Jim Hoessle
President

Curt Schwehm
Commissioner

Phillip Grassa
Vice President

Mark Roberts
Secretary

John Lawrence
Commissioner

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November 15, 2024

Minutes for the Medina County Veterans Service Commission Meeting November 14, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by the President, Mr. Hoessle, who called for the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Grassa, Mr. Schwehm, Mr. Lawrence and Mr. Roberts were present.

At 4:10 p.m., Mr. Roberts moved, and Mr. Schwehm seconded a motion to enter executive session to discuss confidential personnel matters. Motion carried.

Mr. Grassa Yes
Mr. Roberts Yes
Mr. Lawrence Yes
Mr. Schwehm Yes

At 4:24 p.m., executive session ended.

The minutes from the October 10, 2024, regular meeting were read. Mr. Grassa moved, and Mr. Schwehm seconded the motion to accept the minutes as read. Motion passed.

No appeals were presented to the Commission:

Operational bills were presented to the Commissioners in the amount of $53,350.44. Mr. Roberts moved, and Mr. Schwehm seconded the motion to accept and pay the bills as presented; motion carried. *(Resolution #092-11-24)*

Demand operational bills paid prior to the board meeting in the amount of $11,861.53 were reviewed by the Commissioners. Mr. Schwehm moved, and Mr. Grassa seconded the motion to accept the paid bills as presented; motion carried. *(Resolution #093-11-24)*

Financial assistance investigations were conducted, and financial assistance was granted. There was a total of 17 cases. Mr. Grassa moved, and Mr. Lawrence seconded the motion to accept cases, pay bills, and process cash grants totaling $23,772.29; motion carried. *(Resolution #094-11-24)*

Demand financial assistance paid prior to the board meeting in the amount of $5,714.27 were reviewed by the Commissioners. Mr. Lawrence moved, and Mr. Roberts seconded the motion to accept the paid emergency assistance as presented; motion carried. *(Resolution #095-11-24)*

Indigent burial: One indigent burial application for Mr. Roger A. Teel was presented to the board. Mr. Grassa moved, and Mr. Lawrence seconded the motion to assist with paying $1,000.00 for the unpaid funeral expenses for Mr. Roger A. Teel; motion carried. *(Resolution #096-11-24)*

RESOLUTIONS:

Mr. Lawrence moved, and Mr. Roberts seconded a motion to accept the 2025 transit contract as presented. Motion passed. *(Resolution #097-11-24)*

Mr. Roberts moved, and Mr. Schwehm seconded a motion to approve issuing a check to Veterans who have been affected by a house fire. The amount will be based on the family size, $1,000.00 per adult and $500.00 per child living in the home. Motion passed. *(Resolution #098-11-24)*

Mr. Schwehm moved, and Mr. Lawrence seconded a motion to issue a Christmas check to financial assistance clients who have children and requested financial assistance from August through now. Check will be based on $75.00 per child. Motion passed. *(Resolution #099-11-24)*

Mr. Grassa moved, and Mr. Lawrence seconded a motion to purchase 200 Holiday meat vouchers at $35.00 each for veterans for Christmas. Motion passed. *(Resolution #100-11-24)*

Mr. Roberts moved, and Mr. Schwehm seconded a 4% COLA raise for all full-time employees effective January 1, 2025, or after their 6 month probationary period. The Office Manager will receive a 5%, 10-year anniversary raise effective April 6, 2025. All part-time employees will be paid $16.50 per hour effective January 1, 2025. Motion passed. *(Resolution #101-11-24)*

Mr. Grassa moved, and Mr. Lawrence seconded a motion to hire Kirstyn Martin for $19.00 per hr. She will not receive a raise on January 1, 2025. Motion passed. *(Resolution #102-11-24)*

SERVICE OFFICER'S REPORT

Client data for the month of October 2024:

- 1 new applicant for financial assistance and 16 old cases for a total of 17 cases
- 0 ineligible financial assistance applications
- 58 Compensation and Pension claims filed with the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)
- 148 appointments
- 79 van riders

MCVSO, NACVSO, OSACVSO & OSACVSC

Future Trainings and Funding:

CVSC

- Nov 22-24, 2024 - Fall Conference

EVENTS

Past:

- October 11, 2024 – Senior Day at Wadsworth Suprema Center
- October 12-13, 2024 – Fall Foliage Tour
- October 15, 2024 – Speaker Series at Western Reserve Masonic
- November 6, 2024 – Train ride CVRR
- November 6, 2024 – Veteran Concert at St. Francis Xavier Church
- November 8, 2024 – Lunch at Medina Co. Career Center for Veterans
- November 9, 2024 – Veteran event at Memorial Hall
- November 10, 2024 – Veteran concert at Performing Arts Center (½ of proceeds to memorial fund)
- November 11, 2024 – Veterans Day
- November 13, 2024 – Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for office

Future:

- December 7, 2024 – Tank the Truck 10am – 2pm at MCVSO
- December 17, 2024 – Christmas food bag giveaway at MCVSO

TRAVEL

- December 6, 2024 – OSACVSO Education meeting

COMMISSIONERS ACTIVITY REPORT

American Legion Representative (Mr. Grassa): VSO: Monthly Meeting, new employee interviews (x2), ribbon cutting. American Legion: Member funeral, Monthly meeting, H.G. Duties at Rittman, Memorial Day. VFW: Monthly Meeting. Veterans Hall: Fall Foliage tour, Open house.

AMVETS Representative (Mr. Roberts): VSO: New employee interviews (x2), Veterans Day activities, ribbon cutting.

Vietnam Veterans of America (VVA) Representative (Mr. Lawrence): VSO: New employee interviews (x2), Green light proclamation at Commissioners meeting, ribbon cutting. VVA #385: Life member. VFW Post #5137: Life member, monthly meeting, Honor Guard. American Legion #202: Life member.

Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Representative (Mr. Hoessle): American Legion Post #202: Honor guard, monthly meeting, Buckeye Boys State. VFW Post #5137: Honor guard, building and grounds maintenance, service officer, and boy scout troop advisor, monthly meeting. VVA: Life member. Valor Court: Mentor. VSO: Monthly meeting, employee interviews (x2), ribbon cutting.

Disabled American Veterans (DAV) Representative (Mr. Schwehm): DAV: Adjutant & Treasurer, Fall conference & training, Fall Foliage tour, monthly meeting. VSO: Monthly meeting, ribbon cutting, VA benefits brief/Open House.

CORRESPONDENCE

- Mail: Health Dept – Mental Health & Addiction – collaboration with our agency. Letter about Ohio Dental. Thank you card from Mr. & Mrs. Charles Walker. Suicide Prevention Walk- thank you card. Vietnam commemoration certificate.

OLD BUSINESS

- Hired Kirstyn Martin for intake position.
- Signs for the front door & directions into the office are ordered.
- Received tables & chairs for the community room.
- Benches ordered for outside.
- Addressing security system issues.
- Locks changed and pressure test completed.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Salary discussion.
- Christmas names for local Posts.

CLOSING

- Time sheets were checked and verified.
- The next regular meeting will be Thursday, December 12, 2024, at 4:00 p.m.
- At 5:03 p.m. there was no further business to come before the board. Mr. Schwehm moved, and Mr. Grassa seconded a motion to adjourn; motion carried.

PRESIDENT Wyatt Hamlin 12.12.24

SECRETARY Mark A. Schwehm

CLERK Sue Boggs

DATE 12/12/2024