









JON REISS
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

# Cuyahoga County Veterans Service Commission

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## **MINUTES**

DATE/TIME:

November 3, 2021

9:30 a.m.

PRESENT:

Christopher Grau, President Frank Pocci, Vice President

Bob Potts, Secretary

Mel Baher, Commissioner Jon Reiss, Executive Director

Feronne Williams, Deputy Director Mary Kitko, Executive Secretary

Mark Musson, Assistant County Prosecutor

XCUSED:

None.

VISITORS:

None.

**PURPOSE:** 

GENERAL MONTHLY MEETING

The meeting was called to order by Chris Grau, President.

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). One item was set aside for Executive Session.

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

#### **COMMISSIONERS REPORTS:**

Set aside for a future meeting.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

Temporary locations during build-out were discussed. Most locations require a lease and will take time. During construction, the Executive Director will place additional employees at the VA offices and has reached out to multiple other locations, including libraries, for all remaining employees. The outreach team will focus on getting out into the community. Employees will work remotely where necessary.

M. Musson will determine where the VSC falls in the counties structure. Once it is determined what model the SC falls under, Mr. Musson will draft a memo regarding purchasing authority for the VSC.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

The Board discussed the county COVID vaccine bonus. The VSC will opt in with the counties program.

A motion was made by Bob Potts and seconded by Frank Pocci to approve Resolution 2021-08 providing for the renewal of RTA bus ads with Lamar Advertising, a sole source vendor contracted to advertise on RTA buses. The purchase agreement is with Lamar Advertising and will not exceed \$96,275.00.

YES: Baher, Grau, Pocci, Potts. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

#### GOOD OF THE ORDER:

None.

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

A motion was made by Bob Potts and seconded by Frank Pocci to go into Executive Session to discuss matters to be kept confidential – litigation, security matters, a certain personnel matter – compensation, a client complaint, and client cases and appeals.

AYES: Baher, Grau, Pocci, Potts. NAYS: None. Motion carried. (10:00 a.m.)

The Board came out of Executive Session and returned to the regular order of business at 10:50 a.m. In Executive Session the Board discussed a security matter and matters to be kept confidential – litigation. The Director was told how to proceed.

A motion was made by Mel Baher and seconded by Bob Potts to settle with Mr. Sanchez for the amount \$10,680.28.

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

Commissioner Grau was excused from the meeting at 10:55 a.m.

A motion was made by Mel Baher and seconded by Frank Pocci to return to Executive Session to discuss security matters, a certain personnel matter – compensation, a client complaint, and client cases and appeals. AYES: Baher, Pocci, Potts. NAYS: None. Motion carried. (11:03 a.m.)

The Board came out of Executive Session and returned to the regular order of business at 11:53 a.m. In Executive Session the Board discussed procurement of real estate and directed the Director to obtain details on how to proceed, a client complaint, and client cases and appeals. Compensation was postponed to next meeting.

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

A motion was made by Mel Baher and seconded by Bob Potts to allow the Executive Director to pursue securing the property discussed.

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

With no further business, a motion was made by Bob Potts and seconded by Frank Pocci to adjourn the meeting at 11:53 a.m.

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

Frank Pocci, Vice President

**CONTACT INFORMATION** 

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

Veterans' Affairs/Memorial Affairs:

Finance Dept.: Executive Director: Deputy Director: Commissioners: Charlene Amos, Service Officer Mgr. (216-698-3831) Melinda Halliburton, Service Office Mgr. (216-698-2639) Terrance Ness, Financial Supervisor (216-698-2391)

Jon Reiss (216-698-2611)

Feronne Williams (216-698-3845)

Mary Kitko, Secretary to the Board (216-698-2651)

Blo Potts, Secretary