Jim Hoessle
President

Curt Schwehm
Commissioner

Phillip Grassa
Vice President

Mark Roberts
Secretary

John Lawrence
Commissioner

Medina County Veterans Service Commission

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February 14, 2025

Minutes for the Medina County Veterans Service Commission Meeting February 13, 2025

The meeting was called to order at 3:58 p.m. by the President, Mr. Hoessle, who called for the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Grassa, Mr. Schwehm, and Mr. Lawrence were present. Mr. Roberts was excused.

At 4:08 p.m., Mr. Schwehm moved, and Mr. Lawrence seconded a motion to enter into executive session to discuss financial assistance for applicants. Motion carried.

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

At 4:13 p.m., executive session ended.

The minutes from the January 9, 2025, regular meeting were read. Mr. Grassa moved, and Mr. Schwehm seconded the motion to accept the minutes as read. Motion passed.

Appeals presented to the Commission:

Name	Present	Granted	Resolution #
1. John Demaria	No	Yes	021-02-25

Operational bills were presented to the Commissioners in the amount of $11,045.13. Mr. Lawrence moved, and Mr. Grassa seconded the motion to accept and pay the bills as presented; motion carried. *(Resolution #015-02-25)*

Demand operational bills paid prior to the board meeting in the amount of $17,138.19 were reviewed by the Commissioners. Mr. Grassa moved, and Mr. Schwehm seconded the motion to accept the paid bills as presented; motion carried. *(Resolution #016-02-25)*

Financial assistance investigations were conducted, and financial assistance was granted. There was a total of 36 cases. Mr. Lawrence moved, and Mr. Grassa seconded the motion to accept

cases, pay bills, and process cash grants totaling $22,862.67; motion carried. *(Resolution #017-02-25)*

Demand financial assistance paid prior to the board meeting in the amount of $13,608.78 were reviewed by the Commissioners. Mr. Grassa moved, and Mr. Schwehm seconded the motion to accept the paid emergency assistance as presented; motion carried. *(Resolution #018-02-25)*

Procurement card invoice paid prior to the board meeting in the amount of $284.61 was presented to the board. Mr. Schwehm moved, and Mr. Lawrence seconded the motion to accept the paid procurement card invoice as presented; motion carried. *(Resolution #019-02-25)*

Indigent burial: One indigent burial application for Mrs. Julie Horner was presented to the board. Mr. Schwehm moved, and Mr. Lawrence seconded the motion to assist with paying $1,000.00 for the unpaid funeral expenses for Mrs. Julie Horner; motion carried. *(Resolution #020-02-25)*

RESOLUTIONS:

Mr. Lawrence moved, and Mr. Schwehm seconded a motion to approve all changes made to the Medina County Veterans Service Office Standard Operating Procedures and Policy Manual from Section 1.1 to Section 4.1.1. Motion passed. *(Resolution #022-02-25)*

Mr. Lawrence moved, and Mr. Schwehm seconded a motion to approve the changes made to the Financial Assistance section (4.1) of the Medina County Veterans Service Office Standard Operating Procedures and Policy Manual. Motion passed. *(Resolution #023-02-25)*

Mr. Schwehm moved, and Mr. Grassa seconded a motion to purchase food for Vietnam Day (03/27/2025), not to exceed $750.00. Motion passed. *(Resolution #024-02-25)*

Mr. Schwehm moved, and Mr. Lawrence seconded a motion to purchase $5,000.00 of Meijer's food gift cards. Motion passed. *(Resolution #025-02-25)*

Mr. Grassa moved, and Mr. Schwehm seconded a motion to pay for Ed Zackery to attend the NACVSO Leadership Summit in April 2025. Motion passed. *(Resolution #026-02-25)*

SERVICE OFFICER'S REPORT

Client data for the month of January 2025:

- 0 new applicants for financial assistance and 36 old cases for a total of 36 cases
- 0 ineligible financial assistance applications
- 87 Compensation and Pension claims filed with the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)
- 219 appointments
- 91 van riders

MCVSO, NACVSO, OSACVSO & OSACVSC
Future Trainings and Funding:

CVSO:
February 26 & 27, 2025 – De-escalation training - Staff
March 3 & 4, 2025 - CPR/AED & Fire extinguishers - Staff & Drivers
March 7, 2025 - CVSO Winter Quarterly – Ed & Danielle
March 30 – April 4, 2025 – Spring New Service Officers School – Kirstyn
April 6 – 10, 2025 – NACVSO Leadership Summit – Ed
July 13 – 19, 2025 – NACVSO Conference – Ed & Mark in person, Danielle & Sue online

