



American Legion
MEL BAHER
COMMISSIONER



American Veterans
FRANK POCCHI
COMMISSIONER



Disabled American Veterans
DANIEL T. WEIST
COMMISSIONER



Veterans of Foreign Wars
CLAYTON E. UZELL
COMMISSIONER



Vietnam Veterans of America
BOB POTTS
COMMISSIONER

JON REISS
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Cuyahoga County Veterans Service Commission

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1849 Prospect Avenue • Suite 150 • Cleveland, OH 44115



MINUTES

DATE: October 7, 2015 9:30 a.m.

PRESENT: Daniel T. Weist, President
Mel Baher, Vice President
Frank Pocci, Secretary
Clayton E. Uzell, Commissioner
Jon Reiss, Executive Director
Lorri Slivka, Executive Secretary
Brendan Doyle, Asst. County Prosecutor

EXCUSED: Bob Potts, Commissioner

VISITORS: None.

PURPOSE: GENERAL MONTHLY MEETING

The meeting was called to order by President Dan Weist followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

A motion was made by Mel Baher and seconded by Clay Uzell 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, Uzell, Weist. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS:

Mel Baher – American Legion

- Thursday, September 10th – I attended the American Legion Post 91 membership meeting held at 7:00 p.m.
- Friday, September 11th – I was the Master of Ceremonies for the 14th annual commemoration of Patriot Day, held on the Berea triangle at 9:00 a.m.
- Sunday, September 13th – I attended the American Legion 13th District Fall Conference held at American Legion Post 703 at 10:00 a.m. I presented July 2015 financial reports, approved by the executive committee, as District Finance officer.
- Wednesday, September 16th – I attended the 13th District budget planning meeting held at American Legion Post 627 in Newburg Hts. The meeting was held at 7:30 p.m. and the proposed 2015-2016 13th District budget was developed by the committee. That proposed budget will be presented to the District executive committee for approval at the meeting on the 28th of September.

- Friday, September 18th – I attended, and participated in, the annual POW-MIA recognition day ceremonies held at American Legion Post 91. The event was held on the post pavilion at 7:00 p.m.
- Thursday, September 24th – I attended the American Legion Post 91 executive board meeting held at 7:00 p.m. I serve on the board as an elected board member.
- Monday, September 28th – I attended the American Legion 13th District executive board meeting at American Legion Post 703 in Parma Hts., Ohio. I presented August 2015 financial reports to the Executive committee for approval, as District Finance officer. Also, the chairman of the budget committee submitted our proposed budget for approval.

Upcoming Events:

- Wednesday, October 7th – the American Legion 13th District Council meeting is scheduled to be held at American Legion Post 304 in Garfield Hts., Ohio. I will be presenting the executive board approved financial reports for August 2015, as District Finance officer.
- Thursday, October 8th – the American Legion Post 91 membership meeting is scheduled for 7:00 p.m.
- Thursday, October 22nd – the American Legion Post 91 executive board meeting is scheduled for 7:00 p.m.
- Monday, October 26th – the American Legion 13th District executive board meeting is scheduled for 7:30 p.m. at Post 304 in Garfield Hts., Ohio. I will be presenting the September 2015 financial reports for approval, as District Finance officer.

Clay Uzell – VFW

- September 9th – I attended the CCVSC Level III appeal hearings and open public meeting.
- September 13th – I attended the Lyndhurst Home Days parade and drove the CCVSC van. I also conducted the Veterans Memorial Re-dedication and flag raising ceremony along with the Mayor of Lyndhurst.
- September 16th – I attended the CCVSC open public meeting.
- September 21st – I attended the Post 7536 meeting and set the date for the Post Christmas party.
- September 23rd – I attended the Level III appeal hearings.

Frank Pocci – AMVETS

- I attended the September 9th Level III appeal hearings and the open public meeting.
- I attended a re-enactment of the Normandy Landing.
- I attended my AMVETS Post meeting on September 6th.

Dan Weist – DAV

- I attended the open public meetings and Level III appeal hearings during the month of September.
- I attended the North Olmsted VFW monthly Post meeting on Wednesday, September 16th.
- I am in contact with DAV Post 116 to coordinate events for 2016.
- I attended a roundtable with members of Senator Sherrod Brown's office on Friday, September 11th to discuss veterans' issues at the VA.

OLD BUSINESS:

The holiday food card program will begin November 1st. As in the past, anyone who requests food assistance will be awarded a \$50.00 food card, whether the case is approved or denied. This year's program will be expanded based on family size.

NEW BUSINESS:

The Executive Director submitted a proposal for a Winter Clothing Program, using poverty guidelines, whereas qualified veterans are eligible to receive up to \$300.00 (per eligible dependent) for coats, boots, hats and gloves. The following verification is required:

- 1) Veterans must be a resident of Cuyahoga County for the past 90 days (verified by a lease or utility bill)
- 2) Honorably discharged (DD214)
- 3) Must display a financial need (provide pay stubs and bank statements)
- 4) Must provide a Social Security card and photo I.D.

The Board approved the program which will begin November 1, 2015 and end January 15, 2016.

Veterans' organizations will be contacted to see if they would care to display their membership application in the CCVSC lobby. Although the CCVSC cannot encourage or promote a veterans' organization to veteran clients, the applications will be available for their use.

The OSAVSC Fall Conference will be held in Dublin, Ohio from November 20-22, 2015. A registration fee of \$10.00 must be submitted no later than November 13th.

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

A motion was made by Mel Baher and seconded by Frank Pocci to go into Executive Session to discuss a new hire and employee compensation.

AYES: Baher, Pocci, Uzell, Weist. NAYS: None. Motion carried. (10:27 a.m.)

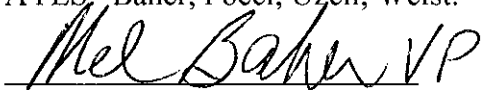
The Board came out of Executive Session and returned to the regular order of business at 11:13 a.m.

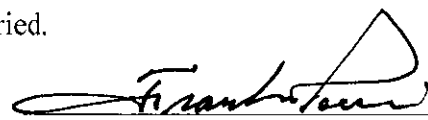
A motion was made by Mel Baher and seconded by Clay Uzell to accept the recommendation of the Executive Director to hire the selected individual for the position of Benefits Coordinator, at the salary discussed, with a start date of October 30, 2015.

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

With no further business, a motion was made by Mel Baher and seconded by Clay Uzell to adjourn the meeting at 11:16 a.m.

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


 Daniel T. Weist, President


 Frank Pocci, Secretary

CONTACT INFORMATION

Requests for Financial Assistance:	Steve Fernandez, Finance Operations Manager (216-698-2391)
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:	Jon Reiss (216-698-2611)
Commissioners:	Lorri Slivka, Secretary to the Board (216-698-2646)