



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: October 23, 2019 9:30 a.m.

PRESENT: Clay Uzell, President
Frank Pocci, Commissioner
Mel Baher, Vice President
Christopher Grau, Secretary
Mary Kitko, Executive Secretary
Feronne Williams, Administrative Coordinator

EXCUSED: Bob Potts, Commissioner
Jon Reiss, Executive Director
Brian Gutkoski, Asst. County Prosecutor

VISITORS: None.

PURPOSE: GENERAL MONTHLY MEETING

The meeting was called to order by President Clay Uzell 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.) One item was set aside for discussion under Old Business and one item was set aside for discussion under New Business.

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

OLD BUSINESS:

Action Items – Update:

- 1) **Employee Overpayments** – Ms. Smith continues to make payments on time.
- 2) **Dental Trial Program** – The Executive Director and Feronne Williams will be meeting with Dr. Williams, Dean of Admissions at Case Western Reserve Dental School, and another staff member, to work out the details of offering Case Western Dental as an additional option for financial assistance.
- 3) **Resolution 2018-13: VVA Compensation** – The Executive Director sent a memo to the Executive’s Office per their request.
- 4) **New Schedule Report** – Work in progress. Final numbers will be reported on or before the November 13, 2019 meeting.
- 5) **Overtime Impact Study** – Overtime numbers were submitted to the Board.

- 6) **Security Needs** – Feronne Williams reviewed a memo sent to the Sheriff's office by the Executive Director asking for security coverage for pending Friday hours in 2020.

NEW BUSINESS:

A motion was made by Mel Baher and seconded by Chris Grau to approve Resolution 2019-22 for the purchase of gift cards from various vendors for clients of the Cuyahoga County Veterans Service Commission who seek financial assistance for clothing. Expenses not to exceed \$200,000 per year.

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

A motion was made by Mel Baher and seconded by Frank Pocci to approve Resolution 2019-23 for the purchase of up to 5,000 military service branch pins for the clients of the Cuyahoga County Veterans Service Commission in recognition for their service. The pins will be purchased from Novak Supply, LLC and expenses not to exceed \$4,000.

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

A motion was made by Mel Baher and seconded by Frank Pocci to approve Resolution 2019-24 for the purchase of outreach/marketing material for the new mobile outreach vehicle that will begin conducting outreach support services for the veterans of Cuyahoga County. Expenses not to exceed \$22,500.

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

Feronne Williams gave a brief overview of the new software system that may be developed by Salesforce for the Cuyahoga County Veterans Service Commission. The software system would allow for increased efficiencies in most aspects of operations.

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

Chris Grau reported that the DAV is not scaling back on hours at the Parma CBOC.

Clay Uzell attended the VFW District 7 meeting where he reported on the law enforcement/fire fighter program as chairman. Commissioner Uzell also presented the Veterans Service Commission financial report.

Frank Pocci discussed Ohio Revised Code 5901.09 and would like to have a more in-depth discussion at the next board meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

A motion was made by Mel Baher and seconded by Chirs Grau to go into Executive Session to hear four (4) client appeals.

AYES: Baher, Grau, Pocci, Uzell. NAYS: None. Motion carried. (10:28 a.m.)

The Board came out of Executive Session and returned to the regular order of business at 11:32 a.m.

The votes for further assistance, recorded by the Secretary, of the client appeals that were discussed in Executive Session, are attached.

With no further business, a motion was made by Mel Baher and seconded by Frank Pocci to adjourn the meeting at 11:36 a.m.

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



Clay Uzell, President



Chris Grau, Secretary

FRANK POCEC

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)

Charlene Amos, Service Office Mgr. (216-698-3831)

Lawrence Amato, Financial Operations Mgr. (216-698-2391)

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

Jon Reiss (216-698-2611)

Mary Kitko, Secretary to the Board (216-698-2652)