



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: October 5, 2022 9:30 a.m.

PRESENT: Bob Potts, Vice President
Mel Baher, Secretary
Christopher Grau, Commissioner
James Riley, Commissioner
Feronne Williams, Deputy Director
Mary Kitko, Executive Secretary – via Zoom
Matthew Convery, Assistant County Prosecutor

EXCUSED: Frank Pocci, President
Jon Reiss, Executive Director

VISITORS: None.

PURPOSE: GENERAL MONTHLY MEETING

The meeting was called to order by Bob Potts, Vice President.

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).

OLD BUSINESS:

Deputy Director F. Williams proposed making a scheduling change. All VSC offices would be closed for lunch at the same time. This change will make it easier for planning and scheduling and easier for clients to know when someone will be out of the office. The board agreed to the change, effective November 1, 2022, on a trial basis. Signs will be ordered to notify the public as soon as possible.

NEW BUSINESS:

A motion was made by Mel Baher and seconded by Chris Grau to approve Resolution 2022-17 for the purchase of meals for meetings and items used for team building and staff incentive, not to exceed \$15,000 foy year 2023.

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

The Board discussed events for Veterans Day. The option to host a shared event with the Joint Veterans Council was discussed. Discussion will continue at future meetings.

Commissioner Grau shared information he received regarding claims for time spent at Camp Lejeune. The DAV has confirmed that if a veteran is receiving VA disability or healthcare their benefits may be affected by a Camp Lejeune claim. The veterans should be informed that social security benefits may also be affected and that any award will be taxable.

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

M. Convery mentioned that Cuyahoga County offers many programs for management/staff training. He suggested the VSC take advantage of these programs, especially those dealing with bargaining units.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

A motion was made by Mel Baher and seconded by Chris Grau to go into Executive Session to discuss certain personnel matters – compensation and employment.

AYES: Baher, Grau, Potts, Riley. NAYS: None. Motion carried. (10:07 a.m.)

The Board came out of Executive Session and returned to the regular order of business at 11:46 a.m. In Executive Session the Board discussed certain personnel matters – compensation and employment. The Deputy Director was advised how to proceed.

A motion was made by Chris Grau and seconded by James Riley to issue a one-time supplemental pay correction to P. Galbraith, C. Kehoe and P. Smith for temporary duties performed due to staffing circumstances.

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

With no further business, a motion was made by Mel Baher and seconded by James Riley to adjourn the meeting at 11:47 a.m.

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



Bob Potts, Vice President



Mel Baher, Secretary

CONTACT INFORMATION

Filing claims with the Dept. of

Veterans' Affairs/Memorial Affairs:

Financial Assistance Manager:

Finance/Operations Manager:

Executive Director:

Deputy Director:

Commissioners:

Melinda Halliburton, Service Office Mgr. (216-698-2639)

Jeanne Bell (216)-698-2635

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)