



S
American Legion
MEL BAHER
COMMISSIONER



American Veterans
FRANK POCCI
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: November 4, 2015 9:30 a.m.

PRESENT: Daniel T. Weist, President
Mel Baher, Vice President
Frank Pocci, Secretary
Bob Potts, Commissioner
Clayton E. Uzell, Commissioner
Jon Reiss, Executive Director
Lorri Slivka, Executive Secretary

EXCUSED: Brian Gutkoski, Asst. County Prosecutor

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 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, Weist. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Mel Baher – American Legion

- Wednesday, October 7th – the American Legion 13th District Council meeting was held at 7:30 p.m. at American Legion Post 304, in Garfield Hts., Ohio. I presented the executive board approved financial reports for August 2015, as District Finance Officer.
- Thursday, October 8th – I attended the American Legion Post 91 membership meeting at 7:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, October 21st – I attended, and presided over, the second CCVSC evening outreach meeting at VFW Post 2850, located at West 61st Street in Cleveland, Ohio. The event was well-attended by members of the VFW Post. The Executive Director gave his report and two of our service officers were able to address some concerns of the veterans in attendance. There also was some discussion about having more outreach meetings in 2016.
- Thursday, October 22nd – I attended the American Legion Post 91 executive board meeting at 7:00 p.m. I serve on the board as an elected board member.

- Monday, October 26th – I attended the American Legion 13th District executive board meeting at 7:30 p.m. held at American Legion Post 304 in Garfield Hts., Ohio. I presented September 2015 financial reports to the executive committee for approval, as District Finance Officer.

Upcoming Events:

- Wednesday, November 4th – the American Legion 13th District Council meeting is scheduled for 7:30 p.m. at Post 196, located in Brecksville, Ohio. I will be presenting the executive board approved financial reports for September 2015, as the District Finance Officer.
- Wednesday, November 11th (Veteran’s Day) – I will be attending a new Veteran’s Memorial dedication at Woodvale Cemetery at 10:30 a.m. Woodvale Cemetery is located in Middleburg Hts. at the corner of Engle and Fowles Rds. Also, Post 91 Ladies Auxiliary will be providing a luncheon from noon until 2:00 p.m., and the Sons of American Legion Post 91 will be providing dinner from 4:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m.
- Thursday, November 12th – the American Legion Post 91 membership meeting is scheduled for 7:00 p.m.
- November 20-22, 2015 – I will be attending the OSAVSC Fall Conference in Dublin, Ohio with fellow CCVSC commissioners.
- Monday, November 23rd – the American Legion 13th District executive board meeting is scheduled for 7:30 p.m. at Post 196 in Brecksville, Ohio. I will be presenting the October 2015 financial reports for approval, as District Finance Officer.
- Wednesday, November 25th – the American Legion Post 91 executive board meeting is scheduled for 7:00 p.m. I serve on the board as an elected board member.

Bob Potts – VVA

- October 6th – Accompanied a veteran to a CBOC in Marietta, CA, to sign him up for a health card and his ID card.
- October 6th – I visited the VA Hospital in San Diego, CA.
- October 13th – I attended the Chapter 249 board meeting and membership meeting.
- October 14th – I attended the CCVSC Level III appeals hearings.
- October 21st – I attended the CCVSC open public outreach meeting at VFW Post 2850.
- October 28th – I attended the CCVSC Level III appeals hearings.
- November 3rd – I attended the Chapter 249 board meeting and membership meeting.

Clay Uzell – VFW

- October 4th – I attended the VFW District 7 Conference at Brunswick Post 9520 and reported on safety statistics.
- October 7th – I attended the CCVSC open public meeting.
- October 14th – I attended the CCVSC Level III appeals and open public meeting.
- October 19th – I attended the VFW Post 7536 post meeting in Lyndhurst and conducted business. I signed up for poppy distribution at Dave’s Supermarket in Richmond Hts., on Veteran’s Day.
- October 21st – I attended the open public outreach meeting at VFW Post 2850. Cmdr. Ray Diaz, Past VFW State Commander Robert Poole, and Past VFW Auxiliary State President Sandra Uzell were in attendance.
- October 26th – I attended the last Cuyahoga County Past President’s dinner/meeting that was held at Parma Post 1974 and called bingo for the ladies.
- October 28th – I attended the CCVSC Level III appeal hearings.

