



Randy Schmidt
President

Joe Destro
Vice President

Jim Hoessle
Secretary

Phill Grassa
Commissioner

Jack Forster
Commissioner

Medina County Veterans Service Commission

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May 14, 2021

Minutes for the Medina County Veterans Service Commission Meeting May 13, 2021

Executive Session

At 2:30 pm Mr. Grassa moved, and Mr. Hoessle seconded a motion to enter executive session to discuss certain personnel matters.

Mr. Destro	Yes
Mr. Forster	Yes
Mr. Grassa	Yes
Mr. Hoessle	Yes
Mr. Schmidt	Yes

At 3:15 pm, executive session ended.

The regular meeting was called to order at 4:01 pm by the President, Mr. Schmidt, who called for the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Destro, Mr. Forster, Mr. Grassa, and Mr. Hoessle were present.

The minutes from the April 8, 2021 regular meeting were read by the Commissioners prior to the board meeting. Mr. Destro moved, and Mr. Grassa seconded the motion to accept the April 8, 2021 regular meeting minutes; motion carried.

There were no appeals to be presented to the Commission.

Operational bills were presented to the Commissioners in the amount of \$12,043.34. Mr. Hoessle moved, and Mr. Destro seconded the motion to accept and pay the bills as presented, motion carried. (*Resolution #026-05-21*)

Demand operational bills paid prior to the board meeting in the amount of \$3,106.52 were reviewed by the Commissioners. Mr. Destro moved, and Mr. Hoessle seconded the motion to accept the paid bills as presented, motion carried. (*Resolution #027-05-21*)

Financial assistance investigations were conducted, and financial assistance was granted. There was a total of 15 cases. Mr. Grassa moved, and Mr. Forster seconded the motion to accept cases, pay bills and process cash grants totaling \$7,743.86; motion carried. (*Resolution #028-05-21*)

Dental assistance investigations were conducted, and dental assistance was granted. Mr. Forster moved, and Mr. Grassa seconded the motion to accept cases, pay bills and process cash grants totaling \$1,142.20; motion carried. (*Resolution # 032-05-21*)

Indigent Burial: There were no indigent burial applications to be presented to the Commission.

RESOLUTIONS:

Mr. Hoessle moved, and Mr. Forster seconded the motion to approve the second half of calendar year 2021 travel budget totaling \$8,218.50; motion carried. (*Resolution #029-05-21*)

Mr. Destro moved, and Mr. Forster seconded the motion to approve the 2022 calendar year budget for the Medina County Veterans Service Office; motion carried. (*Resolution #030-05-21*)

Mr. Grassa moved, and Mr. Hoessle seconded the motion to approve effective January 1, 2022, all newly appointed Medina County Veterans Service Commissioners salaries will be \$400.00 per month, and no additional stipends will be paid once the duly elected secretary and president are no longer in said positions; motion carried. (*Resolution #031-05-21*)

SERVICE OFFICER'S REPORT

Client data for the month of April:

- 1 new applicant for financial assistance and 14 old cases for a total of 15 cases
- 0 ineligible financial assistance applications
- 30 Compensation and Pension claims filed with the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA).
- 218 appointments for the month
- 66 van riders
- 400+ phone calls

OSACVSO, NACVSO & OSACVSC

Future Trainings and Funding:

NACVSO

- July 19, 2021 – July 22, 2021 – NACVSO virtual summer conference. (Boggs, Slonaker, & Zackery)

CVSO

- None

CVSC

- July 24, 2021 – Commissioners Summer conference in Columbus, Ohio. (Destro, Forster, Grassa, Hoessle & Schmidt)

EVENTS

Past:

- None

Future:

- May 18, 2021 – Medina County Senior Day drive thru health and resource fair at 10:00 AM in the Medina County fairgrounds parking lot.
- May 31, 2021 – Memorial Day Ceremony featuring the 33 slides at 1:15 PM in the parking lot of the Medina County Vietnam Veterans Memorial.
- June 13, 2021 – Open house for “Women in the Military Day”, 2:00 PM – 6:00 PM at the Medina County Veterans Memorial Hall.

OTHER

Travel:

- None

COMMISSIONERS ACTIVITY REPORT

American Legion Representative (Mr. Grassa): April: (8th) VSO Meeting, VFW Honor Guard at OWRNC, & American Legion Honor Guard at OWRNC, (9th) Met with electrician about repairs at hall, (10th) Met with clients for hall rental & Medina County Veterans Coalition Meeting, (12th) Did partial mailing of raffle tickets for Veterans Halls, had a meeting with the golf course to plan hall event in August, and sold & delivered flags to the Medina VFW, (15th) Installed ramp at the Veterans Hall, (17th) Worked on system Medina Veterans Coalition, (19th) Worked on presentation for upcoming Home Corp meeting, (20th) VSO Budget Meeting, (22nd) Home Corps office work, (28th) Presented Veterans Coalition medals to Buckeye High School graduating Seniors joining the military, (30th) Meeting with roofer for Veterans Hall and worked on Home Corps patio project. May: (1st) American Legion #202 paper shredding, (2nd) Worked on audio equipment and placement locations for Memorial Day, (3rd) Worked on Home Corps patio project, (4th) VFW #5137 Meeting, (6th) Construction of new shred at Veterans Hall, (8th) Home Corps Meeting & Helped VFW’s grand opening of the remodeled pavilion, (10th) Medina Memorial Day Parade Committee Meeting, (11th) Worked on roof repairs at Veteran’s Hall, (12th) Worked on Veterans Hall rental, and (13th) Met with roofer to repair hall roof.

