



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

ROBERT SCHLOENDORN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Cuyahoga County Veterans Service Commission

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MINUTES

DATE: November 7, 2012 9:30 a.m.

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

VISITORS: None.

PURPOSE: GENERAL MONTHLY MEETING

The meeting was called to order by the President, Frank Pocci, 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:

Clay Uzell – VFW

- October 3rd – I was not in attendance at the CCVSC open public meeting due to having eye surgery.
- October 6th – I attended the District 7 Conference at Geneva Post 6846 and the POW/MIA banquet and salute.
- October 8th – I attended the Lake/Geauga C.C. VFW dinner in Mentor, Ohio at the "Diner."
- October 10th – I attended the CCVSC Level III appeal hearings.
- October 15th – I attended the VFW Post 7536 meeting and discussed the Military Ball and Christmas party.
- October 17th – I attended the CCVSC Board outreach meeting at American Legion Post 91 in Berea at 7:00 p.m.

- October 22nd – I attended the Parma VFW Post 1974 Past President's Dinner and meeting and called bingo for the ladies.
- October 24th – I attended the CCVSC Level III Appeal hearings.

Dan Weist – DAV

- October 3rd – I attended the open public Board meeting.
- October 17th – I attended the Board's outreach meeting at American Legion Post 91 at 7:00 p.m.
- October 10th & 24th – I attended both Level III Board Appeal hearings.

Mel Baher – American Legion

- October 3rd – I attended the American Legion 13th District Council meeting at 7:30 p.m. at American Legion Post 343 in Euclid, Ohio. I presented the District financial reports as District Finance Officer.
- October 11th – I attended the American Legion Post 91 membership meeting at 7:00 p.m. I gave the membership report as First Vice Commander.
- October 17th – I attended the CCVSC outreach meeting at American Legion Post 91 at 7:00 p.m.
- October 22nd – I attended the American Legion 13th District E-board meeting at 7:00 p.m. at American Legion Post 343 in Euclid, Ohio. I presented the District financial reports as District Finance officer.
- October 25th – I attended the American Legion Post 91 executive board meeting at 7:00 p.m. I gave an updated membership report as First Vice Commander.

Upcoming Events:

- November 7th – American Legion 13th District Council meeting is scheduled for 7:30 p.m. at American Legion Post 703. I will present the District financial reports as District Finance officer.
- November 8th – American Legion Post 91 membership meeting is scheduled for 7:00 p.m.
- November 11th – Veteran's Day at Post 91 will include a luncheon served by the Ladies Auxiliary from noon until 2:00 p.m. and dinner served by the S.A.L. from 4:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m.
- November 16th & 17th – I will be attending the OSAVSC meeting and training in Dublin, Ohio.
- November 21st – American Legion Post 91 executive board meeting is scheduled for 7:00 p.m.
- November 26th – American Legion 13th District E-board meeting is scheduled for 7:00 p.m. at American Legion Post 703 in Parma, Ohio.

Bob Potts – VVA

- October 2nd – I attended the monthly Board meeting for VVA Chapter 249 at American Legion Post 421.
- October 2nd – I attended the monthly Board meeting for VVA Chapter 249 at American Legion Post 421.
- October 3rd – I attended the CCVSC open public meeting.
- October 10th – I attended the CCVSC Level III Appeals meeting.
- October 17th – I attended the CCVSC outreach Board meeting at American Legion Post 91 in Berea, Ohio at 7:00 p.m.

- October 24th – I attended the CCVSC Level III Appeal hearings.
- November 7th – I attended the monthly Board meeting for VVA Chapter 249 at American Legion Post 421.

Frank Pocci – AMVETS

- November 6th – I provided the financial report for Post 80 at the general meeting. At this meeting, three individuals were selected and recommended for appointment to the CCVSC for the term commencing 1/1/2013 and ending 12/31/2017. All information requested will be mailed to the presiding judge within the next few days.
- Post 80 had a successful Commander's Ball during October with over thirty participants.
- The AMVETS Dept. of Ohio Conference took place in October and the Commander of Post 80, Al Kovar, gave a report.
- Post 80 is discussing ways to possibly increase what has been a dwindling membership at the post over the last few years.
- A review of a number of businesses offering discounts, free meals, etc., for veterans on Veteran's Day and the day before took place.

Other Activities:

- I attended one appeals meeting and two open public meetings at the CCVSC during October including the open outreach meeting held at American Legion Post 91.
- I referred a veteran with cancer to our Parma Vet Center office and the veteran called me afterward to tell me how helpful and knowledgeable our service officer, Randy Stevenson, was and could not say enough good things about our organization.
- I attended the general meeting of the Italian American War Veterans Dept. of Ohio meeting in Lorain, Ohio where I was re-installed as the Dept. Adjutant.
- I visited the Parma Clinic and encouraged them to pass along the information to others they may know who may need help with claims or financially.

OLD BUSINESS:

The Executive Director has contacted the USO director to discuss CCVSC advertising for their upcoming suicide prevention program in November 2012 and has not received a response to date.

The Board was in full agreement to post financial assistance policies on the CCVSC website.

NEW BUSINESS:

The Executive Director will remind staff to be aware of their office surroundings and loose items on their desk that could be used as a potential weapon.

The Honor Guard will be presenting service medals to Marine Sgt. Carl A. Cummings at the Board's November 21st open public meeting.

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

Larry Amato has been named the new Education Chairman for the Ohio State Association of County Veterans Service Officers. Larry will be required to attend all training sessions in Dublin, Ohio.

The Joint Veterans Commission of Cuyahoga County, Base Cleveland Veterans Committee and Cuyahoga Community College, in partnership with the City of Cleveland will hold their annual

Veteran's Day Program on Sunday, November 11th at 11:00 a.m. All events will take place in the Rotunda of the Cleveland City Hall at 601 Lakeside.

The PKI encryption program that the VA uses for secure e-mail is not compatible with Group Wise. As a result, we are currently looking into options that will allow us access to the PKI program.

A motion was made by Mel Baher and seconded by Dan Weist to increase food vouchers by \$50.00 for the holiday months of November and December 2012 effective immediately.

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

There is still no word from the Court of Common Pleas on the DAV Appointment on the CCVSC Board.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

A motion was made by Mel Baher and seconded by Bob Potts to go into Executive Session to discuss employee retirements.

AYES: Baher, Pocci, Potts, Uzell, Weist. NAYS: None. Motion carried. (10:17 a.m.)

A motion was made by Mel Baher and seconded by Bob Potts to come out of Executive Session and return to the regular order of business.

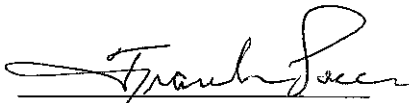
AYES: Baher, Pocci, Potts, Uzell, Weist. NAYS: None. Motion carried. (10:33 a.m.)

In Executive Session, the Board reviewed letters of retirement due to the recent OPERS changes and other personnel issues as a result of the retirements.

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

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

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


Frank Pocci, President


Clay Uzell, 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)