



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: July 27, 2016 9:30 a.m.

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

EXCUSED: Clayton Uzell, Commissioner
Brian Gutkoski, Asst. County Prosecutor

PURPOSE: GENERAL MONTHLY MEETING

The meeting was called to order by President Mel Baher followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

A motion was made by Dan Weist 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, Weist. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

STATE OF THE COMMISSION AND FINANCE REPORT (Attached)

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

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

OLD BUSINESS:

A final decision will be made on the new CCVSC logo at the next open public meeting.

The 2016 holiday luncheon will take place on Friday, December 16th.

Discussion continued concerning the policy regarding the payment of mortgages and property taxes. It was the consensus of the Board to keep the current procedure. Requests from veterans in dire need with the highest level of personal responsibility will be decided at Level III.

NEW BUSINESS:

A motion was made by Dan Weist and seconded by Frank Pocci to approve Resolution 2016-20 requesting authority for the reimbursement of membership registration fees in the amount of \$30.00 each for five CCVSC commissioners required in order to attend various conferences sponsored by the OSAVSC for the period July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017.

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

Veterans with a medical discharge and/or service connected disability with less than six months of service, will be granted a minimum of six months of financial assistance and will qualify for any extension granted based on that six months of service.

Discussion took place concerning the calculation for financial assistance income and expenses for household. The current policy will remain as is.

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

Dan Weist attended the OSAVSC Summer Convention in Dublin, Ohio from July 15-16th. An interesting presentation was given on PTSD. Tim Espich, ODVS Chief Operating Officer, is now a service officer in Springfield, Ohio.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

A motion was made by Bob Potts and seconded by Frank Pocci to go into Executive Session to discuss a personnel issue regarding compensation. (12:40 p.m.)

The Board came out of Executive Session and returned to the regular order of business at 12:57 p.m.

A motion was made by Dan Weist and seconded by Frank Pocci to accept the recommendation of the Executive Director for a market correction adjustment in salary for the network administrator position effective July 25, 2016.

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

With no further business, a motion was made by Frank Pocci and seconded by Dan Weist to adjourn the meeting at 12:59 p.m.

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

Mel Baher, President

Bob Potts, 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 (216-698-2655)
Social Work Dept.:	Terry Walker, 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

June, 2016

Issued by:

The CCVSC Commissioners

Mel Baher –President, American Legion

Frank Pocci –Vice President, AMVETS

Bob Potts – Secretary, VVA

Clayton E. Uzell - VFW

Daniel Weist –DAV

July 20, 2016

Submitted By: Jon Reiss – Executive Director

The following report summarizes the progress and state of the Cuyahoga County Veterans Service Commission as of June 30, 2016:

Executive:

The Executive Director

- Attended Veterans Treatment Court
- Attended meeting at Frontline Services for ending veterans homelessness
- Met with Ohio Means Jobs
- Met with representatives from the CRRC and HUD/VASH
- Hosted the Staff Picnic at Edgewater Park
- Met with ESPN radio
- Met with Najm Real Estate
- Attended a marketing strategy meeting with Linear Creative
- Attended a Housing Policy discussion at Emerald Commons
- Met with the investigator from the Department of Labor
- Met the Executive Director of the Cleveland Furniture Bank
- Met with the Outreach Coordinator from the East Side Vet Center

