



American Legion
MEL BAHER
COMMISSIONER



American Veterans
FRANK POCCHI
COMMISSIONER



Disabled American Veterans
VACANT
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: September 6, 2017 9:30 a.m.

PRESENT: Bob Potts, Vice President
Clayton E. Uzell, Secretary
Mel Baher, Commissioner
DAV Commissioner, Vacant
Jon Reiss, Executive Director
Lorri Slivka, Executive Secretary

EXCUSED: Frank Pocci, President
Brian Gutkoski, Asst. County Prosecutor

PURPOSE: GENERAL MONTHLY MEETING

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Bob Potts followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

A motion was made by Clay Uzell and seconded by Mel Baher to go out of the regular order of business to meet and greet four candidates to be considered for a VSO position at the Commission. The Board also had an opportunity to meet the new part-time VSO, Nicole Adams, who began employment today.

A motion was made by Mel Baher and seconded by Clay Uzell 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, Potts, Uzell. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS:

Mel Baher – American Legion

- Wednesday, August 2nd – I attended the American Legion 13th District meeting held at American Legion Post 572 in Parma, Ohio. The meeting began at 7:30 p.m. I presented the executive approved financial reports for June 2017, as District Finance officer.
- Thursday, August 13th – I attended the American Legion Post 91 membership meeting at 7:00 p.m. As First Vice-Commander, I gave my updated membership report.

- Saturday, August 19th – I departed for Reno, Nevada to attend the American Legion 99th Annual Convention, held from August 19th-24th. On Sunday, August 20th, I participated in the Annual American Legion parade through downtown Reno and also attended the Department of Ohio caucus meeting and the National Security Council meeting. I attended all convention floor sessions on Tuesday through Thursday.
- Thursday, August 24th – I missed the American Legion Post 91 executive board meeting due to my attendance at the National Convention.
- Monday, August 28th – I attended the American Legion 13th District executive board meeting held at American Legion Post 572 at 7:30 p.m. I presented the July 2017 financial reports for approval, as District Finance Officer.

Clay Uzell – VFW

- August 2nd – I attended the CCVSC open public meeting.
- August 2nd – I also attended the Past District 7 President’s dinner meeting at the Winking Lizard Restaurant in Bedford, Ohio.
- August 6th – I attended the VFW District 7 Council of Administration Conference held at Post 387 in Cleveland, where we approved the budget and programs were presented. I gave the safety/law/fire program expectations and the general business meeting was discussed.
- August 9th – I attended the CCVSC Level III appeals hearings.
- August 13th – I attended the VFW Post 7536 picnic held in Gates Mills. There was a great turn out and a good time was had by all.
- August 15th – I attended a ceremony at the MEPS Center and watched my grandson, Andy, and other recruits, take their oath and leave for Navy boot camp.
- August 16th – I attended the CCVSC open public meeting. There was a moment of silence for Commissioner Bill Caine, who passed away suddenly. After the meeting, I participated in the on-line training for commissioners which lasted 4 hours.
- August 17th – I attended a memorial service for Commissioner Caine at the Cove United Methodist Church with fellow commissioners and office staff, Jon, Lorri, Mary & Steve.
- August 18th – I attended the VFW National Commander-in-Chief Keith Harmon’s homecoming held at the Hilton Hotel in Cincinnati, Ohio.
- August 23rd – I attended the CCVSC Level III appeals hearings.

Bob Potts – VVA

- I attended three Board meetings during the month of August.
- There were no VVA Chapter meetings held during the months of July and August.
- I attended a memorial service for Commissioner William Caine on August 17th that was held at the Cove United Methodist Church.

Frank Pocci – AMVETS (excused, no report)

OLD BUSINESS:

Senior Shuttle Services has been selected to provide transportation for our veteran clients to and from the Ohio Veterans Home in Sandusky, Ohio. This service is more flexible and does not require much notice to schedule a trip. The Executive Director will meet with Brian Gutkoski to prepare a Memorandum of Understanding to be approved by the Board at the September 20th meeting.

A motion was made by Mel Baher and seconded by Clay Uzell to approve Resolution 2017-08 providing for the purchase of one Dodge Caravan with power side doors, lift gate, stow away seats and back up

camera for the CCVSC due to increase demand of usage for outreaches, administration and travel needs, expenses not to exceed \$25,000.

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

NEW BUSINESS:

None.

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

The VFW 5th Annual Community Day and District 7 picnic will be held at Strongsville Post #3345, 17900 Strongsville Blvd., Strongsville, Ohio, on Saturday, September 9th, from 1-5 p.m.

Lyndhurst Home Days will be held from September 8-10, 2017. Commissioner Uzell will be driving the CCVSC van in the parade on Sunday, September 10th and attend a flag ceremony to be held afterward. The parade route will run from Brush High School to Lyndhurst City Hall.

Commissioner Baher and members of American Legion Post 91 will conduct its annual Patriots' Day ceremony on the Berea Triangle at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, September 11th. Memorial wreaths will be presented, Taps will be played and there will be a dove release.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

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

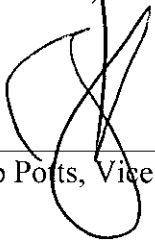
AYES: Baher, Potts, Uzell. NAYS: None. Motion carried. (10:30 a.m.)

The Board came out of Executive Session and returned to the regular order of business at 11:23 a.m.

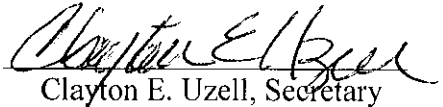
The Board discussed the hiring of potential candidates for the position of veterans service officer and instructed the Executive Director on how to proceed.

With no further business, a motion was made by Mel Baher and seconded by Clay Uzell to adjourn the meeting at 11:25 a.m.

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



Bob Potts, Vice President



Clayton E. Uzell, Secretary