



American Legion  
**MEL BAHER**  
COMMISSIONER



American Veterans  
**FRANK POCCI**  
COMMISSIONER



Disabled American Veterans  
**DANIEL T. WEIST**  
COMMISSIONER



Veterans of Foreign Wars  
**CLAYTON E. UZELL**  
COMMISSIONER

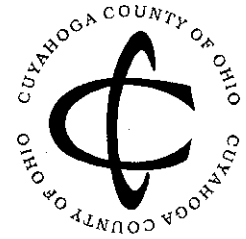


Vietnam Veterans of America  
**BOB POTTS**  
COMMISSIONER

**ROBERT E. SCHLOENDORN**  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

## Cuyahoga County Veterans Service Commission

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Email: [vscmail@cuyahogacounty.us](mailto:vscmail@cuyahogacounty.us)  
1849 Prospect Avenue • Suite 150 • Cleveland, OH 44115



### MINUTES

DATE: May 1, 2013 9:30 a.m.

PRESENT: Bob Potts, President  
Clayton E. Uzell, Vice President  
Daniel T. Weist, Secretary  
Mel Baher, Commissioner  
Frank Pocci, Commissioner  
Robert E. Schloendorn, Executive Director  
Brian Gutkoski, Asst. County Prosecutor  
Lorri Slivka, Executive Secretary

VISITORS: Mick Panek

PURPOSE: GENERAL MONTHLY MEETING

The meeting was called to order by the President, Bob Potts, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

A motion was made by Mel Baher and seconded by Dan Weist to dispense with the reading of the Consent Agenda and to accept the agenda with the necessary corrections and/or additions. (All Commissioners have a copy of the minutes.)

AYES: Baher, Pocci, Potts, Uzell, Weist. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

### **COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS:**

#### Dan Weist – DAV

- I attended the monthly DAV meeting in Rocky River.
- April 3<sup>rd</sup> – I attended the CCVSC open public Board meeting.
- April 5-6<sup>th</sup> – I attended the OSAVSC Spring Conference in Dublin, Ohio.
- I attended both Level III Appeal hearings during the month of April.
- April 17<sup>th</sup> - I attended the CCVSC outreach Board meeting at VFW Post 6676 in Berea, Ohio at 7:00 p.m. Due to a conflict, I did not attend the VFW Post 7647 monthly meeting, but was elected trustee in my absence.
- June 20<sup>th</sup> through June 23<sup>rd</sup> – I will be attending the DAV State Conference as a representative.

### Mel Baher – American Legion

- Wednesday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> – I attended the American 13<sup>th</sup> District Council meeting at 7:30 p.m. at American Legion Post 343 in Euclid. I presented the District financial report as District Finance officer and gave an update on the CCVSC, reminding the posts that the Memorial Day paperwork will be forthcoming from the County Public Works Dept.
- April 5-6<sup>th</sup> – I attended the Spring Conference of the OSAVSC in Dublin, Ohio to receive education training and points required for all Commissioners.
- Thursday, April 11<sup>th</sup> – I attended the American Legion Post 91 membership meeting at 7:00 p.m. I presented the Post membership report which indicated we have achieved an all time high in membership for sixteen consecutive years.
- Wednesday, April 17<sup>th</sup> – I attended the CCVSC outreach meeting at VFW Post 6676 in Berea.
- Monday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> – I attended the American Legion 13<sup>th</sup> District executive board meeting at 7:30 p.m. at American Legion Post 343 in Euclid. I presented the District financial report as District Finance officer.
- Thursday, April 25<sup>th</sup> – I attended the American Legion Post 91 executive board meeting at 7:00 p.m. I presented an updated membership report as First Vice Commander.
- I also referred two veterans to our Memorial Affairs Dept. during the month of April to receive flag cases. I also made one referral to our Service Dept.
- Tonight, I will be attending the 13<sup>th</sup> District Council meeting at Post 451 in Rocky River beginning at 7:30 p.m. This evening, a Post Everlasting service will be conducted by the Past District Commanders.

### Frank Pocci – AMVETS

- I attended the general meeting at Post 80 on April 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- April 9<sup>th</sup> – the AMVETS 20<sup>th</sup> District meeting was held at Post 1971 in Perry, Ohio.
- April 20<sup>th</sup> was post clean-up day.
- The Honor Guard served at the National Cemetery in Rittman, Ohio.
- The next general meeting will be held on May 7<sup>th</sup>. Officer election will take place at this meeting.

#### *Other activities:*

- I attended all the scheduled open and appeals meetings at the CCVSC during the month of April, including the off-site meeting held at VFW Post 6676 in Berea.
- I attended the Commissioners' Spring Conference in Columbus on April 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> where I participated in the new and reappointed commissioners' training. I generated a lot of participation from the commissioners in attendance and brought to surface some of the incorrect policies and applications of Title 59 by some commissions. This will cause those inaccuracies to be rectified.
- I attended the general meeting of the Italian American War Veterans on April 26<sup>th</sup>. Our Post commander passed away in the early part of April after suffering a heart attack and two strokes. Various members were in attendance at the funeral home.
- I obtained, and will deliver, three flag display cases for the families of Joe Lazzara, Hank Symansky and Bob Miller.

### Clay Uzell – VFW

- April 3<sup>rd</sup> – I attended the CCVSC open public meeting.
- April 5<sup>th</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> – I attended the OSAVSC Spring Conference and training in Dublin, Ohio.
- April 10<sup>th</sup> – I attended the CCVSC Level III Appeal hearings.
- April 15<sup>th</sup> – I attended the VFW Post 7536 Post meeting and was elected Commander for the new year beginning July 1<sup>st</sup>. The installation will be held next month.
- I attended the CCVSC outreach Board meeting at VFW Post 6676 in Berea. Cmdr. Brian McGinty was in attendance.

