











# Cuyahoga County Veterans Service Commission

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# **MINUTES**

DATE:

December 5, 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:

Mel Davis

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 Bob Potts 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

- November 7<sup>th</sup> I attended the CCVSC open public meeting.
- November 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> I distributed VFW buddy poppies at the So. Euclid Giant Eagle.
- November 12<sup>th</sup> I attended a Veterans' Day wreath laying ceremony at the Lyndhurst Veteran Memorial.
- November 14<sup>th</sup> I attended the CCVSC Level III appeal hearings.
- November 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> I attended VSC training for discrimination and harassment in the workplace.
- November 17<sup>th</sup> I attended the VFW District 7 Military Ball held at St. Clarence Hall in North Olmsted.
- November 19<sup>th</sup> I attended the VFW Post 7536 monthly meeting where discussion took place regarding the upcoming Christmas party.

- November  $21^{st}$  I attended the CCVSC open public Board meeting. November  $26^{th}$  I attended a VFW Auxiliary funeral in Madison, Ohio.
- November 28<sup>th</sup> I attended the CCVSC Level III Appeal hearings.

# Dan Weist – DAV

- November 7<sup>th</sup> I attended the CCVSC open public Board meeting
- November 9<sup>th</sup> I attended a VFW Veteran's Day program at the Olmsted Manor on Mill
- November 11th Veteran's Day I attended an S.O.S. Breakfast at the Post followed by a medals presentation ceremony.
- November 12th The Color Guard left the Post at 9:00 a.m. for the Renaissance on John Road and then to Emerald Village at 11:00 a.m.
- November 12<sup>th</sup> The Color Guard met at North Olmsted City Hall at 12:50 p.m.
- November 14<sup>th</sup> I attended the CCVSC Level III Appeal hearings.
- November 17<sup>th</sup> I attended a Military Ball at St. Clarence.
- November 21<sup>st</sup> I attended the VFW weekly meeting and Police and Fire award dinner.
- November 21<sup>st</sup> I attended the CCVSC open public Board meeting.
- November 28<sup>th</sup> I attended the CCVSC Level III Appeal hearings.

# Mel Baher - American Legion

- November 7<sup>th</sup> I attended the American Legion 13<sup>th</sup> District Council meeting at 7:30 p.m. at American Legion Post 703 in Parma, Ohio. I presented the District financial reports as District Finance officer.
- November 8<sup>th</sup> I missed the American Legion Post 91 membership meeting at 7:00 p.m., however, the membership report was given by the Post Commander.
- November 11th Veteran's Day at Post 91 included 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 16 & 17<sup>th</sup> I attended the OSAVSC meeting and training in Dublin, Ohio receiving my final point of four required for all Commissioners.
- November 21st I attended the American Legion Post 91 executive board meeting held at 7:00 p.m. I gave an updated membership report as First Vice Commander.
- November 26<sup>th</sup> I attended the American Legion 13<sup>th</sup> District e-board meeting held at 7:00 p.m. at American Legion Post 703 in Parma, Ohio. I presented the District financial reports as District Finance officer.

# Upcoming Events:

- December 2<sup>nd</sup> American Legion 13<sup>th</sup> District Council Winter Conference is scheduled for 10:00 a.m. at American Legion Post 91. I will present the District financial reports as District Finance officer.
- December 13<sup>th</sup> American Legion Post 91 membership meeting is scheduled for 7:00 p.m.
- December 27th American Legion Post 91 executive board meeting is scheduled ⊡ for 7:00 p.m.
- December 31<sup>st</sup> American Legion 13<sup>th</sup> District e-board meeting is scheduled for 7:00 p.m. at American Legion Post 703 in Parma, Ohio.

