnerable Populations Committee member for nomination or appointment** |

**Board Member Terms**. Board members may serve no more than one additional full three-year term after completing their first term, whether the first term is a partial or full term. In the event a board position becomes vacant, the entity that nominated the person to that position shall nominate a replacement to serve out the balance of the term of the vacated member.

**APPOINTEE INFORMATION**

**Asad Abdi** is currently Food Access Manager for African Community Housing & Development. As indicated in his application materials, Mr. Abdi manages a levy-funded program called “Positive Senior Connections”, which serves community elders with food access, housing assistance and social connection. Additionally, Mr. Abi’s application notes that he helped launch the new Delridge Farmers Market and serves as its Assistant Manager.

**Faisal Akhter** is currently Principal Corporate Counsel for Microsoft. Mr. Akhter’s application materials note he is a U.S. Army veteran who currently also serves in the U.S. Army Reserves. Additionally, he is also an active member of his current employer’s veterans organization.

**Natalie Reber** is currently the Executive Director for Attain Housing. As indicated in her application materials, Ms. Reber has worked her entire career with vulnerable populations, including homeless and formerly homeless families, and has extensive knowledge of community needs and concerns. Additionally, Ms. Reber previously has served on the King County Women’s Advisory Board.

**ANALYSIS**

Staff has not identified any issues with the proposed appointments which appear to be consistent with King County Code requirements. There are ten vacant seats on the board according to the board profile transmitted with the proposed motions.

**ATTACHMENTS**

1. Proposed Motion 2022-0112
2. Transmittal Letter
3. Proposed Motion 2022-0113
4. Transmittal Letter
5. Proposed Motion 2022-0114
6. Transmittal Letter
7. Board Profile
1. Proposed Motion 2022-0112 [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Proposed Motion 2022-0113 [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Proposed Motion 2022-0114 [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. The board must transmit a report annually by July 1st, beginning in 2019, to the Executive, Council and Regional Policy Committee (or its successor committee) on the state of the VSHSL, the fiscal and performance management of the VSHSL and its accomplishments from the preceding calendar year. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. When at least one council-nominated position on all of the board's committees becomes available, meaning the incumbent has served two terms on the board, is not nominated by council to serve an additional term on the board or declines nomination by council to serve an additional term on the board, the council may pass a motion to direct council district rotation for the council nominations for appointment to the available positions on the board's committees [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. Board members must be King County residents and elected officials are ineligible for board membership while in office. [↑](#footnote-ref-6)