



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

Ph: 216.698.2600 • Fax: 216.698.2650
Email: vscmail@cuyahogacounty.us
1849 Prospect Avenue • Suite 150 • Cleveland, OH 44115



MINUTES

DATE: November 18, 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 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.

STATE OF THE COMMISSION AND FINANCE REPORT (Attached)

A motion was made by Mel Baher and seconded by Frank Pocci to accept the report of the Executive Director as given.

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

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

A motion was made by Mel Baher and seconded by Bob Potts to approve Resolution 2015-37 providing for the purchase of 2,500 military service branch pins from Novak Supply LLC, expenses not to exceed \$3,450.00.

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

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

Commissioners Baher, Pocci, Potts, Uzell and Executive Director Jon Reiss will be attending the OSAVSC Fall Conference in Dublin, Ohio from November 20-22, 2015.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

A motion was made by Mel Baher and seconded by Frank Pocci to go into Executive Session to discuss employee compensation.

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

The Board came out of Executive Session and returned to the regular order of business at 11:05 a.m.

A motion was made by Mel Baher and seconded by Frank Pocci to accept the recommendation of the Executive Director and adjust the pay of two employees effective November 30, 2015.

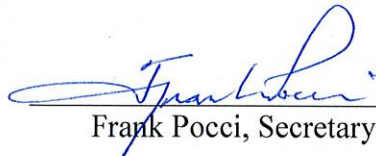
AYES: Baher, Pocci, Potts, Uzell, Weist. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

With no further business, a motion was made by Mel Baher and seconded by Clay Uzell to adjourn the meeting at 11:07 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)

CUYAHOGA COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE COMMISSION

Progress Report on the State of the Commission

October, 2015

Issued by:

The CCVSC Commissioners

**Daniel Weist – President, DAV
Mel Baher – Vice President, American Legion
Frank Pocci – Secretary, AMVETS
Bob Potts – VVA
Clayton E. Uzell - VFW**

November 18, 2015

Submitted By: Jon Reiss – Executive Director

The following report summarizes the progress and state of the Cuyahoga County Veterans Service Commission as of October 31, 2015:

Executive:

The Executive Director

- Met with Nina Hannum from the Fiscal Office
- Met with Veterans Treatment Court Treatment Team
- Attended the MOAA meeting
- Met with Travis Brock about direct mail marketing
- Met with Neil from Iheart Radio
- Attended the Board Meeting at VFW #2850
- Attended the NEOCH meeting
- Attended the American Legion Town Hall meeting in Fairview Park
- Met with Kathleen Weigand and Mike Swallow from NEOPAT
- Met with Dan Kelly from La Mega Spanish radio station
- Attended Mentor training for Veterans Treatment Court

Customer Satisfaction Surveys

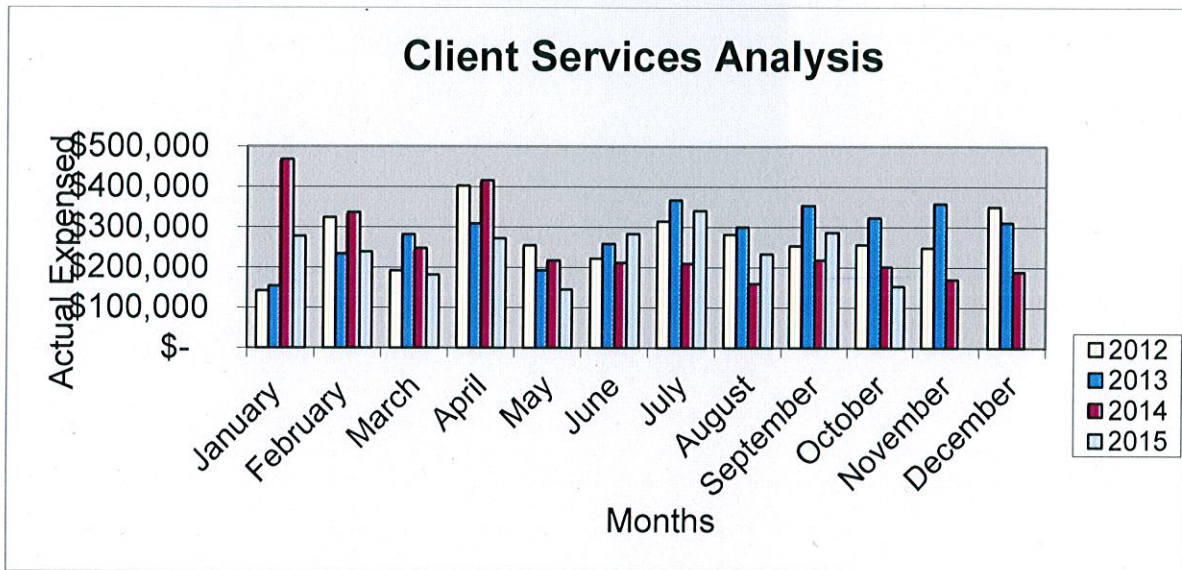
- Submitted: 55
- Positive: 52
- Negative: 2
- Neutral: 1