- I attended a testimonial dinner for VFW District 7 Cmdr., Luke Sawicki, and took part in a skit.
- April 22<sup>nd</sup> – I attended a Past President’s dinner at Parma VFW Post 1974 and called bingo for the ladies.
- April 24<sup>th</sup> – I attended the CCVSC Level III Appeal hearings.
- April 27<sup>th</sup> through April 28<sup>th</sup> – I attended a testimonial dinner for VFW Ladies Auxiliary President Sandra Bauer.

#### Bob Potts – VVA

- April 2<sup>nd</sup> – I attended my VVA Chapter 249 Board meeting.
- April 2<sup>nd</sup> – I attended VVA Chapter 249 Membership meeting. We held our election for new officers and I was elected to the office of Chapter President.
- April 3<sup>rd</sup> – I attended the CCVSC open public Board meeting.
- April 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> – I attended the OSAVSC Spring Conference in Dublin, Ohio.
- April 8<sup>th</sup> – I attended a meeting for the End of the War Remembrance along with Chapter 15.
- April 10<sup>th</sup> – I attended the CCVSC Level III Appeals hearings.
- April 17<sup>th</sup> – I attended the CCVSC outreach Board meeting at VFW Post 6676 in Berea.
- April 22<sup>nd</sup> – I attended the final planning meeting for the End of the War Remembrance.
- April 24<sup>th</sup> – I attended the Cleveland Event Committee meeting to present the folder for the event permit for the End of the Vietnam War.
- April 30<sup>th</sup> – I attended the End of the War Remembrance at Mall A in downtown Cleveland.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

The Executive Director distributed a draft copy of the 2014 Budget to the Board for review and formalization at the next open public meeting.

A DMV list of veterans obtained from the Ohio Dept. of Veterans Services will be used to do outreach to vets who have not used our services. A mass mailing will then be conducted sometime next year.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

A motion was made by Mel Baher and seconded by Frank Pocci to approve the revised Performance Evaluation Policy dated May 1, 2013, effective immediately.

AYES: Baher, Pocci, Potts, Uzell, Weist. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Frank Pocci and seconded by Mel Baher to approve the revised Guideline for Employee Dress in the Workplace dated May 1, 2013, effective immediately.

AYES: Baher, Pocci, Potts, Uzell, Weist. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Frank Pocci and seconded by Clay Uzell to approve the revised Policy on Administration Procedure of Three (3) Personal Days dated May 1, 2013, effective immediately.

AYES: Baher, Pocci, Potts, Uzell, Weist. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Mel Baher and seconded by Clay Uzell to approve the revised Policy on Requests for Copies of Public Records dated May 1, 2013, effective immediately.

AYES: Baher, Pocci, Potts, Uzell, Weist. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Mel Baher and seconded by Clay Uzell to approve the revised Policy for Premises’ Admittance dated May 1, 2013, effective immediately.

AYES: Baher, Pocci, Potts, Uzell, Weist. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Mel Baher and seconded by Frank Pocci to approve the revised Policy on Tardiness dated May 1, 2013, effective immediately.

AYES: Baher, Pocci, Potts, Uzell, Weist. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Frank Pocci and seconded by Clay Uzell to approve Resolution 2013-14 providing for the purchase of 3,940/:30 second television commercials for 39 weeks on Time Warner/Cox/AT&T cable television, expenses not to exceed \$36,423.00.

AYES: Baher, Pocci, Potts, Uzell, Weist. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Dan Weist and seconded by Mel Baher to approve Resolution 2013-15 providing for the purchase of 8,216/:30 second television commercials for 26 weeks on WOW Cable television, expenses not to exceed \$23,972.00.

AYES: Baher, Pocci, Potts, Uzell, Weist. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Dan Weist and seconded by Clay Uzell to approve Resolution 2013-16 requesting authority for the reimbursement of membership registration fees in the amount of \$30.00 each for five (5) Cuyahoga County Veterans Service Commissioners required in order to attend various conferences sponsored by the Ohio State Association of Veterans Service Commissioners in Ohio for the period July 1, 2013 through June 20, 2014.

AYES: Baher, Pocci, Potts, Uzell, Weist. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

**GOOD OF THE ORDER:**

Commissioner Uzell noted that the VFW is opposing the Pentagon's decision to have the new Distinguished Warfare Medal outrank the Bronze Star and Purple Heart, awarded to those in combat.

Bob Potts opened the floor to visitors for any comments. The following bullet points were topics of discussion.

Mick Panek

- New and reappointed Commissioners' compensation
- New CVSO training


**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

There were no items for Executive Session.

With no further business, a motion was made by Dan Weist and seconded by Clay Uzell to adjourn the meeting at 10:35 a.m.

AYES: Baher, Pocci, Potts, Uzell, Weist. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

  
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Bob Potts, President

  
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Daniel T. Weist, Secretary

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

Requests for Financial Assistance: Jennifer Mazzeo, Manager/Senior Investigator (216-698-2621)  
Filing claims with the Dept. of Veterans' Affairs: Melinda Halliburton, Service Office Manager (216-698-2639)  
Memorial Affairs: Laurene Rutkowski, Manager (216-698-2655)  
Social Work Dept.: Terry Walker, Manager, Social Worker/Case Management (216-698-2379)  
Executive Director: Bob Schloendorn (216-698-2611)  
Commissioners: Lorri Slivka, Secretary to the Board (216-698-2646)

