



American Legion
MEL BAHER
COMMISSIONER



American Veterans
FRANK POCCHI
COMMISSIONER



Disabled American Veterans
CHRISTOPHER GRAU
COMMISSIONER



Veterans of Foreign Wars
JAMES RILEY
COMMISSIONER



Vietnam Veterans of America
BOB POTTS
COMMISSIONER

JON REISS
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

FERONNE WILLIAMS
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

Cuyahoga County Veterans Service Commission

Ph: 216.698.2600 • Fax: 216.698.2650

Email: vsccmail@cuyahogacounty.us

1849 Prospect Avenue • Suite 150 • Cleveland, OH 44115

MINUTES

DATE/TIME: March 16, 2022 9:30 a.m.

PRESENT:

Frank Pocci, President
Bob Potts, Vice President
Mel Baher, Secretary
Christopher Grau, Commissioner
Jim Riley, Commissioner
Jon Reiss, Executive Director
Feronne Williams, Deputy Director
Mary Kitko, Executive Secretary
Mark Musson, Assistant County Prosecutor

EXCUSED: None.

VISITORS: None.

PURPOSE: GENERAL MONTHLY MEETING/LEVEL III BOARD APPEALS

The meeting was called to order by Frank Pocci, President.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

A motion was made by Mel Baher and seconded by Chris Grau to go out of the regular order of business to discuss items for Executive Session to include certain personnel matters to include discipline/employment, employment, and compensation. Also included were matters to be kept confidential.

AYES: Baher, Grau, Pocci, Potts, Riley. NAYS: None. Motion carried (9:30 a.m.)

The Board came out of Executive Session and returned to the regular order of business at 10:52 a.m. In Executive Session the Board discussed certain personnel matters regarding discipline, employment and compensation, and matters to be kept confidential. The Executive Director was advised how to proceed.

A motion was made by Mel Baher and seconded by Chris Grau 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)

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

OLD BUSINESS:

The Executive Director stated that building construction continues. There has been some evidence of rodents. An exterminator has been called.

There has been some progress on the purchase of the new building. Funds have been transferred to cover the cost of the purchase. Public Works is working to get the purchase completed.

The Executive Director and Deputy Director continue to work on interim work locations.

Jon Reiss discussed obtaining quotes for advertising, software updates, and the purchase of a new vehicle.

NEW BUSINESS:

The VSC outreach team is working on the annual VetConnect. Due to the construction of the current and new building, VetConnect will be located on Fulton Rd. in a County building.

The Board agreed to send select members of the leadership team to SERB training to aid in day-to-day operations and during contract negotiations.

Rent to relatives was discussed at length. In the past, applicants were required to provide proof of payments with a receipt and/or a cancelled check. The new policy will be to include the rent to the relative on the application. If there is anything suspicious or unclear, the application will be denied and go to Level II. Level II will check with the relative who wrote the receipts to verify. A compliance letter will be issued for future requests. The rent must be paid by check or money order.

A motion was made by Mel Baher and seconded by Bob Potts to approve Resolution 2022-02 for the purchase of the application set up and thirty (30) user licenses from Panoramic Software, Inc. for the Vetpro veteran software program for five years, expenses not to exceed and agency total of \$25,000.

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

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

Frank Pocci mentioned that his AMVETS Post has a new member and ITAM meetings will resume in March.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

A motion was made by Mel Baher and seconded by Bob Potts to go into Executive Session to discuss a certain personnel matter – discipline, matters to be kept confidential and client cases and appeals.

AYES: Baher, Grau, Pocci, Potts. NAYS: None. Motion carried. (10:13 a.m.)

The Board came out of Executive Session and returned to the regular order of business at 10:45 a.m. In Executive Session the Board discussed certain personnel matters regarding discipline, matters to be kept confidential and client cases and appeals. The Executive Director was advised how to proceed.

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

With no further business, a motion was made by Bob Potts and seconded by Chris Grau to adjourn the meeting at 10:47 a.m.

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



Frank Pocci, President



Mel Baher, 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: