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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September 6, 2025

Minutes for the Medina County Veterans Service Commission Meeting September 5, 2025

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 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.

The minutes from the August 14, 2025, regular meeting were read. Mr. Schwehm moved, and Mr. Grassa seconded the motion to accept the minutes as read with a correction noted. Motion passed.

Appeals presented to the Commission: NONE

Operational bills were presented to the Commissioners in the amount of $9,278.92. Mr. Lawrence moved, and Mr. Roberts seconded the motion to accept and pay the bills as presented; motion carried. *(Resolution #076-09-25)*

Demand operational bills paid prior to the board meeting in the amount of $9,115.21 were reviewed by the Commissioners. Mr. Roberts moved, and Mr. Schwehm seconded the motion to accept the paid bills as presented; motion carried. *(Resolution #077-09-25)*

Financial assistance investigations were conducted, and financial assistance was granted. There was a total of 39 cases. Mr. Roberts moved, and Mr. Grassa seconded the motion to accept cases, pay bills, and process cash grants totaling $20,784.81; motion carried. *(Resolution #078-09-25)*

Demand financial assistance paid prior to the board meeting in the amount of $15,070.33 were reviewed by the Commissioners. Mr. Lawrence moved, and Mr. Grassa seconded the motion to accept the paid emergency assistance as presented; motion carried. *(Resolution #079-09-25)*

Procurement card invoice paid prior to the board meeting in the amount of $271.46 was presented to the board. Mr. Grassa moved, and Mr. Lawrence seconded the motion to accept the paid procurement card invoice as presented; motion carried. *(Resolution #080-09-25)*

Meijer food cards totaling $510.00 were given to financial assistance applicants prior to the board meeting. Mr. Grassa moved, and Mr. Lawrence seconded the motion to approve food card total as presented; motion carried. *(Resolution #081-09-25)*

RESOLUTIONS:

A motion was made by Mr. Grassa and seconded by Mr. Lawrence to move $15,000.00 from the "Vehicle" account to the "Advertising/Printing" account and $20,000.00 from the "Vehicle" account to the "Other" account. Motion passed. *(Resolution #082-09-25)*

Mr. Schwehm moved, and Mr. Grassa seconded the motion to purchase hors d'oeuvres for a Brunswick Chamber event on November 6, 2025, for no more than $500.00. Motion passed. *(Resolution #083-09-25)*

Mr. Roberts moved, and Mr. Schwehm seconded the motion to move forward with Eppolito Signs to add signage to the outside doors in the new section of the building and a new building sign in front of the building for $1,160.00. Motion passed. *(Resolution #084-09-25)*

Mr. Schwehm moved, and Mr. Lawrence seconded the motion to purchase 2 storage cabinets for the garage totaling $1,618.00 and additional rubber floor pieces for the garage floor. Motion passed. *(Resolution # 085-09-25)*

Mr. Grassa moved, and Mr. Roberts seconded a motion to issue a Christmas check in December to Veterans using our Financial Assistance program who have children. Check will be based on $100.00 per child in each family. Motion passed. *(Resolution #086-09-25)*

Mr. Roberts moved, and Mr. Schwehm seconded the motion to purchase 250 holiday meat certificates at $35.00 each for Christmas handouts. Motion passed. *(Resolution #087-09-25)*

SERVICE OFFICER'S REPORT

Client data for the month of August 2025:

- 3 new applicants for financial assistance and 36 old cases for a total of 39 cases
- 0 ineligible financial assistance applications
- 93 Compensation and Pension claims filed with the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)
- 203 appointments
- 49 van riders
- 1 Veteran at Next Step Up (Medina County shelter)

MCVSO, NACVSO, OSACVSO & OSACVSC

Future Trainings and Funding:

CVSO:

September 9 - 12, 2025 – OSACVSO Fall Quarterly Training – Ed, Mark, Danielle
Online training: Nepotism, Recognizing Impairment in the Workplace, The Ohio Ethics Law: Searching for Ethics

CVSC:

November 21 – 23, 2025 – OSACVSC Fall Conference – Mark Roberts, John Lawrence, Curt Schwehm.

