



American Legion
MEL BAHER
COMMISSIONER



American Veterans
FRANK POCCI
COMMISSIONER



Disabled American Veterans
CHRISTOPHER GRAU
COMMISSIONER



Veterans of Foreign Wars
CLAYTON E. UZELL
COMMISSIONER



Vietnam Veterans of America
BOB POTTS
COMMISSIONER

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

JON REISS
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

MINUTES

DATE/TIME: November 13, 2019 9:30 a.m.

PRESENT: Clay Uzell, President
Mel Baher, Vice President
Christopher Grau, Secretary
Frank Pocci, Commissioner
Bob Potts, Commissioner
Jon Reiss, Executive Director
Mary Kitko, Executive Secretary
Feronne Williams, Administrative Coordinator
Brian Gutkoski, Asst. County Prosecutor

EXCUSED: None.

VISITORS: None.

PURPOSE: GENERAL MONTHLY MEETING

The meeting was called to order by President Clay Uzell 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, Grau, Pocci, Potts, Uzell. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

Action Items – Update:

- 1) **Employee Overpayments** – Ms. Smith continues to make payments on time.
- 2) **Dental Trial Program** – Work in progress. Another possible program flyer was distributed to the staff from MedWorks. More research is needed.
- 3) **Resolution 2018-13: VVA Compensation** – The Commissioners salaries have been set.
- 4) **Smart Board** – The Executive Director proposed a Smart Board be installed in the conference room for training purposes. The Director was advised to move forward with the purchase and installation.

NEW BUSINESS:

A motion was made by Mel Baher and seconded by Frank Pocci to approve Resolution 2019-26 for the purchase of office furniture to replace staff chairs and public seating that is debilitated and over ten (10) years old. Office furniture will be purchased from Ohio Desk. No competitive bids were solicited as Ohio Desk is on state contract. Expenses not to exceed \$24,499.00.

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

The Executive Director presented a new Org Chart. The chart was adopted and changes are effective immediately.

Board meeting format will be changing. The Board will now go into executive session at the beginning of the meeting for client cases and appeals. Once appeals are over the meeting will proceed with Old Business, New Business, Good of the Order, and Executive Session. This change is effective immediately.

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

Commissioner Baher addressed concerns about client wait time. The specific incident was investigated, and changes will be made in order to insure efficiency.

Commissioner Uzell reported that this year's poppy drive was very successful. Commissioner Uzell thanked Dave's Supermarket in Mayfield Hts., for their continued support.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

A motion was made by Mel Baher and seconded by Chris Grau to go into Executive Session to discuss collective bargaining, pending and imminent court action, matters to be kept confidential, certain personnel matters to include compensation, and to hear one (1) client case and appeal.

AYES: Baher, Grau, Pocci, Potts, Uzell. NAYS: None. Motion carried. (10:01 a.m.)

The Board came out of Executive Session and returned to the regular order of business at 10:30 a.m. In Executive Session the Board discussed collective bargaining, personnel matters, pending court action and client cases and appeals. The Executive Director was instructed on how to proceed.

The votes for further assistance, recorded by the Secretary, of the client appeals that were discussed in Executive Session, are attached.

The Board returned to Good of the Order at 10:32 a.m. to entertain a veteran who arrived for the meeting.

With no further business, a motion was made by Frank Pocci and seconded by Mel Baher to adjourn the meeting at 11:07 a.m.

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



Clay Uzell, President



Chris Grau, Secretary

CONTACT INFORMATION

Requests for Financial Assistance/
Filing claims with the Dept. of
Veterans' Affairs/Memorial Affairs:

Charlene Amos, Service Officer Mgr. (216-698-3831)
Melinda Halliburton, Service Office Mgr. (216-698-2639)
Larry Amato, Financial Operations Mgr. (216-698-2391)
Jon Reiss (216-698-2611)
Mary Kitko, Secretary to the Board (216-698-2651)

Finance Dept.:
Executive Director:
Commissioners: