

Commissioner James G. "Grant" Wells called the Clark County Veterans Service Commission (VSC) meeting to order at 8:30a.m. on 27 January 2022. Commissioners present: Bill McGee, James G. "Grant" Wells, James R. Ryan, Thomas O'Neal and Ronald Coss. Assistant Director Crystal Baker was also present.

The *Pledge of Allegiance* was recited.

Reading and Approval of Minutes: Tom O'Neal moved to dispense with the reading of the Minutes of 20 January 2022 and approve them as written. The motion was seconded by Jim Ryan and carried by a unanimous vote.

**Assistant Director Updates:** Ms. Baker advised the board that the county does not pay when a county employee is off for COVID or during a quarantine period. Mr. Wells stated, "Just because the county doesn't pay doesn't mean we can't". Mr. Ryan stated he believes it should start over every year. Mr. O'Neal said it should start over for this year and we will revisit it again next year. Ron Coss moved to extend the Families First Coronavirus Act until December 31, 2022 to allow for up to forty hours of paid sick leave when an employee is unable to work due to being quarantined. The motion was seconded by Tom O'Neal and carried by a unanimous vote.

Ms. Baker informed the board members that she received an email from Kim Frisco, the director of the Montgomery County Veterans Office, informing that the National Archives and Records Administration plans to reduce staffing at the Records Personnel Center (NPRC) to 25%. Ms. Baker also advised the board this is where the office requests DD214 for veterans. Members of Congress to include Congressman Davidson have signed a letter to the Archivist of the United States National Archives and Records Administration stating how this delay is unacceptable and has severely impacted veterans across the nation. The members of Congress are requesting that the NPRC re-open to full capacity and remediate its backlog. Mr. O'Neal stated that we can always contact Post 1031 because they keep all DD214's they receive. Mr. Wells stated he believes AMVETS Posts keep theirs as well.

Ms. Baker advised the board members that the OSACVSO Winter Quarterly has been scheduled for in person in Columbus on 4 March 2022.

Ms. Baker passed around a thank you letter addressed to Brent Wright thanking him for providing food boxes during the holiday season. All of the board members signed the letter.

Executive Director Catherine Wood joined the meeting.

**Executive Director Updates:** Ms. Wood has been unable to complete the update on the VSC guidelines due to being out of the office this week for illness. She will have an update at the next meeting.

Ms. Wood is still working on getting an appointment with Dan Harkins to discuss ORC 5901.16, 22, 23, 24, 32, 34, and 35 regarding burial plots, markers and upkeep of burial sites. He has been out of the office and again, she has been out sick.

Regarding Mr. Fryman who wants the VSC to provide flag holders for a cemetery in Moorefield Township; Ms. Wood has not written a letter to him as she wants to speak with Dan Harkins first. Board members all agreed not to provide the flag holders or an alternative.

The door graphics being designed by Olligraphics were discussed. Mr. O'Neal opined not to include the names of Clark Countians who lost their lives in battle. He is concerned we may miss a name which would cause complaints. Discussion ensued. Board members unanimously decided to eliminate the names from the design. Ms. Wood will notify Mollie of Olligraphics.

Bill McGee moved to acknowledge payment of the following invoices:

**Office Supplies** ~ Kavanaughs \$532.41 for a new minute book and supplies.

**Other Expenses** ~ Travel Specialties \$213.52 for December 2021 CBOC transportation and Cathy Wood \$15.42 for a plant for the counseling room.

The motion was seconded by Ron Coss and carried by a unanimous vote.

**Public Comments:** None.

Jim Ryan moved to enter executive session for the purpose of reviewing applications for financial assistance. Tom O'Neal seconded the motion. Bill McGee called the roll: Bill McGee, yes; Grant Wells, yes; Jim Ryan, yes; Tom O'Neal, yes; Ron Coss, yes; motion carried. The board entered Executive Session at 8:55a.m. The commissioners reviewed applications for

financial assistance. The board returned to open session at 9:12 a.m.

Jim Ryan moved to approve financial assistance for the following applicants: Bill McGee seconded the motion.

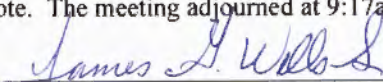
**Gary Simko**, 235 Prentice Dr., New Carlisle, Ohio 45344, laborer, was approved for a \$543.51 to Select Portfolio for housing and \$173.58 to CenterPoint for heat. Vote: Yes 5, No 0

**Donald Tomlin**, 903 Lagonda Ave., Springfield, Ohio 45503, laborer, was approved for \$121.00 to Columbia Gas for heat and \$297.86 to Ohio Edison for electric. Vote: Yes 5, No 0

**Francis Vetere**, 2816 Argonne Ln. S., Springfield, Ohio 45503, laborer, was approved for a \$200.00 Kroger card for food, \$363.01 to JIS Orthopedics for dental, \$387.50 to Springfield Dental Group for dental, \$265.00 to Columbia Gas for heat, \$126.00 to Ohio Edison for electric, and \$1430.00 to Jerry Smedley for housing. Vote: Yes 5, No 0

There being no further business to come before the board, Tom O'Neal moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Ron Coss and carried by a unanimous vote. The meeting adjourned at 9:17a.m.

ATTEST:

  
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President

  
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Secretary