Customer Satisfaction Surveys

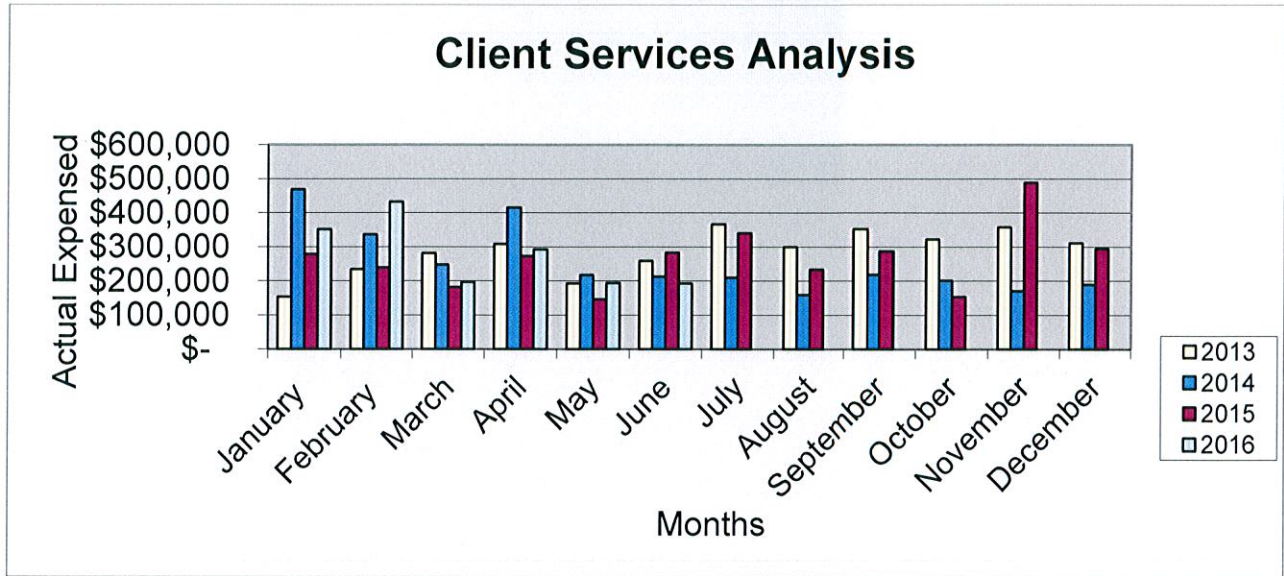
- Submitted: 19
- Positive: 19

Finance Department

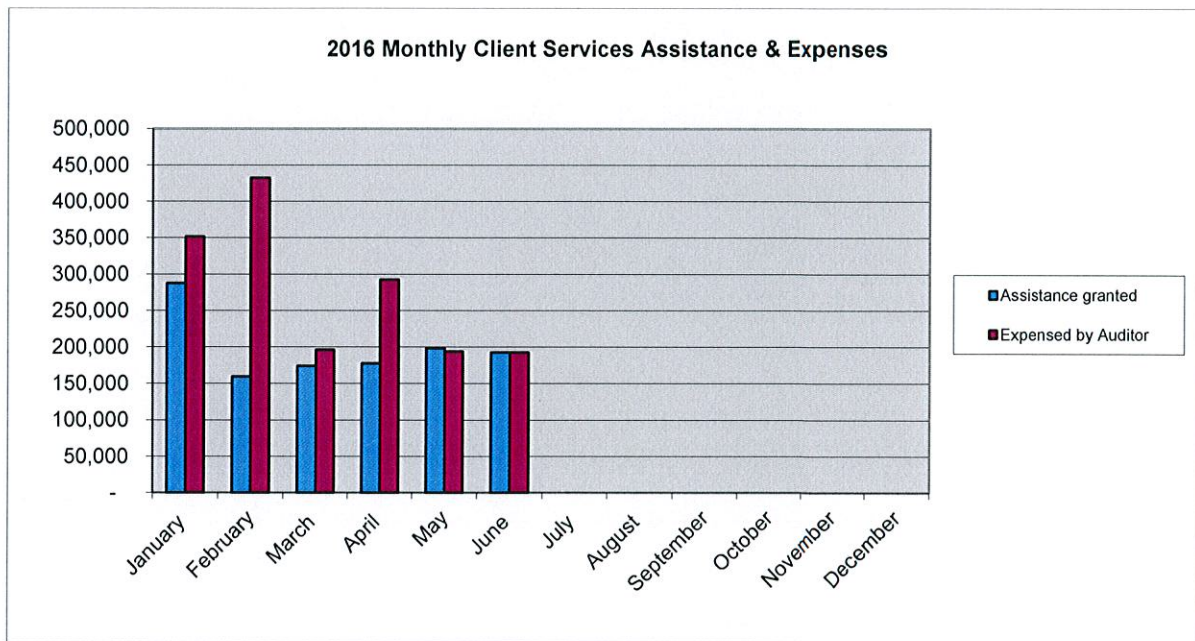
Below are selected June reports from the CCVSC Finance Department. The following charts/graphs depict the overall expenditures by area and type.

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

Comparative Chart Analysis



Actual 2016 Expenses



Total 2016 Expense Analysis

	Total	YTD	YTD	Remaining	2016	Budget
	Budget	Expenditure	Encumbr	Expenditures	Projection	Variance
Salaries	1,837,426	773,092	-	975,569	1,748,661	88,765
Fringe Benefits	689,876	318,637	-	343,648	662,285	27,591
Commodities	30,776	10,011	-	11,582	21,593	9,183
Contract Services	386,765	99,824	69,156	286,941	386,765	-
Controlled Expenditures	225,081	-	-	225,081	225,081	-
Client Services	3,865,646	1,659,078	-	1,784,478	3,443,556	422,090
Other Expenditures	367,290	176,544	3,279	138,628	315,172	52,118
Capital Outlay	117,006	11,796	87,921	48,261	60,057	56,949
Total Expenditures	7,519,866	3,048,982	160,356	3,814,188	6,863,170	656,696

Assistance Department:

- June, 2016: \$192,739 (Down from \$234,532 in 2015)
- YTD 2016: \$1,189,480 (Down from \$1,198,200 in 2015)

The June Financial Assistance Department activity report follows below.