## Bob Potts – VVA

- November 6<sup>th</sup> I attended the VVA Chapter 249 Board meeting at 6:45 p.m. and the membership meeting at 7:30 p.m.
- November 7<sup>th</sup> I attended the first CCVSC open public Board meeting of the month.
- November 8th while picking up a prescription at the Wade Park VA Hospital, I stopped by the CCVSC office and talked with Service Officer, Libby Jenkins.
- November 14<sup>th</sup> I attended the CCVSC first appeals meeting of the month.
- November 28<sup>th</sup> I attended the second CCVSC open public Board meeting. At this meeting, I assisted in the presentation of service medals to Carl Cummings.
- December 4<sup>th</sup> I attended the VVA Chapter 249 Board meeting at 7:00 p.m. and the membership meeting at 7:30 p.m.

# Frank Pocci - AMVETS

- December 4<sup>th</sup> I provided the financial report for Post 80 at the general meeting.
- The requested documentation for the appointment of the AMVETS Commissioner to the Cuyahoga County Veterans Service Commission was mailed on November 8<sup>th</sup>.
- Post 80 is going to try some ideas suggested by members to increase membership.
- Post 80 has reviewed the new norm for funeral services at the National Cemetery in Rittman and continues to participate on a monthly basis.

## Other Activities:

- □ I attended the two appeal meetings and two open public Board meetings during the month of November.
- ☐ I attended the OSAVSC Fall Conference in Dublin, Ohio on November 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>.
- I visited VFW Post 3345 in Strongsville, Ohio where they had a wonderful ceremony on November 11<sup>th</sup> in the memorial area behind the post which also includes benches dedicated to the various U.S. armed forces services around the perimeter.
- □ VFW Post 3345 also participated in the Veteran's Day event at Drake Elementary school in Strongsville.
- The Italian American War Veterans did not hold its regular monthly meeting in November, however, an executive meeting was held and the Post had a holiday dinner attended by members and guests on December 2<sup>nd</sup>.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

None.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

A motion was made by Mel Baher and seconded by Bob Potts to accept the revised Guideline for Term of Financial Assistance dated December 5, 2012 as submitted.

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

The Food and Shelter Monthly Allowance Guideline dated April 4, 2012 was tabled to the next open public meeting in order to obtain further information.

A motion was made by Dan Weist and seconded by Bob Potts to accept the revised House Call Policy dated December 5, 2012 as submitted.

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

A motion was made by Dan Weist and seconded by Clay Uzell to accept the revised Guideline for Medical Transportation dated December 5, 2012 as submitted.

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

A motion was made by Dan Weist and seconded by Clay Uzell to accept the revised Guideline for Applying for Assistance and Verification dated December 5, 2012 as submitted.

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 2012-26 requesting authority for David Hatcher, CCVSC Social Worker, to attend a training program sponsored by Cleveland State University in February 2013, expenses not to exceed \$120.00. 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 2012-27 requesting authority for Terry Walker, CCVSC Social Work Manager, to attend a training program sponsored by Cleveland State University on December 13, 2012, expenses not to exceed \$120.00.

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

#### GOOD OF THE ORDER:

The CCVSC will have a presence at the USO of Northern Ohio's suicide prevention symposium on December 10<sup>th</sup>.

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

A motion was made by Dan Weist and seconded by Bob Potts to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel issues.

AYES: Baher, Pocci, Potts, Uzell, Weist. NAYS: None. Motion carried. (10:55 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. (11:30 a.m.)

In Executive Session, the Board discussed personnel issues. The Executive Director was instructed on how to proceed with applications for the new veterans service officer positions and a part-time to full-time position.

With no further business, a motion was made by Dan Weist and seconded by Clay Uzell to adjourn the meeting at 11:31 a.m.

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

Frank Poeci, President

# **CONTACT INFORMATION**

Requests for Financial Assistance: Jennifer Mazzeo, Manager/Senior Investigator (216-698-

2621)

Filing claims with the Dept. of

Veterans' Affairs:

Memorial Affairs:

Social Work Dept.:

Executive Director: Commissioners:

2639)

Laurene Rutkowski, Manager (216-698-2655)

Terry Walker, Manager, Social Worker/Case Management

Melinda Halliburton, Service Office Manager (216-698-

(216-698-2379)

Bob Schloendorn (216-698-2611)

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