



American Legion
MEL BAHER
COMMISSIONER



American Veterans
FRANK POCCHI
COMMISSIONER



Disabled American Veterans
CHRISTOPHER GRAU
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/TIME: November 7, 2018 9:30 a.m.

PRESENT: Bob Potts, President
Mel Baher, Secretary
Frank Pocci, Commissioner
Jon Reiss, Executive Director
Mary Kitko, Administrative Assistant
Brian Gutkoski, Asst. County Prosecutor

EXCUSED: Christopher Grau, Commissioner
Lorri Slivka, Executive Secretary

VISITORS: None.

PURPOSE: GENERAL MONTHLY MEETING

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

A motion was made by Mel Baher and seconded by Frank Pocci 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. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

COMMISSIONERS REPORTS:

Mel Baher – American Legion

- I attended all scheduled meetings of the CCVSC during the month of October 2018. Following is a report of my activities outside of the CCVSC for the month of October 2018.
- Wednesday, October 3rd – I attended the American Legion 13th District Council meeting held at the American Legion Post 196 in Brecksville, Ohio. The meeting began at 7:30 p.m. I presented the executive board approved financial reports for August 2018, as District Finance Officer.
- Thursday, October 11th – I attended the American Legion Post 91 membership meeting. I presented my updated membership report, as Post 1st Vice Commander.
- Wednesday, October 17th – I attended the CCVSC evening outreach meeting, along with my fellow Commissioners, at the Rocky River Community Center.

- Monday, October 22nd – I attended the American Legion 13th District Council executive board meeting held at American Legion Post 196 in Brecksville, Ohio. The meeting began at 7:30 p.m. I presented the September 2018 financial reports for executive board approval, as District Financial Officer.
- Thursday, October 25th – I attended the American Legion Post 91 executive board meeting and presented an updated membership report, as Post 1st Vice Commander.

Frank Pocci – AMVETS

- I attended all scheduled meetings at the CCVSC.
- I attended the off-site outreach meeting at Rocky River.
- I attended the AMVETS meeting in Bedford and gave the financial report.
- I attended the Italian American War Vets meeting held in Chardon, Ohio.
- I attended the Catholic War Vets meeting in Maple Heights, Ohio.
- I visited the CCVSC offices at Wade Park and Parma CBOC.

Christopher Grau – DAV (in absentia)

- October 3rd – I attended the CCVSC public meeting.
 - October 10th – I attended the CCVSC appeals meeting.
 - October 17th – I attended the CCVSC public meeting held at Rocky River's Umerley Memorial Hall.
 - October 18th – I attended the DAV Chapter 108 monthly meeting in Rocky River.
 - October 31st – the visit to the Ohio Veterans Home was cancelled.
- NOTE: There are no scheduled JVC meetings until January, 2019.

Clayton Uzell – VFW

- October 3rd – I attended the CCVSC open public meeting.
- October 6th – I conducted a VFW funeral service for life member Donald Thorpe. A VFW ritual was held at 3:00 p.m. at DeJohn Funeral Home in South Euclid. There were 8 members in attendance and a flag case was presented to the family
- October 6th – I attended a clambake at 5:00 p.m. at Post 2590 on W. 62nd Street. The event was well attended and the food was good.
- October 7th – I attended the Strongsville VFW Post 3345 Past District 7 Commanders meeting. Discussions included business, program book, dues and the location for the Christmas party.
- October 8th – I attended the invitation only USS COD announcement by the Honorable Thomas B. Modly, Undersecretary of the Navy. It was announced that the newest ship to be built by the Navy will be christened the USS Cleveland – a stealth type speedy vessel to be used for coastline patrol and protection. It will have more agility and network firepower than any other class ship in the world. If built in Wisconsin it could be commissioned in Cleveland. It will cost \$600-800 million to build and will take up to two years. Executive Director Reiss and Commissioner Grau also attended.
- October 10th – I attended the CCVSC appeal meeting.
- October 13th – I attended the clambake at Post 4358 in Willoughby Hills. Doors opened at 1:00 p.m. and dinner was served until 5:00 p.m. It was a fundraiser for homeless veterans.
- October 14th – I attended Strongsville Post 3345's District 7 conference with Ohio Representative Senior Vice Dan Faulkner. I reported safety stats for District 7, spoke on safety tips around the Post and upcoming entries for Firefighter, Police Officer, and EMT of the year.
- October 15th – I attended Post 7536 meeting – we conducted regular business and appointed a new surgeon, draped charter in memory of Don Thorpe, and discussed poppy distribution and Christmas Party.

