



American Legion
MEL BAHER
COMMISSIONER



American Veterans
FRANK POCCHI
COMMISSIONER



Disabled American Veterans
CHRISTOPHER GRAU
COMMISSIONER



Veterans of Foreign Wars
VACANT
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/TIME: December 8, 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

EXCUSED: Mark Musson, Assistant County Prosecutor

VISITORS: None.

PURPOSE: GENERAL MONTHLY MEETING

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

OLD BUSINESS:

The Executive Director attended the County Council meeting. The CCVSC budget was adopted as originally submitted, with appropriate changes. The capital budget funds, taken from the 2020 surplus, were set aside.

NEW BUSINESS:

J. Reiss and F. Williams proposed that all Veterans Service Officers attend all training in 2022, to include national training. The service officer staff is very young and will benefit from as much training as is available. The resolution will be updated to include the option for the Commissioners to also attend National Training. The updated resolution will be presented at the next board meeting.

The Financial Assistance Handbook has been reviewed by several staff members and submitted to the Executive Director with proposed updates. Changes include higher rent amounts, annual amounts for clothing, hygiene and household goods and changes to lifetime aid calculations.

A motion was made by Mel Baher and seconded by Bob Potts to accept the revisions to the Financial Assistance Handbook as discussed and to approve the updated handbook with said revisions.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

A motion was made by Mel Baher and seconded by Bob Potts to go out of the regular order of business to go into Executive Session to discuss a certain personnel matter – compensation and client cases and appeals.

YES: Baher, Grau, Pocci, Potts. NAYS: None. Motion carried. (10:22)

The Board came out of Executive Session and returned to the regular order of business at 12:02 p.m. In Executive Session the Board discussed certain personnel matters regarding compensation and client cases and appeals.

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

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

Commissioner Pocci attended an Italian American Veteran event where he spoke to several veterans about the Veterans Service Commission. The IAM would like to host an open public meeting of the CCVSC at the Italian American Club on Snow Rd. to learn more about services offered at the CCVSC.

Commissioner Baher requested confirmation that the Commissioners have earned all the required points for 2021.

With no further business, a motion was made by Bob Potts and seconded by Mel Baher to adjourn the meeting at 12:19 a.m.

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



Frank Pocci, Vice President



Bob Potts, 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)
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)

Finance Dept.:
Executive Director:
Deputy Director:
Commissioners: