



American Legion
MEL BAHER
COMMISSIONER



American Veterans
FRANK POCCI
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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Email: vscmail@cuyahogacounty.us
1849 Prospect Avenue • Suite 150 • Cleveland, OH 44115

MINUTES

DATE: December 6, 2017 9:30 a.m.

PRESENT: Frank Pocci, President
Bob Potts, Vice President
Clayton E. Uzell, Secretary
Mel Baher, Commissioner
DAV Commissioner, Vacant
Jon Reiss, Executive Director
Brian Gutkoski, Asst. County Prosecutor
Lorri Slivka, Executive Secretary

VISITORS: David G. Lambert, Asst. Prosecuting Attorney
Dale Pelsozy, Asst. Prosecuting Attorney

PURPOSE: GENERAL MONTHLY MEETING

The meeting was called to order by President Frank Pocci followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

A motion was made by Bob Potts and seconded by Clay Uzell to defer to the Good of the Order for discussion with David Lambert, Asst. Prosecuting Attorney.

AYES: Baher, Pocci, Potts, Uzell. NAYS: None. Motion carried. (9:33 a.m.)

County Asst. Prosecuting Attorney Mr. Lambert addressed the Board stating that the Prosecutor's Office is anxious to continue to supply our Commission with legal counsel. He assured the board that in the absence of Brian Gutkoski, Asst. County Prosecutor Dale Pelsozy will be present to attend to our legal needs. He did request that, due to their busy schedule, legal issues be addressed at the start of the meeting.

A motion was made by Mel Baher and seconded by Bob Potts to return to the regular order of business.

AYES: Baher, Pocci, Potts, Uzell. NAYS: None. Motion carried. (9:40 a.m.)

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, Pocchi, Potts, Uzell. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS:

Clay Uzell – VFW

- November 1st – I traveled to Bahrain to visit our daughter, Mona, who is presently serving in the Navy, stationed in Bahrain. I returned on November 7th.
- November 8th – I attended the CCVSC Level III appeals meeting.
- November 11-12th – I distributed VFW Buddy Poppies at Dave's Supermarket in Richmond Hts. from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- November 15th – I attended the CCVSC open public meeting.
- November 17-18th – I attended the OSAVSC Fall Conference at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Dublin, Ohio. Jake Clark from Save a Warrior Foundation, Colonel Chip Tansell, Director of the ODVS and Education Training, and Ryan Lippe from the Office of Ohio Attorney General Record Retention were the guest speakers.
- November 18th – I attended the VFW District 4 Commander's & President's Testimonial Banquet held at the Hampton Inn, Cincinnati.
- November 19th – I attended the VFW District 4 Conference as a guest and gave a brief safety talk on phone scams.
- November 20th – The VFW Post 7536 meeting was held. We were inspected by the District and everything was found in good order. We received a cash donation from the principal of Greenview Upper Elementary School staff. We reviewed the Post's Christmas party plans for December 17th.
- November 22nd – I attended the CCVSC Level III appeals hearings.
- November 28th – I was appointed National Aide-De Camp for the VFW National Convention to be held in Kansas City, Missouri in July 2018.

Mel Baher – American Legion

- I attended all scheduled meetings of the CCVSC during the month of November 2017. Following is a report of my activities outside of the CCVSC for the month of November 2017.
- Wednesday, November 1st – I attended the American Legion 13th District Council meeting held at American Legion Post 309 in Maple Hts., Ohio. The meeting began at 7:30 p.m. I presented the executive board approved financial reports for September 2017, as District Finance Officer.
- Thursday, November 9th – 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, November 11th – I attended the Veteran's Day Ceremony held at the Woodvale Cemetery Veteran's monument. Afterwards, I attended the American Legion Post 91 Veteran's Day luncheon sponsored by the Post Auxiliary unit. Later that evening, I also attended the Veteran's Day dinner provided by the Post 91 S.A.L. squadron.
- Friday, November 17th – Saturday, November 18th – I attended the OSAVSC Fall Conference held at the Embassy Suites in Dublin, Ohio. Training was conducted on Saturday which completed our requirements for 2017 Commissioner training.
- Thursday, November 23rd – I attended the American Legion Post 91 executive board meeting held at 7:00 p.m. I presented my updated membership report, as First-Vice Commander.
- Monday, November 27th – I attended the American Legion 13th District executive board meeting held at American Legion Post 309 in Maple Hts., Ohio at 7:30 p.m. I presented the October 2017 financial reports for approval, as District Finance Officer.

Bob Potts – VVA

- November 1st – I attended the CCVSC open public meeting.
- November 8th – I attended the Cleveland Cavalier's half-time program honoring Vietnam Veterans from each branch of the service plus a WWII Veteran.
- November 9th – I attended the CCVSC Level III appeals hearings.
- November 10th – I celebrated the 242nd birthday of the United States Marine Corps.
- November 11th – I attended the American Legion Post 91's Veteran's Day dinner.
- November 15th – I attended the CCVSC open public meeting.
- November 22nd – I attended the CCVSC Level III appeals hearings.
- December 6th – I attended the VVA Chapter 249 board meeting and membership meeting.

