



American Legion
MEL BAHER
COMMISSIONER



American Veterans
FRANK POCCI
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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JON REISS
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

FERONNE WILLIAMS
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

MINUTES

DATE/TIME: December 21, 2022 9:30 a.m.

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

EXCUSED: None.

VISITORS: Amos Turner

PURPOSE: GENERAL MONTHLY MEETING

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

A motion was made by Mel Baher 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). Motion seconded by Chris Grau. Discussion: None.

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

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Multiple employee policies were presented to the Board and discussed.

A motion was made by Bob Potts to adopt all policies that were discussed and updated with the necessary corrections and/or additions. Motion seconded by Chris Grau. Discussion: None.

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

The Executive Director presented a proposal for Community Veteran Liaisons. The liaisons will help with community outreach to increase awareness of the Veterans Service Commission.

A motion was made by Mel Baher to accept the proposal for Community Veteran Liaison with modifications as they develop. Motion seconded by Bob Potts. Discussion: None

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

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

Commissioner Pocci distributed boots to several veterans. Mr. Pocci noted that the shoe sizes on the box did not correspond with the sizes on the boots. Also discussed were options for homeless veterans and whether there are beds available in the shelters.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

A motion was made by Chris Grau to go into Executive Session to discuss certain personnel matters regarding compensation and employment and client cases and appeals. Motion seconded by Mel Baher.

AYES: Baher, Grau, Pocci, Potts, Riley. NAYS: None. Motion carried. (10:21 a.m.)

The Board came out of Executive Session and returned to the regular order of business at 12:40 p.m. In Executive Session the Board discussed certain personnel matters regarding compensation and employment and client cases and appeals.

A motion was made by Mel Baher to authorize the Director to adjust the market correction rate for non-bargaining employees to match the rate authorized by the county. Motion seconded by Bob Potts. Discussion: None.

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

A motion was made by Mel Baher to post an internal position for outreach coordinator. Motion seconded by Bob Potts. Discussion: None.

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

A motion was made by Mel Baher to post an external position for an outreach manager. Motion seconded by Bob Potts. Discussion: None.

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

A motion was made by Bob Potts to adjust the sanction period for client Amos Turner from one (1) year to three (3) months, ending on April first. Motion seconded by Mel Baher. Discussion: None.

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

The votes for further assistance, recorded by the Secretary, of the client appeal that was discussed in Executive Session, is attached. The Executive Director and Deputy Director were instructed on how to proceed.

With no further business, a motion was made by Bob Potts to adjourn the meeting at 12:48 p.m. Motion seconded by Chris Grau

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



Frank Pocci, 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)