Online training: Nepotism, communicating in a Crisis, Recognizing Impairment in the Workplace, The Ohio Ethics Law: Searching for Ethics

EVENTS

Past:

- August 15 – 17, 2025 - Colors of Honor
- August 18, 2025 – Sharon Ray & Max Miller @ Medina VFW
- August 20, 2025 – Business at the Barn
- August 26, 2025 – ODVS Director's Lunch

Future:

- September 19, 2025 – POW/MIA Day @ MCVSO
- September 21, 2025 – Suicide Walk – Medina Square
- September 24, 2025 – Bridge Event @ Medina Eagles
- September 25, 2025 - Workforce Housing Gathering, Medina
- September 28, 2025 – Gold Star Mother's Day – York Twp
- October 10, 2025 – Senior Expo @ Suprema Center, Wadsworth
- October 22, 1015 – Veteran's Appreciation Breakfast - Brunswick
- November 6, 2025 – Brunswick Chamber event @ Brunswick VFW

Programs:

- Unleashed Creativity (Art class)
- Guitars for Vets
- Reflexology
- tED Talks
- Tai Chi (postponed for September)
- VA Outreach nurses weekly
- VA Mental Health group sessions (2 times a month)

TRAVEL

- None

COMMISSIONERS ACTIVITY REPORT

American Legion Representative (Mr. Grassa): VSO: Monthly meeting, Colors of Honor - Brunswick. American Legion: Honor Guard duty, monthly meeting. VFW: Monthly meeting. Veterans Hall: Monthly meeting.
AMVETS Representative (Mr. Roberts): VSO: Monthly meeting, Colors of Honor (2 days). Amvets: Summer cookout, Veterans Rubber Ducks game.
Vietnam Veterans of America (VVA) Representative (Mr. Lawrence): Medical leave – no meetings attended
Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Representative (Mr. Hoessle): American Legion Post #202: Honor guard, monthly meeting, Buckeye Boys State trustee. VFW Post #5137: Honor Guard, Service Officer, building and grounds maintenance, monthly meeting, monitor community service individuals, monitor donations to VFW for veterans, receive deliveries. VVA: Life member. Valor Court: Mentor, meetings. VSO: Monthly meeting.

Disabled American Veterans (DAV) Representative (Mr. Schwehm): DAV: Monthly meeting, assisted another DAV chapter with their financial report. VSO: Monthly meeting, read poem at Colors of Honor, attended TED Talk. Home Corp meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

- Received 6 - $50.00 Walmart gift cards from a private citizen; thank you from Brunswick Mayor Falconi; Thank you from Sharon Ray. Received a participation certificate for the 50th Anniversary Vietnam War Commemoration
- Email: Mike Moses is retiring as legal counsel for OSAVCSO & OSACVSC

OLD BUSINESS

- Ed called ICandi & left message, they do not do large signs, came out to look at job but hasn't sent an estimate.
- #1 Landscaping listed what they would do to update the flower beds in the Vietnam Memorial – can start work in October. Second estimate requested by Lamphear's, they aren't sure they can get the rock that we want
- Someone is being sent to office to see if they can clean the carpets or if the discoloration is from something else
- Tiles in new area are not coming clean, checking to see what can be done for cleaning those
- Date to switch our emails to .gov is Sept. 16, 2025
- Discussed having a BBQ for Veterans Day but it was decided not to go ahead with it
- Discussion with TV5 on marketing scheduled for 9/17/25

NEW BUSINESS:

- Turned off extra cellular phones, which will save $150.00 per month
- Will be ordering new business cards with .gov email on them
- Discussed having a questionnaire mailed/emailed to clients to review their visit to our office

CLOSING

- Time sheets were checked and verified.
- The next regular meeting will be Thursday, October 9, 2025, at 4:00 p.m.
- At 6:38 p.m. there was no further business to come before the board. Mr. Schwehm moved, and Mr. Roberts seconded a motion to adjourn; motion carried.

PRESIDENT Benjamin Hoenke 10-9-25

SECRETARY Mark A Patterson

CLERK Sue Boggs

DATE 10/09/2025