



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

Cuyahoga County Veterans Service Commission

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1849 Prospect Avenue • Suite 150 • Cleveland, OH 44115

JON REISS
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

FERONNE WILLIAMS
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

MINUTES

DATE/TIME: May 18, 2022 9:31 a.m.

PRESENT: Frank Pocci, President
Bob Potts, Vice President
Christopher Grau, Commissioner
James Riley, Commissioner
Jon Reiss, Executive Director
Feronne Williams, Deputy Director
Mary Kitko, Executive Secretary
Mark Musson, Assistant County Prosecutor - via phone

EXCUSED: Mel Baher, Secretary

VISITORS: None.

PURPOSE: GENERAL MONTHLY MEETING

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

A motion was made by Chris Grau 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: Grau, Pocci, Potts, Riley. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

Construction at the main office continues. The garage ramp repair should be completed by next week. Core drilling will begin, and staff will move to various locations, including five Cuyahoga County libraries.

There have been no updates regarding the new headquarters building.

During heavy construction the administrative staff will work at the Fulton Pkwy. Office. Other staff will work out of area libraries.

The Board discussed the fraud policy. At this time, clients who have a confirmed fraud are not eligible to apply for financial assistance. If a client wishes to apply for financial assistance without paying restitution the Board will review the case and make a determination. The Board will discuss this policy at the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

A motion was made by Chris Grau and seconded by Bob Potts to approve Resolution 2022-07 for the purchase of marketing/advertising for the Cuyahoga County Veterans Service Commission for 2022. This marketing agreement is between the Cuyahoga County Veterans Service Commission and the Cleveland Monsters. Expenses not to exceed \$25,000.

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

The idea of scheduling appointments was discussed. It was decided that the Service Officers will test out the option of scheduling appointments three days a week on a rotating basis. The other two days will be dedicated to walk-ins. If a client is a no-show for an appointment the Service Officer will be expected to assist in clearing the waiting room.

F. Williams introduced the idea of a new program. Details will be worked out and presented to the Board to offer childcare for veterans that are looking for a job or while they get on their feet as they start a new job.

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

Commissioner Grau will be on vacation the first two weeks in June and may miss the first two meetings.

Commissioner Riley will be on vacation later in July and will miss two weeks.

Director Reiss will be attending conference in D.C. the week of July 13, 2022.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

A motion was made by Chris Grau and seconded by Bob Potts to go into Executive Session to meet potential candidates for Veterans Service Officer and to discuss a certain personnel matter –discipline.

AYES: Grau, Pocci, Potts, Riley. NAYS: None. Motion carried. (10:28 a.m.)

The Board came out of Executive Session and returned to the regular order of business at 1:05 p.m. In Executive Session the Board met with two potential candidates for Veterans Service Officer and discussed certain personnel matter regarding discipline. The Executive Director was advised how to proceed.

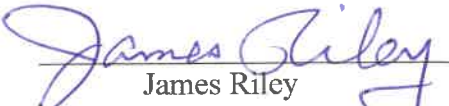
A motion was made by James Riley by Bob Potts to authorize the Director to bring on Jerry Dickens in the roll of Veterans Service Officer, with a probationary period of one (1) year.

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

With no further business, a motion was made by Bob Potts and seconded by Chris Grau to adjourn the meeting at 1:06 p.m.

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


Frank Pocci, President


James Riley
for Mel Baher, Secretary

CONTACT INFORMATION

Requests for Financial Assistance/
Filing claims with the Dept. of
Veterans' Affairs/Memorial Affairs:
Finance Dept.:
Executive Director:
Deputy Director:
Commissioners:

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)