- October 24th – I attended the CCVSC appeal meeting.

Bob Potts – VVA

- October 2nd – I attended Chapter 249 Board Meeting and Membership Meeting.
- October 3rd – I attended CCVSC open public meeting.
- October 17th - I attended CCVSC open public meeting.
- October 24th - I attended the CCVSC appeal meeting.
- November 1st – I visited with Iris after my appointment at Wade Park.
- November 6th – I attended Chapter 249 Board Meeting and Membership Meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

Action Items – Updates:

- 1) **Administrative Coordinator Training** – Larry Amato is doing the State of Commission report for October. He does not require training on admin work.
- 2) **Lifetime Aid Timeline** – Employees will now use only assistance granted since 2009 – effective immediately. Temporary aid will now be calculated over a 36 month period. Temporary aid limits will remain 9 months – 12 months for medical. A name change was discussed for Lifetime Aid.
- 3) **RTA Pilot** – A motion was made by Frank Pocci and seconded by Mel Baher to allow Jon Reiss to go forward with the RTA Pilot program. Funds from Client Services will be used. Annual bus passes will be issued from the main office beginning January 1st. Jon Reiss will contact RTA to finalize plans.
AYES: Baher, Pocci, Potts, Uzell. NAYS: None. Motion carried.
- 4) **SCC Increase Flyer** – The new flyer was approved with that addition of ‘all of the above plus’ after each percentage.
- 5) **Children Only/Separated Spouse Applications** – The board approved continuing to accept children only applications, but will no longer accept separated spouse applications.

NEW BUSINESS:

A security X-ray machine will be purchased through state contract and is more consistent with machines throughout the county.

Challenge Coins will be purchased.

Two VSC Flags with the new logo will be purchased. One flag will be a double sided flag for the board room and the other, a lighter weight flag with a collapsible pole, for outreach events.

A motion was made by Mel Baher and seconded by Frank Pocci to approve Resolution 2018-16 providing for the purchase of emblems for the board room and lobby. The emblems will be purchased from Allsigns and Designs and will not exceed \$1,000.

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

A motion was made by Mel Baher and seconded by Frank Pocci to approve Resolution 2018-17 providing for the purchase of Staff Apparel/Polo Shirts. The polo shirts will be purchased from Cleveland Print Shop and will not exceed \$2,200.

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

A motion was made by Mel Baher and seconded by Clay Uzell to approve Resolution 2018-18 providing for the purchase of Staff Apparel/Jackets. The jackets will be purchased from Cintas and will not exceed \$5,000.

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

Resolution 2018-19 providing for the purchase of a lobby floor emblem was removed from consideration.

A motion was made by Mel Baher and seconded by Frank Pocci to approve Resolution 2018-20 providing for the purchase of 16 hours of customization for eVetAssit. The programming hours will be purchased from Enterprise Resource Partners and will not exceed \$1,400.

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

Lobby chairs will be purchased through state contract to replace soiled chairs in the lobby.

Jon Reiss proposed purchasing coats and boots to cover the shortage of donated items for the Homeless Standdown. Jon Reiss will follow up with the coordinators to determine the need and a follow up discussion will take place at a future board meeting.

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

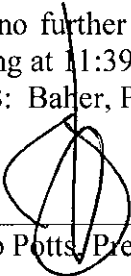
A motion was made by Mel Baher and seconded by Clay Uzell to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel issues and employee compensation.

AYES: Baher, Pocci, Potts, Uzell. NAYS: None. Motion carried. (11:28 a.m.)

The Board came out of Executive Session and returned to the regular order of business at 11:37 a.m. In Executive Session two personnel issues were discussed and the Executive Director was instructed on how to proceed.

With no further business, a motion was made by Clay Uzell and seconded Frank Pocci to adjourn the meeting at 11:39 p.m.

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



Bob Potts, President



Mel Baher, Secretary

CONTACT INFORMATION

Requests for Financial Assistance/

Filing claims with the Dept. of

Veterans' Affairs/Memorial Affairs:

Finance Dept.:

Social Work Dept.:

Executive Director:

Commissioners:

Melinda Halliburton, Service Office Mgr. (216-698-2639)

Steve Fernandez, Finance Operations Mgr. (216-698-2391)

Terry Walker, Social Worker/Case Mgmt.) (216-698-2379)

Jon Reiss (216-698-2611)

Lorri Slivka, Secretary to the Board (216-698-2646)