CVSC:
March 28-29, 2025 – OSACVSC Spring Conference – Mark, Curt, Phil, Jim & John

EVENTS
Past:

- January 28, 2025 – Purple Heart Presentation - MCVSO
- February 5, 2025 – Ohio Veterans Home tour – Staff & Commissioners
- February 7, 2025 – Presentation at Broadway Creek Assisted Living – Mark & Jason

Future:

- February 26, 2025 – Brief County Commissioners end of year report
- March 1, 2025 – Celebration for S. Jeziorski turning 100 years old
- March 5, 2025 – tED Talk
- March 26, 2025 – Brunswick Senior Expo and Bake off
- March 27, 2025 – Vietnam Day ceremony & luncheon
- April 25, 2025 – Veterans Banquet
- May 16, 2025 – Merchant Marine Plaque Dedication at Chippewa Lake

Programs:

- Unleashed Creativity (Art class)
- Reflexology
- tED Talks
- Tai Chi

TRAVEL

- April 6 - April 10, 2025 - NACVSO Leadership Summit

COMMISSIONERS ACTIVITY REPORT
American Legion Representative (Mr. Grassa): VSO: Monthly meeting, visit to the State Home for Veterans in Sandusky. American Legion: Meet and deliver assistance to a veteran and his wife in need, monthly meeting, Flag Manager, Service Officer, Veteran Needs Coordinator for Purple Heart Homes (working with a Medina Vet to get a new bathroom). VFW: Monthly meeting, Life Member, Membership Officer, Funeral of fallen veteran/member .
AMVETS Representative (Mr. Roberts): VSO: Monthly meeting, Coalition meeting. AMVETS: Monthly meeting.

Vietnam Veterans of America (VVA) Representative (Mr. Lawrence): VSO: Monthly meeting, visit to the State Home for Veterans in Sandusky. VVA #385: Life member, monthly meeting. VFW Post #5137: Life member, monthly meeting, Honor Guard, event planning committee. DAV Post #72: Life member. American Legion #202: Annual member.
Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Representative (Mr. Hoessle): American Legion Post #202: Honor guard, life member, Buckeye Boys State. VFW Post #5137: Honor Guard, building and grounds maintenance, life member, and boy scout troop advisor, monthly meeting. VVA: Life member. Valor Court: Mentor. VSO: Monthly meeting, visit to the State Home for Veterans in Sandusky.
Disabled American Veterans (DAV) Representative (Mr. Schwehm): DAV: Monthly meeting. VSO: Monthly meeting, visit to the State Home for Veterans in Sandusky.

CORRESPONDENCE

- Mail: None
- Email: None

OLD BUSINESS

- Community Room outside door strike is sticking, being addressed
- Heating/cooling system is still being reviewed and worked on
- Handicap buttons at front door still are not working, being addressed
- Planning to have Vietnam Memorial cleaned in the Spring

NEW BUSINESS:

- SNAP & FA Guidelines – discussed changes for 2025
- Renewing our ads for the Image Builders Magazines (there are 4 of them in the County)
- Jason is reviewing Sgt Smart ads & will brief next month
- Driver's SOP has been completed
- Garage door damage total is $1,426.41
- May be changing email to .gov
- Home Depot wants to help veterans with projects
- Inventory is complete, CPU's listed on auction site
- The following needs to be purchased for the building:
    - Standing pamphlet holder for Community room
    - Wall mounted pamphlet holder for waiting room
    - Dell monitors (2)
    - Dell docking stations (4) (backups, already had 2 original stop working)
    - Stacking chairs for community room (10)
    - Desk and cabinet for community room
    - Power back ups (2)
- Emergency Housing Shelter – should be opening this month. We will provide an intake pack and if they complete the entire process successfully, we will provide a take home pack for their new place of residence and provide FA if our requirements are met
- SOP review / Sunshine Laws – timeline to complete
- State and County reports – Feb 26th Ed is briefing the County Commissioners
- 2025 Handbook and updated pamphlets are completed

- Received five $50 WalMart gift cards from DAVA#72 to give to veterans/families in need

CLOSING

- Time sheets were checked and verified.
- The next regular meeting will be Thursday, March 13, 2025, at 4:00 p.m.
- At 5:05 p.m. there was no further business to come before the board. Mr. Grassa moved, and Mr. Schwehm seconded a motion to adjourn; motion carried.

PRESIDENT _____

SECRETARY _____

CLERK Sue Boggs

DATE 3/13/2025