Indicator	June 2016	June 2015	% Change
Clients seeking assistance	360	321	12.2%
Applications taken	217	317	-31.6%
Applications withdrawn	(40)	(68)	-41.2%
Applications denied	(44)	(74)	-40.5%
Applications approved	133	175	-24.0%

Indicator	YTD 2016	YTD 2015	% Change
Clients seeking assistance	2023	1577	28.3%
Applications taken	1618	1533	5.5%
Applications withdrawn	(267)	(319)	-16.3%
Applications denied	(320)	(325)	-1.5%
Applications approved	1031	889	16.0%

- First Time Assistance
 - June, 2016: 24 (Down from 40 in 2015)
 - 22 approved, 0 at Level III, 0 partial, 0 denied, 2 withdrawn
 - YTD 2016: 155 (Down from 191 in 2015)
- Withdrawn applications from May that were unresolved: 25 of 44

In June, **73.7%** of all applications for assistance were approved, at Level I, II, or III.

Listed below is a breakdown of appeals for the month of June, 2016.

<u>Appeal Officer Appeals</u>	<u>June</u> <u>2016</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Cases Approved	18	117
Cases Partially Approved	0	15
Cases Denied	20	119
Cases Withdrawn	<u>1</u>	<u>16</u>
Total	39	267

<u>Board Appeals</u>	<u>June</u> <u>2016</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Cases Approved	9	42
Cases Denied	5	38
Cases Partially Approved	0	0
Cases Withdrawn	0	0
Cases Verifying Fraud	0	2
Fraud Not Verified	0	0
Attempted Fraud	0	0
Fraud expunged	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Total	14	82

Medical and Other Transportation:

- June, 2016: \$14,310.00 (YTD: \$85,135.00)
- Medical Bus Tickets: \$14,215.00 (YTD: \$84,375.00)
- Other: \$95 (YTD: \$760)
- Transportation Approved: 510 applicants (YTD: 3,265)

Medical and Dental Programs:

- June, 2016: \$8,441 (YTD: \$32,663)
 - Dental: \$8,441 (YTD: \$24,197)
 - Vision: \$0 (YTD: \$2,625)
 - Hearing Aid: \$0 (YTD: \$5,841)

Memorial Affairs Department:

- June, 2016: \$12,987.00 (YTD: \$49,724.60)
- 13 Indigent burials
 - Air Force: 1
 - Marine: 2
 - Navy: 2
 - Army: 8

Service Department:

	Compensation	Pension	DIC	Follow-Up	Medical	POA	Miscellaneous Correspondence	DD214 Requests	Headstone	Presidential Memorial Certificates	National Cemetery Referrals	Other
Wade Park	77	7	2	463	15	87	425	73	-	-	-	248
Parma	32	5	-	69	9	24	70	21	-	1	-	138
Main Office	2	13	-	76	0	26	164	97	37	76	-	60
Federal Building	6	4	-	24	2	7	48	1	-	-	-	23
CRRC	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mobile Benefits Team	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-
Total (Month)	117	29	2	632	26	144	708	193	37	77	0	469
Total (YTD)	493	118	15	1372	119	546	3005	740	66	231	77	1017

Interviews:
 • 1,663 (YTD: 10,752)
 FA Referrals:
 • 9 (YTD: 179)
 Total:
 • 1,672 (YTD: 10,935)
 Phone Calls:
 • 2,807 (YTD: 22,791)

Social Work

- June, 2016: Total Signed In: 74 (YTD: 442)
 - Seen: 59 (YTD: 347)
 - Not Seen: 9 (YTD: 25)
 - Offline: 6 (YTD: 70)
 - New Veterans: 0 (YTD: 6)

- Veterans Receiving Consultation: 25 (YTD: 200)
- Veterans receiving follow-up: 34 (YTD: 147)
- In June, two veterans were taken to the Ohio Veterans Home.

Referrals

- VA Medical: 1
- Employment: 1
- Debt Counseling: 7
- Other: 15
- Financial Workshop: 10
- Nutrition Workshop: 4

IT

- Ordered mobile kits for outreach, to start July 5, 2016
- Installed Citrix for Service Officers on county computers for VBA
- All signature pads have been installed and operating

Submitted by:

**Jon Reiss
Executive Director**