



American Legion  
**MEL BAHER**  
COMMISSIONER



American Veterans  
**FRANK POCCI**  
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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1849 Prospect Avenue • Suite 150 • Cleveland, OH 44115

### MINUTES

**DATE/TIME:** January 8, 2025 9:36 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

**EXCUSED:** None.

**VISITORS:** None.

**PURPOSE:** GENERAL MONTHLY MEETING

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

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Election of Officers on the CCVSC Board

A motion was made by Frank Pocci to elect the following officers on the CCVSC Board for Year 2025, using the guideline established in January 2007. There were no other nominations. Motion seconded by Bob Potts. Discussion: None.

<b>President</b>	<b>James Riley (VFW)</b>
<b>Vice President</b>	<b>Frank Pocci (AMVETS)</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Lenon Wright (DAV)</b>

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

A motion was made by Lenon Wright to approve Resolution 2025-06 requesting authority for the Executive Director, Deputy Director, and the leadership team to attend conferences and training seminars as necessary to enhance veterans services throughout Cuyahoga County for the year 2025, expenses not to exceed \$50,000. Discussion: The types of training and frequency were discussed.

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

A motion was made by Jim Riley to approve the Policy to Adopt the 2025 Holiday Schedule. Motion seconded by Bob Potts. Discussion: None.

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

The National Day of Mourning for President Jimmy Carter was discussed. As a military organization, the decision was made to comply with the National Day of Mourning issued by President Biden. The Cuyahoga County Veterans Service Commission will be closed on Thursday, January 8, 2025.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

A motion was made by Bob Potts to go into Executive Session to consider discipline and compensation of a public employee. Motion seconded by Lenon Wright.

AYES: Baher, Pocci, Potts, Riley, Wright. NAYS: None. Motion carried. (9:47 a.m.)

The Board came out of Executive Session and returned to the regular order of business at 10:30 a.m. In Executive Session the Board discussed discipline and compensation of a public employee.

A motion was made by Lenon Wright to approve Resolution 2025-07. Discussion: None.

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

After reviewing the information presented, the board has made the decision to temporarily move JoAnne Boulter to the position of Office Support Specialist.

With no further business, a motion was made by Bob Potts to adjourn the meeting at 12:01 p.m. Motion seconded by Lenon Wright.

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

  
Jim Riley, President

  
Lenon Wright, 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)

Geniece Garner (216)-698-4955

Jon Reiss (216-698-2611)

Feronne Williams (216-698-3845)

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