



American Legion
MEL BAHER
 COMMISSIONER



American Veterans
FRANK POCCHI
 COMMISSIONER



Disabled American Veterans
LENON WRIGHT
 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

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 Email: vscmail@cuyahogacounty.us
 1849 Prospect Avenue • Suite 150 • Cleveland, OH 44115

MINUTES

DATE/TIME: August 21, 2024 9:30 a.m.

PRESENT: Mel Baher, President
 James Riley, Vice President
 Frank Pocci, Secretary
 Lenon Wright, Commissioner
 Bob Potts, Commissioner
 Jon Reiss, Executive Director
 Feronne Williams, Deputy Director
 Mary Kitko, Executive Secretary
 Craig Morice, Assistant County Prosecutor

EXCUSED: None.

VISITORS: None.

PURPOSE: GENERAL MONTHLY MEETING

The meeting was called to order by President Mel Baher with the Pledge of Allegiance. Secretary Frank Pocci called roll.

OLD BUSINESS

The Executive Director gave his weekly building update. The pre-construction meeting will be on Friday, August 23rd. Schedules and timelines will be discussed and the VSC will have the opportunity to give feedback.

Active shooter training went very well. The staff was engaged, and the trainer was very informative. Diversity, Equity and Inclusion training will be held at the Greater Cleveland Foodbank on Friday, September 6, 2024.

Plans for VetConnect 2024 are going well. All items have been ordered and vendors approved. The Executive Director will notify the city of Cleveland and the Metroparks police that the event is going on and traffic may be congested.

Attorney C. Morice is working with the identified law firm to establish a fee schedule for the board to approve.

There is no update regarding the Greater Cleveland Veterans Memorial website MOU.

NEW BUSINESS:

A motion was made by Frank Pocci to approve Resolution 2024-26 providing for the purchase of one Chevrolet Suburban for the Cuyahoga County Veterans Service Commission for the increased demand of usage for outreaches, administration, and travel needs that arise. Expenses not to exceed \$87,000. Motion seconded by Jim Riley. Discussion: None.

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

A motion was made by Lenon Wright to approve Resolution 2024-27 providing for additional funding of a capital fund for the Cuyahoga County Veterans Service Commission headquarters project and authorization to reallocate up to \$1,250,000 from the 2024 current budget to the capital fund. Motion seconded by Bob Potts. Discussion: None.

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

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

Deputy Director Williams announced to the Board that the CCVSC's first participant in the vocational program graduated from the Truck Driving Academy on August 1, 2024. Mr. Williams also notified the Board of changes in the Service Department.

Commissioner Pocci attended the D-Day Ceremony in Conneaut, Ohio. The event was well attended and very nice.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

A motion was made by Frank Pocci to go into Executive Session to consider employment of a public employee, to discuss pending court action and a matter to be kept confidential. Motion seconded by Jim Riley.

AYES: Baher, Pocci, Potts, Riley, Wright. NAYS: None. Motion carried. (10:51 a.m.)


The Board came out of Executive Session and returned to the regular order of business at 11:28 a.m. In Executive Session the Board discussed employment of a public employee, a pending court action and a matter to be kept confidential.

With no further business, a motion was made by Jim Riley to adjourn the meeting at 11:29 a.m. Motion seconded by Lenon Wright.

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



Mel Baher, President



Frank Pocci, Secretary

CONTACT INFORMATION

Filing claims with the Dept. of

Veterans' Affairs/Memorial Affairs:

Financial Assistance Manager:

Executive Director:

Deputy Director:

Commissioners:

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

Jeanne Bell (216)-698-2635

Jon Reiss (216-698-2611)

Feronne Williams (216-698-3845)

Mary Kitko, Secretary to the Board (216-698-2651)