Finance Department

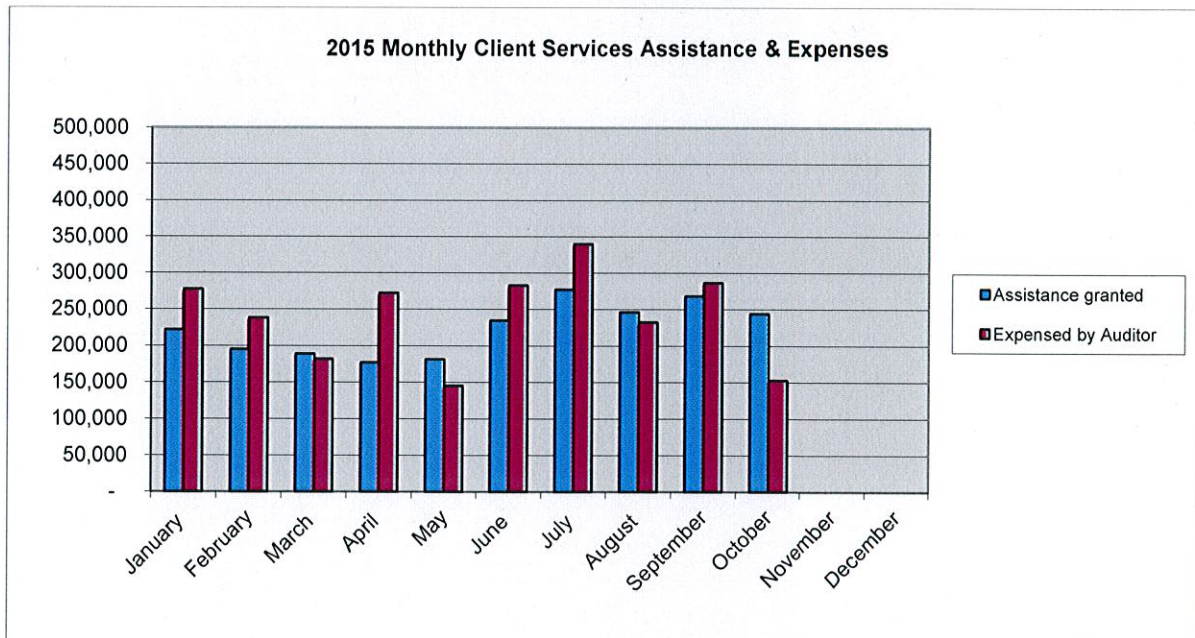
Below are selected October reports from the CCVSC Finance Department. The following charts/graphs depict the overall expenditures by area and type.

Client services include: Financial Assistance for Medical, Food, Mortgage, Rent, Utilities, Infant Layette, Personal Hygiene, Shoes & Clothing

Comparative Chart Analysis



Actual 2015 Expenses



Total 2015 Expense Analysis

	Total	YTD	YTD	Remaining	2015	Budget
	Budget	Expenditure	Encumbr	Expenditures	Projection	Variance
Salaries	1,859,336	1,457,527	-	333,149	1,790,676	68,660
Fringe Benefits	725,141	552,434	-	145,930	698,364	26,777
Commodities	33,250	26,230	-	5,220	31,450	1,800
Contract Services	428,610	256,275	170,876	172,335	428,610	-
Controlled Expenditures	205,879	(6,841)	-	212,720	205,879	-
Client Services	3,795,292	2,409,497	-	649,832	3,059,329	735,963
Other Expenditures	377,800	305,083	8,680	52,738	357,821	19,979
Capital Outlay	101,467	5,949	87,006	85,518	91,467	10,000
Total Expenditures	7,526,775	5,006,154	266,532	1,657,442	6,663,596	863,179

Assistance Department:

- October, 2015: \$152,591 (Down from \$201,275 in 2014)
- YTD 2015: \$2,409,499 (Down from \$2,683,642 in 2014)

The October Financial Assistance Department activity report follows below.

Indicator	Oct. 2015	Oct. 2014	% Change
Clients seeking assistance	937	971	-3.5%
Applications taken	919	772	19.0%
Applications withdrawn	(65)	(10)	550.0%
Applications denied	(90)	(49)	83.7%
Applications approved	764	713	7.2%
Transportation only approvals	(587)	(563)	4.3%
F/A applications approved	177	150	18.0%

Indicator	YTD 2015	YTD 2014	% Change
Clients seeking assistance	7233	8196	-11.8%
Applications taken	7129	7149	-.3%
Applications withdrawn	(492)	(179)	174.9%
Applications denied	(551)	(549)	.4%
Applications approved	6086	6421	-5.2%
Transportation only approvals	(4624)	(4627)	-.01%
F/A applications approved	1462	1794	-18.5%

- First Time Assistance
 - October 2015: 38 (Up from 33 in 2014)
 - 28 approved, 0 at Level III, 0 partial, 1 denied, 9 withdrawn
 - YTD 2015: 373 (Up from 361 in 2014)

Listed below is a breakdown of appeals for the month of October, 2015.