American Veterans (AMVETS) Representative (Mr. Destro): Home Corp Board Meeting, VVA Chapter #385 Membership Meeting, American Legion #234 Membership Meeting, American Legion #234 Board Meeting, VSO Budget Meeting, Assisted with American Legion #202 Paper Shredding Drive and Coordinated with Brunswick American Legion #234 and VFW #9520 on their Hometown Hero banner program.

Disabled American Veterans (DAV) Representative (Mr. Schmidt): January: (14th) VSO Meeting and (19th) DAV Executive Meeting, February: (2nd) VFW Meeting and (25th) Marine Corps League Honor Guard, March: (2nd) VFW Meeting and (16th) Marine Corps League Meeting, April: (6th) VFW Meeting, (8th) VSO Meeting, (9th) Marine Corps League Honor Guard and (10th) Medina County Veterans Coalition Meeting.

Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Representative (Mr. Hoessle): VFW Post 5137: Sr. Vice Commander, Boy Scout Troop 5137 Advisor, Building and Grounds and Honor Guard, American Legion Post 202: Buckeye Boys State Trustee, Treasurer, and Honor Guard, Medina County Veterans Memorial Hall: Commissioner, Treasurer, Building and Grounds, and Vietnam Veterans Association: Life member

Vietnam Veterans of America (VVA) Representative (Mr. Forster): April: (10th) Medina County Veterans Coalition Meeting, (14th) Justice for Veterans, (16th) Justice for Veterans, (17th) American Legion Buckeye Boys State, (26th) Marine Corps League Meeting, and (29th) VFW 5137 Color Guard at OWRNC, May: (1st) American Legion paper shredding, and (4th) Justice for Veterans.

CORRESPONDENCE

- Yes, an envelope from an unknown sender with a bunch of political propaganda written all over it.

OLD BUSINESS

- As of May 13, 2021, the counselor from the Parma Vet Center is all moved out of the office in the Medina County Professional Building.
- Veterans that wish to utilize our riding services through Medina County Public Transit (MCPT), will be required to provide MCPT, their medina county veterans identification card from this point forward.
- The informative signs for the Medina County Vietnam Veteran's Memorial are supposed to be installed by Memorial Day.
- Effective June 2, 2021, our office will fully reopen to the public. Full time employees will be back in the office full time effective June 1, 2021.
- Discussed targeted marketing options.
- Mr. Zackery will pursue an office coin to distribute during our reopening.

NEW BUSINESS

- Our quarterly newsletter was distributed in color. Readers really seem to enjoy it because we have received a lot of great feedback. We plan to continue distributing it in color from this point forward.
- The new Vet Center office is all set up in the Medina County Human Services Building. The Counselors plan to start seeing clients in person within the next two weeks.
- Discussed our reopening policy, which will be posted on our Facebook page as soon as it is approved by the VSO Commission.
- Discussed individual fair schedules and reminded everyone that Monday, August 2, 2021, is Veterans Day at the Medina County Fair.
- Discussed a letter recently composed by several County Veterans Service Office Directors from Northeast Ohio, which was sent to various Ohio officials, to include the Ohio Governor Mike Dewine and Ohio Department of Veterans Services Director Deborah Ashenurst. The letter addresses the need for an Ohio Veterans Home in Northeast Ohio and requests any guidance and/or support necessary to fulfill the need from the respected recipient.
- Discussed federal corona virus funds as well as the need to expand and modernize our building.
- Informed Commissioners that the County plans to redo our parking lot this summer. Not sure if or how the construction will affect our office's daily operations, but we will adjust accordingly if need be.

CLOSING

- Time sheets were checked and verified.
- The next regular meeting will be Thursday, June 10, 2021, at 4:00 PM.
- At 4:47 pm there was no further business to come before the board, Mr. Hoessle moved, and Mr. Destro seconded a motion to adjourn; motion carried.

PRESIDENT _____

SECRETARY ^{P. Brown} *Jane Brown* _____

CLERK *Jennifer Straker* _____

DATE *6/10/2021* _____



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Secretary



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President



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May 13, 2021

Resolution # 031-05-21

SUBJECT: Veterans Service Commissioners Salary

FOR: Medina County Commissioners & Auditor's Office

On May 13, 2021, the Medina County Veterans Service Commissioners voted in favor to fix the monthly compensation for each newly appointed Veterans Service Commissioner effective January 1, 2022, to the amount of \$400.00 per month.

Furthermore, they also voted in favor of discontinuing the additional monthly stipends for the president and secretary when a new commissioner is elected to those positions.

Vote:

Randall Schmidt – Yes
Joe Destro – Yes
Jim Hoessle – Yes
Jack Forster – Yes
Phill Grassa - Yes

Respectfully,

Randall Schmidt
President, Veterans Service Commission
Medina County, Ohio