Frank Pocci – AMVETS

- I attended the October 13th and November 3rd AMVETS Post 80 meetings and gave my financial reports, as well as, some advice to the attendees as the service officer.

- The Post will be represented at the Maple Hts. Veteran's Day events.
- The honor guard served their monthly duty at the Ohio Western Reserve Cemetery on October 6th.
- Post members visited the MAPES Air Force museum near Massillon, Ohio and were very impressed by the care and upkeep of the planes there.

Other activities:

- During October, I attended all of the scheduled board meetings at the CCVSC.
- I attended the meeting of the Italian American War Veterans (ITAM) Post 34 on October 9th. I will be attending the Department of Ohio meeting in Lorain, Ohio on November 15th. I will also be attending the Post 34 meeting on November 6th.
- I referred one veteran to the Parma CBOC and will be referring a Korean veteran in the next couple of weeks to file for tinnitus and hearing loss.

Dan Weist – DAV

- I attended three board meetings during the month of October.
- I attended the VFW North Olmsted Post 7647 meeting on October 21st. I was asked to research gaming machines at veterans' posts and the position of the State of Ohio.

OLD BUSINESS:

The Executive Director provided the Board with a revised employee performance evaluation form and explained the new weighting process and the different categories for administration, managers and staff.

We are still in the process of contacting veterans' organizations to see if they would care to display their membership application in the CCVSC lobby.

NEW BUSINESS:

The CCVSC will be closed on Veteran's Day, Wednesday, November 11, 2015. All pending Level III appeal hearings scheduled for the second Tuesday of the month, will be conducted on November 18th, immediately following the regular open public meeting held at 9:30 a.m.

A motion was made by Mel Baher and seconded by Frank Pocci to approve Resolution 2015-34 requesting that the County Executive set the compensation for the newly appointed or reappointed Veterans Service Commissioner representing the Veterans of Foreign Wars for term commencing January 1, 2016 and ending December 31, 2020.

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

A motion was made by Mel Baher and seconded by Bob Potts to approve Resolution 2015-35 requesting authority for fourteen CCVSC service officers to attend training and maintain accreditation with the OSACVSO and NACVSO in 2016, expenses not to exceed \$25,462.00.

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

A motion was made by Mel Baher and seconded by Clay Uzell to approve Resolution 2015-36 providing for a twelve month advertising agreement for Year 2016 for 4-panel flyer distributions in quantities of 48,724 flyers per month with Valassis/Plum of Cleveland, expenses not to exceed \$34,000.00.

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

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

The Cleveland Grays Armory Museum, located at 1234 Bolivar Rd., will be selling a unique collection of military books from November 13-15, 2015. The sale will be held in the basement of the Armory and anyone attending can enter in the back of the west parking lot. For more information, please visit www.graysarmory.com.

The Executive Director will not be attending the CCVSC open public meeting on Wednesday, December 2, 2015, as he is scheduled to attend an ODVS meeting in Columbus, Ohio to discuss veteran's employment.

Veteran's Day 2015 freebies, discounts and specials for our military veterans can be found at <http://fox8.com/2015/11/04/veterans-day-2015-freebies-discounts-and-specials-for-our-military-heroes/>.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

A motion was made by Mel Baher and seconded by Clay Uzell to go into Executive Session to discuss a personnel issue.

AYES: Baher, Pocci, Potts, Uzell, Weist. NAYS: None. Motion carried. (10:45 a.m.)

The Board came out of Executive Session and returned to the regular order of business at 11:10 a.m. A personnel issue was discussed and no action was required.

With no further business, a motion was made by Bob Potts and seconded by Clay Uzell to adjourn the meeting at 11:14 a.m.

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


Dan 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)