Appeal Officer workdays	19
Cases on hand at beginning of month	1
Cases received	79
Cases worked	<u>79</u>
Cases on hand at end of month	1

	Oct.	
<u>Appeal Officer Appeals</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Cases Approved	43	297
Cases Denied	34	241
Cases Denied/withdrawn, no show	0	0
Cases Withdrawn	<u>2</u>	<u>43</u>
Total	79	581

	Oct.	
<u>Board Appeals</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Cases Approved	6	62
Cases Denied	7	50
Cases Partially Approved	0	2
Cases Withdrawn	0	0
Cases Verifying Fraud	0	3
Client is Eligible (Review DD-214)	0	0
Fraud Not Verified	0	0
Attempted Fraud	0	0
Fraud expunged	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Total	13	117

Medical and Other Transportation:

- October 2015: \$13,276.50 (YTD: \$129,736.00)
- Medical Bus Tickets: \$13,243.50 (YTD: \$128,568.00)
- Other: \$33 (YTD: \$1,168)

Medical and Dental Programs:

- October 2015: \$405 (YTD: \$81,984)
 - Dental: \$0 (YTD: \$35,857)
 - Vision: \$405 (YTD: \$3,765)
 - Hearing Aid: \$0 (YTD: \$40,781)

Memorial Affairs Department:

- October 2015: \$8,233.55 (Up \$434.25 from October, 2014)
- YTD 2015: \$88,866.00
- 9 Indigent burials
 - Air Force: 2
 - Marine: 2
 - Navy: 0
 - Army: 5

Following are the 2015 Year to Date statistics for Memorial Affairs:

	Oct.	2015 YTD	Oct.	2014 YTD
DD-214 Search	76	937	123	1047
Benefits Counseling	395	5839	667	8210
Undelivered-Incorrect Headstone/Research	5	92	15	124
Presidential Memorial Certificates	39	477	57	764
National Cemetery Referrals	37	389	58	555
Blue Star Service Banners	0	0	0	0
Indigent Burials	9	95	9	113

Veterans Service Officers:

Parma

	<u>Oct.</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Compensation Claims	26	262
----- Follow Up	58	666
DIC Claims	1	7
----- Follow Up	0	5
Pension Claims	1	26
-----Follow Up	10	112
Medical	3	11
Power of Atty. to Service Organizations	47	326
Misc. Applications/Correspondence	224	1862
All Other	<u>68</u>	<u>570</u>
Total	438	3847

Interviews:
• 1,591 (YTD: 13,806)
FA Referrals:
• 28 (YTD: 289)
Total:
• 1,619 (YTD: 14,095)
Phone Calls:
• 3,167 (YTD: 30,079)

Wade Park

	<u>Oct.</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Compensation Claims	59	575
----- Follow Up	210	1828
DIC Claims	2	18
----- Follow Up	7	50
Pension Claims	13	168
-----Follow Up	59	737
Medical	0	28
Power of Atty. to Service Organizations	59	487
Misc. Applications/Correspondence	429	3904
All Other	<u>151</u>	<u>1622</u>
Total	989	9417

Main Office

	<u>Oct.</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Compensation Claims	111	1035
----- Follow Up	318	3363
DIC Claims	4	39
----- Follow Up	13	110
Pension Claims	35	327
-----Follow Up	122	1396
Medical	9	76
Power of Atty. to Service Organizations	125	1060
Misc. Applications/Correspondence	934	8697
All Other	<u>305</u>	<u>3228</u>
Total	1,976	19,331

Social Work

- October Total Signed In: 81 (YTD: 1271)
 - Seen: 57 (YTD: 1113)
 - Not Seen: 4 (YTD: 49)
 - Offline: 23 (YTD: 125)
 - New Veterans: 2 (YTD: 174)

- Veterans Receiving Consultation: 34 (YTD: 784)
- Veterans receiving follow-up: 23 (YTD: 321)

Referrals

- Internal Referrals
 - FA: 9
 - VSO: 6

- Outside Agencies
 - VA Medical: 5
 - Employment
 - EC/ODJFS: 3
 - CEOGC: 0
 - Towards Employment (N4S): 1

Ohio Veterans Home Network:

In October, no veterans were taken to the Ohio Veterans Home.

Computer Changes

Switch 3 county computer to 3 VA computers at Wade Park 2 are complete. One is waiting on Wade Park IT to complete installing scanner, signature and camera.

Federal Building Computer

Waiting on ATT to install DSL line.

Submitted by:

**Jon Reiss
Executive Director**