



American Legion  
**MEL BAHER**  
COMMISSIONER



American Veterans  
**FRANK POCCI**  
COMMISSIONER



Disabled American Veterans  
**VACANT**  
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:** July 5, 2023 9:30 a.m.

**PRESENT:** Bob Potts, President  
Mel Baher, Vice President  
James Riley, Secretary  
Frank Pocci, Commissioner  
Jon Reiss, Executive Director  
Feronne Williams, Deputy Director  
Mary Kitko, Executive Secretary – Via Teams  
Matthew Convery, Assistant County Prosecutor  
Patricia Smith, Administrative Coordinator

**EXCUSED:** None.

**VISITORS:** None.

**PURPOSE:** GENERAL MONTHLY MEETING

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

A motion was made by Frank Pocci 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 Mel Baher. Discussion: None.

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

### COMMISSIONERS REPORTS

#### Mel Baher – American Legion

- June 7, 2023 - attended 13<sup>th</sup> District council meeting held at Post 469  
- assisted with Post Everlasting services by Past Commanders
- June 8, 2023 - attended Post 91 membership meeting held at 7 p.m.  
- presented under financial reports as Post Finance Officer
- June 14, 2023 - participated in annual Post 91 Flag Day ceremonies
- June 22, 2023 - attended Post 91 executive board meeting held at 7:00 p.m.
- June 26, 2023 - attended 13<sup>th</sup> District executive board meeting held at Post 469
- June 29, 2023 - departed for Dayton, Ohio to attend American Legion Department of Ohio Annual Convention. Returned July 2, 2023

Initiated several DD214 requests with Mary at the CCVSC office.

Volunteered at Post 91 with planned activities and work parties, as needed.

Frank Pocci – AMVETS

- attended all scheduled meetings for AMVETS
- scheduled upcoming meetings for Catholic War Veterans

James Riley – VFW

- June 8<sup>th</sup> - performed rifle salute at Rittman National Cemetery
- June 8-11- VFW Convention at Kalahari - gave presentation
- June 11<sup>th</sup> – met with family members of hospitalized Vietnam veteran
- June 12<sup>th</sup> – Guitar for Vets group lessons
- June 13<sup>th</sup> – presided over monthly Joint Veterans Council meeting
- June 14<sup>th</sup> – organized event for 200 people – naturalization ceremony at the Rock Hall
- June 20<sup>th</sup> – attended VFW monthly meeting at Post 2533
- June 20<sup>th</sup> – visited a veteran in the nursing home

Designed three Battlefield crosses for deceased veteran's families

Bob Potts – VVA

- Nothing to report due to medical appointments

**OLD BUSINESS**

None.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

None.

**GOOD OF THE ORDER:**

None.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

A motion was made by Frank Pocci to go into Executive Session to consider employment of a public employee and to prepare for collective bargaining strategy. Motion seconded by Mel Baher.

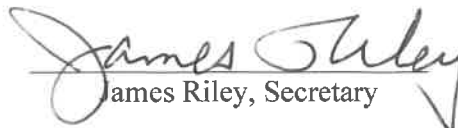
AYES: Baher, Pocci, Potts, Riley. NAYS: None. Motion carried. (9:36 a.m.)

The Board came out of Executive Session and returned to the regular order of business at 11:30 a.m. In Executive Session the Board discussed preparations for collective bargaining and employment of a public employee.

With no further business, a motion was made by Frank Pocci to adjourn the meeting at 11:32 a.m. Motion seconded by Jim Riley.

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

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Bob Potts, President

  
James Riley, Secretary

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

Filing claims with the Dept. of  
Veterans' Affairs/Memorial Affairs:  
Financial Assistance Manager:  
Financial Operations Manager:  
Executive Director:  
Deputy Director:  
Commissioners:

Melinda Halliburton, Service Office Mgr. (216-698-2639)  
Jeanne Bell (216-698-2635)  
Colleen Kehoe (216-698-2392)  
Jon Reiss (216-698-2611)  
Feronne Williams (216-698-3845)  
Mary Kitko, Secretary to the Board (216-698-2651)