Frank Pocci – AMVETS

CCVSC

- I attended all the scheduled meetings at the CCVSC.
- I attended Commissioner training in Columbus on November 17th & 18th.
- Veteran's Day, I attended the memorial ceremony at Woodvale Cemetery. I also brought some veterans to the event at American Legion Post 91.
- I am looking into the possibility of helping a WWII Veteran.
- I attended a Veteran's Day ceremony at Whitney grade school.

AMVETS

- I attended the monthly meeting where I gave my financial report.
- I reinvested the CD for Post 80.
- I reviewed the proper funeral honor guard procedure and the proper time to play TAPS at veterans' funerals, with Post 80 members.
- Post 80 Honor Guard had their monthly HG duty at Rittman National Cemetery.

ITAM (Italian American War Veterans)

- I attended the monthly meeting at Post 34.
- Yearly donations from the Post to charitable organizations were distributed.
- I scheduled the Post's 13th Christmas party, where over 90 attendees (members and guests) will be present.
- I completed all the renewals and one new membership for Post 34, for a total of 59 members (including life members and 3 honorary members.)

OLD BUSINESS

Jon Reiss gave an update on security coverage by County Protective Services at our main office and explained how charge-backs are applied. Jon is to contact Tom Fovozzo, in writing, to ensure that options for coverage at CCVSC Board meetings will be provided by February 2018.

NEW BUSINESS:

A motion was made by Mel Baher and seconded by Clay Uzell to approve the revised Progressive Discipline Policy, dated December 6, 2017.

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

A motion was made by Mel Baher and seconded by Clay Uzell to approve the new Garage Parking Policy, effective December 6, 2017.

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

A motion was made by Mel Baher and seconded by Clay Uzell to Resolution 2017-13 providing for the purchase of equipment and software to create and issue veteran ID cards to the veterans of Cuyahoga County. The equipment will be purchased from Identiphoto and expenses will not exceed \$20,000.

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

A motion was made by Mel Baher and seconded by Clay Uzell to approve Resolution 2017-14 requesting authority for seventeen CCVSC service officers to attend training and maintain membership and accreditation with the Ohio State Association of County Veterans Service Officer (NACVSO) in 2018, expenses not to exceed \$46,065.00.

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

A motion was made by Mel Baher and seconded by Bob Potts to approve Resolution 2018-01 annually adjusting CCVSC employee mileage and per diem travel reimbursement rates in accordance with standard federal rates for Year 2018.

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

A motion was made by Mel Baher and seconded by Bob Potts to approve Resolution 2018-02 requesting authority for five CCVSC commissioners and Executive Director to attend various conferences and training to maintain accreditation with the Ohio State Association of Veterans Service Commissioners (OSAVSC) in 2018, expenses not to exceed \$7,740.00.

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

A motion was made by Mel Baher and seconded by Clay Uzell to approve Resolution 2018-03 providing for the purchase of a maintenance agreement for the eVetAssist Veteran Software Program for the 2018 fiscal year for CCVSC, expenses not to exceed \$6,200.00.

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

Jon Reiss distributed a brochure for the Storytellers X event that took place on November 17, 2017. The event, presented by the Northeast Ohio Veterans Community Task Force, went well and involved many interesting guest speakers including Chip Tansell, Director of the Ohio Department of Veterans Services.

Clay Uzell announced that VFW Post 7536 will host their Christmas party at the Lyndhurst Community Center on December 17, 2017 at 2:00 p.m. The price is \$18.00 per person. Anyone wishing to attend should let him know.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

A motion was made by Mel Baher and seconded by Clay Uzell to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel issues concerning compensation.

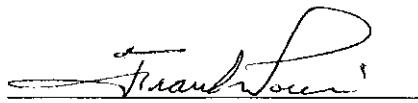
AYES: Baher, Pocci, Potts, Uzell. NAYS: None. Motion carried. 10:49 a.m.

The Board came out of Executive Session and returned to the regular order of business at 11:57 a.m.

In Executive Session, bonuses and salary schedule for employees were discussed. A memo from the Board will be given to the Executive Director and Finance Manager on how to proceed.

With no further business, a motion was made by Mel Baher and seconded by Bob Potts to adjourn the meeting at 11:59 a.m.

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


Frank Pucci, President


Clayton E. Uzell, Secretary

CONTACT INFORMATION

Requests for Financial Assistance/
Filing claims with the Dept. of

Veterans' Affairs/Memorial Affairs:
Social Work Dept.:

Executive Director:

Commissioners:

Melinda Halliburton, Service Office Mgr. (216-698-2639)

Terry Walker, Social Worker/Case Mgmt.) (216-698-2379)

Jon Reiss (216-698-2611)

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